

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Emily Schindler lecture shares how nature plays a role in healing childhood grief**

(PASADENA, MD, March 1, 2018) — Chesapeake Life Center invites the community to the 13<sup>th</sup> annual **Emily Schindler Memorial Lecture**, “Beyond the Woods: Childhood Grief, Spirituality and Nature Therapy,” presented by Dr. Cheryl Fisher. It will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, May 2, at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in the Asthma & Allergy Center’s Richard A. Grossi Auditorium, 5501 Hopkins Bayview Circle, Baltimore.

Childhood bereavement is experienced through the duality of dealing with the numerous aspects of loss and adapting to the changes resulting from loss. Fisher will explore childhood grief and spirituality and discuss a nature-based resiliency model that promotes healing and overall wellness.

The lecture was created in 2005 through a gift to the Schindler family from the Saint Agnes Cancer Center. Emily Schindler was an 18-year-old freshman at Frostburg State University and a member of the SPY swim team in Severna Park, Maryland, when she was tragically killed in a car accident in 2004.

The cost is \$35. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and a light breakfast will be provided. Maryland Board social workers, professional counselors and therapists can earn three Category 1 continuing education credits. Pre-registration is required and can be completed at [www.hospicechesapeake.org/event/emily-schindler-lecture-2018](http://www.hospicechesapeake.org/event/emily-schindler-lecture-2018). For details, call 888-501-7077 or email [griefinfo@hospicechesapeake.org](mailto:griefinfo@hospicechesapeake.org).

**About the presenter:**

Dr. Cheryl Fisher is a licensed clinical professional counselor, national certified counselor and counselor-educator with 30 years of clinical and educational experience with individuals, families and children. She is a certified trauma professional and Jungian Play Therapist with extensive clinical experience working with trauma, grief and loss in all ages.

An international presenter, Fisher conducts research in the areas of nature and mental health, in addition to spirituality and meaning-construction. One of her current research interests includes the examination of human-nature connection and spirituality in overall wellness. Fisher is currently writing a book examining the preventative and rehabilitative elements of engaging in nature titled, “Mindfulness, Nature-Based and Creative Interventions for Kids,” which informs this presentation. She also is a columnist for Counseling Today Online

Fisher has a doctorate in counselor education and supervision with an emphasis in the integration of psychology and spirituality, and a master’s degree in pastoral counseling from Loyola University in Maryland.

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**Chesapeake Life Center**, a program service of Hospice of the Chesapeake, serves hospice family members and the community with bereavement services and activities aimed at enhancing the quality of life for those grieving the loss of a loved one. Chesapeake Life Center is an approved sponsor of the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners for continuing education credits for licensed social workers in Maryland. Also, the Maryland Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists certifies that this program meets the criteria for 3.0 credit hours of Category 1 continuing education for counselors and therapists in Maryland.