

PRESS RELEASE

October 2011

Remembering lost babies in worldwide 'Wave of light'

Anyone who has been affected by the death of a baby is invited to join a special 'Wave of Light' on Saturday, 15th October, as part of Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day.

The event encourages people all over the world to light a candle and leave it burning for at least one hour, to remember all the babies who have died during pregnancy, during labour or after birth.

Stillbirth and neonatal death charity, Sands, says anyone who has been affected by the death of a baby can get involved in the Wave of Light, as it can be a group event, or a simple, private moment of remembrance.

"Lighting a candle for a baby who has died is a very poignant and special way to remember," says Erica Stewart, Bereavement Support Manager at Sands. "Anyone, no matter where they are, can join in the Wave of Light in the knowledge that there are many others across the globe who will also be lighting a candle and remembering their babies too."

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Notes to editors:

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day is on Saturday, 15th October
The global Wave of Light takes place on 15th October at 7pm
Local case studies of bereaved parents willing to share their stories can be arranged upon request.

Contact:

Katie Duff – 0845 6520 442 or 07554 454312
Lisa Wardle - 07554 454309
Lyn Peters – 01394 385865 or 07909 544496

Key Information about Sands:

Sands, the stillbirth and neonatal death charity, was established by bereaved parents in 1978 and obtained charity status in 1981.

Sands core aims are to:

- Support anyone affected by the death of a baby;
- To work in partnership with health professionals to improve the quality of care and services offered to bereaved families; and
- To promote research and changes in practice that could help to reduce the loss of babies' lives

Sands is a national organisation, with over 100 regional support groups across the UK.
Helpline: 020 7436 5881

Office: 020 7436 7940

Web: www.uk-sands.org