

# FACES of INSPIRATION

## Valerie's House Kids...



*"Some of my closest friends are those who I've met at Valerie's House."*

**Haven, 15**  
Mom Died



*"We're like a family here."*

**Noah, 11 & Houston, 13**  
Dad Died



*"I look forward to group nights at Valerie's House. It's where I can share my true feelings."*

**Taylor, 17**  
Mom Died



*"At Valerie's House, we can always be ourselves."*

**Freya, 15 & Sam, 15**  
Sibling Died

### Will You Help Us Reach More?

Please accept my donation for Valerie's House in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\$1,000  \$500  \$250  \$100  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make my gift a recurring gift

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Information:

My check is enclosed (Make payable to Valerie's House Inc.)

Credit Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to PO Box 1955, Fort Myers, FL 33902



## Valerie's House, Inc.

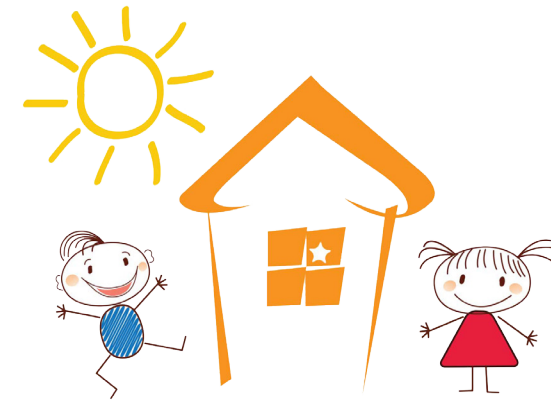
239-204-5804

1762 Fowler Street | Fort Myers, FL 33901

819 Myrtle Terrace | Naples, FL 34103

[www.valeriesthousesswfl.org](http://www.valeriesthousesswfl.org)

Valerie's House is a 501(c)3 charitable organization, registration #CH46827. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. For more information, contact the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs at 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) or visit freshfromflorida.com.



# Valerie's House

## OUR VISION IS THAT NO CHILD WILL GRIEVE ALONE.

The mission of Valerie's House is to help children and families work through the loss of a loved one together and go on to live fulfilling lives.



# HOPE and COURAGE

## Valerie's House Kids...



*"I'm happy at Valerie's House. It's a special place."*

**Deja, 9**  
Grandmother died



*"It's not sad here, there is a lot of hope."*

**Abel, 9**  
Mom Died



*"I felt alone until I came to Valerie's House."*

**Katie, 12**  
Mom Died



*"Losing someone we love is really hard. Our friends here understand us."*

**Izzy, 17 & JJ, 18**  
Mom Died



## The Story of Valerie's House

Valerie's House is named after Valerie Melvin, a nurse and mother of two, who was killed in a car accident in Fort Myers in 1987. Angela Melvin, Valerie's oldest daughter, was inspired to bring this mission to grieving children and families in Southwest Florida.



## Can We Help Your Family?

If you've experienced a death in your family, or know someone who has, reach out to us to become part of our community.

Valerie's House families can enter into the program, one day, one year, or even up to 10 years after their loss. Children can keep coming as long as they want and all services are offered at no cost to families. If your child could benefit from our program, please contact us today. Our caring staff is here to answer your questions and support you.

## OUR VISION IS THAT NO CHILD WILL GRIEVE ALONE.

The mission of Valerie's House is to help children and families work through the loss of a loved one together and go on to live fulfilling lives.

# Valerie's House is Here to Help!

## What Happens at Valerie's House?

Valerie's House is the only organization in Southwest Florida that is solely dedicated to helping children grieve. Valerie's House kids and their caregivers meet weeknights twice a month from 6:30pm until 8:30pm. After some playtime and a potluck dinner, our children and parents break up into separate groups to work on their grief.



Teenagers meet and often spend time discussing their feelings and struggles, while sharing how they are coping with school and life after their loss.

## Valerie's House Programs

Valerie's House support programs are designed to give children ages 4-19 years old and their families a safe place to share, grieve and grow. Valerie's House relies on the use of art and music and other creative activities to help our youth identify, express and process their grief.



Children spend time unwinding and playing games before grief support groups begin.



Children post pictures of their lost loved ones so they can share memories with each other.



Children paint their masks with colors representing their different emotions to communicate their grief.

**Our programs are provided free of charge, thanks to generous donations, grants, and volunteer support.**

## MAKE AN IMPACT ON A GRIEVING CHILD BY GETTING INVOLVED

### Volunteer

Volunteer your time by being a special friend and mentor to a Valerie's House child who is grieving. Opportunities include volunteering as a "buddy" in one of our bi-monthly grief support groups, or mentoring a child by spending time with them one-on-one with special outings and other opportunities. Your business and/or club can volunteer as a team.

### Join a Committee

Help Valerie's House be here for years to come by sitting on one of our various committees to help fundraise and spread awareness.

### Host an Open House or Private Party

Host a meet and greet and invite others to meet the Valerie's House Founder and learn more about the mission to help Southwest Florida's grieving families. Options include hosting an open house at the Valerie's House 'home away from home', or hosting a meet and greet at another location convenient for your friends.

### Help out with our Wish List

Valerie's House has a running wish list including grief support books, arts materials for our groups, and other items for the house. Help us save funds for the families by purchasing some items from our Amazon Wish List at: [www.valereshouseswfl.org/wish-list.com](http://www.valereshouseswfl.org/wish-list.com)

### Donate

Help make an impact on a child by making a financial gift to help our growing program. Take a look at our annual initiatives for more details on the upcoming and most important needs of our families.