

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
Davis Woods, Director of Development and Communications  
Jessica's House  
[dwoods@jessicashouse.org](mailto:dwoods@jessicashouse.org)  
(209) 250-5395

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
June 3, 2021

## **JESSICA'S HOUSE HOLDS NEW VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS THIS SUMMER**

*Turlock, California* – Jessica's House is looking for additional volunteers as they prepare to open their permanent home this fall.

Individuals interested in volunteering must complete a three-day training and orientation session, which will be held virtually via Zoom until further notice. Volunteers play a vital role in every aspect of the organization, including:

- Facilitating grief support groups
- Helping staff at special events
- Greeting families who come to grief support groups
- Office and administrative assistance

“Volunteers are the heart of our organization, and we could not support families who are grieving in our community without them,” said Erin Nelson, executive director of Jessica's House. “We are so thankful for the 3,324 hours our dedicated and compassionate volunteers gave last year.”

Jessica's House performs background checks and drug screenings before volunteers begin training, and places volunteers according to program needs. **To apply as a volunteer with Jessica's House click this link <https://www.jessicashouse.org/volunteer>.**

Trainings will be offered on the following dates:

- Day 1: Monday, June 28, 2021 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM
- Day 2: Saturday, August 21, 2021 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- Day 3: Sunday, August 22, 2021 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Additional training dates:

- Day 1: Monday, August 30, 2021 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM
- Day 1: Monday, September 13, 2021 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM
- Day 2: Saturday, September 18, 2021 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- Day 3: Sunday, September 19, 2021 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

For more information about volunteering at Jessica's House, please call 209-250-5395 or email Ellie Gonzales, outreach, events & group coordinator at [egonzales@jessicashouse.org](mailto:egonzales@jessicashouse.org).

Photo Caption: Longtime volunteer, Mark Kirkes, facilitates art expression with a group of children age 10 to 12.

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## **About Jessica's House**

Jessica's House began as a grassroots effort inspired by Erin Nelson and Turlock community members who had experienced untimely deaths in their families. When they sought grief support service for their children, they realized there were no local organizations specializing in supporting grieving children. Since the program launched in 2012, Jessica's House has been a place of comfort, hope, and healing for grieving children, teens, young adults, and families throughout the region. Jessica's House is a grief support ministry under the leadership of EMC Health, Inc., a Turlock-based nonprofit organization affiliated with Covenant Ministries of Benevolence. Generous community support allows Jessica's House to provide not only grief support groups but community trainings and crisis response teams in Stanislaus and Merced counties.