

# TRANSFORMING LOSS

## A DOCUMENTARY

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**“Transforming Loss” delivers depth, compassion and hope  
Future screenings planned as the initial response has been overwhelmingly positive  
with sold out crowds**

**Bloomfield, MI—January 30, 2013—** “Transforming Loss” provides an authentic view of the transformation of six families who experience heart-wrenching human loss and suffering. It then takes the viewer through the incredible transformation process of healing and embracing life once again.

“The families profiled in the film are incredibly strong, genuine and viewers will be able to relate to them on many levels,” said Judith R. Burdick, M.A., L.L.P, producer, writer and director of the film. “I’m proud and humbled by the response,” she says of the sold-out February 6 and 7 premiere screenings at the Maple Theater in Bloomfield Township.

“It’s a very honest film which creates life around loss and will help viewers understand that while grief following loss is inevitable, the mourning process can be a positive, life-affirming experience,” said Pat Lynch, Past President of the Michigan and National Funeral Directors Association and President of Lynch & Sons Funeral Directors after seeing an advance screening.

The film was conceived in Burdick’s own tragedy and loss. In 1991, at age 31, Burdick and her two small children lost their husband and father, Mark Rubens, who was killed in a scuba diving accident.

“This film is crazy powerful,” said Rabbi E.B. (Bunny) Freedman, Director of the Jewish Hospice & Chaplaincy Network. “There’s a tremendous need for a documentary such as this. “Transforming Loss” will educate and give hope to countless people navigating their own grief.”

A screening benefitting The Jewish Hospice and Chaplaincy Network is planned for 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2013. This screening will be held at the Berman Center for the Performing Arts, located at the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 West Maple Rd., in West Bloomfield. Tickets are \$18 and include an introduction by Eleanor Clift, a nationally-renowned journalist and author, a special talk back program with Burdick, and refreshments. Tickets may be ordered by phone at 248-592-2687 or by emailing [sshapiro@jewishhospice.org](mailto:sshapiro@jewishhospice.org). For further information about The Jewish Hospice and Chaplaincy Network, visit [www.jewishhospice.org](http://www.jewishhospice.org).

(more)

## Page two

A screening, sponsored by the Michigan Funeral Directors Association, District Six is currently being planned for 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 10 at the Main Art Theatre in Royal Oak. Tickets will be \$10 each. Visit [www.transforminglossdocumentary.com](http://www.transforminglossdocumentary.com) for more information as it becomes available.

Among those in the documentary, viewers will meet Molly Green of South Lyon, a 41 year-old mother of four who lost her husband, Michael, in August 2010, to suicide. Ricki Friedman of Birmingham will tell the wrenching tale of losing her mother at age 13. Gary Weinstein, of Farmington Hills, will share his story of losing his wife and two sons to a drunk driver in 2005. Viewers will also meet Virginia Beckley of Bloomfield, who lost her five-year-old son Myles in a horseback riding accident. Elizabeth Guz of Franklin will be featured. Guz's 17 year-old son, Michael, struggled with bi-polar disorder and committed suicide. Rachel and Michael Kain of Livonia tell their story of joy, horrific loss, and healing following the birth and death of their four month-old baby boy Collin to multiple heart defects.

Burdick, of Bloomfield, Michigan, is a highly-regarded licensed psychotherapist. Her practice is dedicated to individuals with a wide range of emotional and psychological issues and focuses on providing individual and group therapy grief support. "Transforming Loss" will not only provide support and inspiration for people struggling with the loss of a loved one but will be a practical healing tool for therapists, clergy, funeral directors, hospice workers, medical practitioners and educational institutions.

For more information on the premiere, obtaining the documentary, or an interview with Judith, please contact Peggy Burkhard at (248) 770-5172 or Judith Burdick at [judith@psychjrb.com](mailto:judith@psychjrb.com), (248) 420-3870.

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**Editor's Note:** Interviews with Judith and those featured in the documentary are available upon request by calling Peggy Burkhard at (248) 770-5172.