

## **Peer Mentor – Information Session**

<u>Ladybird Care Foundation</u> have partnered with <u>Very Special Kids</u> to work towards their mission *that no bereaved parent walks this journey alone*.

"I have been extremely fortunate to have Damian as my mentor, he has been there for me, without hesitation at the times when I have really needed to just talk, vent, cry. I can only say I appreciate that you have paired me with Damian, in what is my hardest journey, thank you." - Bereaved father and Peer Mentee

The Ladybird Care Peer Mentor Program enables connections and companionship between newly bereaved peers (Peer Mentees) and Peer Mentors (parents more than two years bereaved who have undertaken training to become a Peer Mentor). This program extends support to bereaved parents and carers nationally. Wherever you live, we can enable connections with a bereaved peer.

Your experience of caring for a child with a life-limiting condition and the grief associated with this is unique. We know that many parents find comfort in meeting another parent who has lived a similar life experience. If you are a parent or carer more than two years bereaved and feel a desire to make a meaningful contribution to the lives of parents whose child has died, we invite you to join a virtual information session facilitated by Damienne Mor, Family Support Practitioner, Very Special Kids and Leigh Donovan, Peer Mentor Program Manager, Ladybird Care on Tuesday August 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm. Please RSVP here: <a href="https://forms.office.com/r/Xa3FXd6NJS">https://forms.office.com/r/Xa3FXd6NJS</a>. If you can't make this session, please register your interest so we can follow-up with you.

We warmly welcome interest from bereaved fathers and mothers and ask you to keep in mind we acknowledge parenting as a lifelong role and extend mentoring care and support to parents whose child died in infancy, childhood, their teens, young adulthood or adulthood.

"My involvement in the peer mentoring program has given me a sense of purpose. It has put me in a position of privilege, helping others navigate through this grief journey nobody wants to be on. What I didn't expect was the blessing in return it has actually been." - Bereaved mother and Peer Mentor

Our 2024 Peer Mentor Training Program will be run in a virtual format in October - more on this in the information session. You can read more about the LadyBird Care Foundation here: <a href="https://www.ladybirdcare.org.au/">https://www.ladybirdcare.org.au/</a>