



PO Box 5533,  
588 Addison Ave W.  
Twin Falls, ID 83303-5533

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

## Winter 2018

### 2017 was a Banner Year for Kids Count Too! Inc

Welcome to the New Year from the Board of Directors of Kids Count Too! Inc.

2017 has proven to be a pivotal year for Kids Count Too! Inc. It has grown tremendously this year in reaching out to the needs of grieving families throughout South Idaho. The following is a summary of events and successes and with the anticipated goals for 2018.

- ⇒ **Volunteer Training**—the January initial training had 21 volunteers. The Summer Camp training enrolled an additional 8 volunteers and covered topics that included listening to grieving children, age appropriate mourning, positive interactions with kids and group facilitating.
- ⇒ **Winter Day Camp**—16 kids from Twin Falls, Lincoln, and Gooding counties attended. One highlight in addition to crafts, games, a balloon launch, and a TV spot on KMVT was a trip to Jump Time Recreation Center. The College of Southern Idaho Engineering Club provided lunch.
- ⇒ **Fall & Spring Grieving Groups**—Seasonal 6 week sessions provided activities for the whole family. These sessions provide a progressive look at grieving and concludes with a memorial ceremony to honor loved ones.
- ⇒ **Summer Camp Erin**—Teaming with The Moyer Foundation, attendance increased 2 fold over last year. Held at Camp Kum Ba Yah in the South Hills, 52 children ages 6-17 attended the 3-day weekend experience that included many outdoor experiences, crafts, memories honoring loved ones, and a campfire and luminary ceremony.
- ⇒ **Fall Bereavement Conference**—The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference had 55 registrants with a total of 71 present that included guests and board members. Outstanding session leaders included, **Michelle Post, Grief Counselor from Los Angeles, Laurie Copmann, Donna Stalley, Dr. Randy Simonsen, and Liyah Babayan.**



- ⇒ **Guidestar Recognition**—In order to provide the giving community security for donations, KCT has received Guidestar approval. This means, any donation to KCT meet the standards recognized by Guidestar. See <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/82-0525955>

⇒ **Professional Training**

- **Member of National Alliance for Grieving Children**—See <https://childrengrieve.org/> KCT sent two attendees to the annual NAGC Symposium. In addition, 2 other KCT members attended from St. Luke's Hospice.
- **The Moyer Foundation**—Two board members attended the Fall Camp Erin national conference.

⇒ **August Splash Party—Rafting the Hagerman Stretch of the Snake River** Observing wild

animals, and picking blackberries, 24 kids and adults made the 9 mile rafting trip on a hot Saturday afternoon.



⇒ **Tinsel & Tears**—Holiday crafts in memory of loved ones were created in early December. Cookies were decorated and a visit from the jolly old elf added to the afternoon.

## What to look forward to in 2018

**We welcome James Wentworth to the KCT Board of Directors.** James has been volunteering with many



KCT events for the last 3 years. He has a passion for helping children who experience the loss of a loved one. In addition, James attended the NAGC Symposium last June in Richmond, VA and will focus on developing events and activities for 2018. James, an IT Specialist for Glanbia International, is a graduate of TFHS and CSI.

**Interested in serving on the Board of Directors? If you've seen the impact of grief on a child and would be willing to volunteer some of your time to bring your skills to serve your community, Board of Director Applications are available. Please Email [kidscounttooidaho@gmail.com](mailto:kidscounttooidaho@gmail.com) to request an application.**



**Two Options for  
Summer Camp Erin!  
Applications are  
available now**

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



**Camp Erin South Idaho and Camp Erin Treasure Valley are FREE grief camps designed for children and teens ages 6-17 who have experienced the death of a parent, grandparent, friend, or someone significant in their lives. It is a weekend-long experience filled with traditional, fun, camp activities combined with grief education and emotional support facilitated by grief professionals and trained volunteers.**