

June 14, 2010

Red River Valley Motorcyclists (RRVM) Support Altru's Infant Bereavement Program

Altru Health System, Grand Forks, ND - Altru's Infant Bereavement Program received a donation of over \$3,000 from the Red River Valley Motorcyclists (RRVM) on June 10. The money raised from RRVM's 2010 annual bike show will go to help families and friends grieving the loss of an infant. Each year, RRVM chooses a non-profit organization to donate to with the funds raised by their annual events.

"This donation is such a blessing for our program," said Toni Betting, Altru's Pastoral Services and infant bereavement coordinator. "Parents who lose an infant today are treated very different from the way parents were treated years ago. This money will go toward continuing to provide families with books and resources on grief, as well as items that offer a few memories of their baby who has died through miscarriage or stillbirth."

Altru Health System offers a year-round infant bereavement program to assist parents of children who have died before birth or shortly thereafter. The program includes a memorial service in December, support groups, books and counseling, and burial service options. Beyond this program, Altru's Pastoral Services is committed to meeting the spiritual needs of patients who are admitted for care, their families, and to pastoral care education in the community. We recognize that spiritual care and religious resources are integral dimensions of healing and health.

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