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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

12TH ANNUAL 'A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES' FUNDRAISING EVENT TO SUPPORT MICHAEL'S PLACE
AMC Classic - Cherry Blossom 14 | Friday, April 25th | 7:00 PM

Traverse City, MI – April 15, 2025 – Michael's Place, a nonprofit grief support center in Traverse City, invites the community to join its 12th Annual 'A Night at the Movies' fundraising event. This uplifting evening will bring people together to support individuals and families in northern Michigan who are navigating grief and loss.

According to the Child Bereavement Estimation Model (CBEM) 2024, 1 in 11 children in Michigan will experience the loss of a parent or sibling by the age of 18. This reality is reflected in the growing demand for grief support services offered by Michael's Place, which has seen a 20% increase in individuals served over the past year.

"The ability to meet this increased demand without the barrier of cost to our families is made possible by our dedicated donors and volunteers," said Mindy Buell, Executive Director of Michael's Place. "We're deeply grateful for a compassionate community that enables us to provide a safe and accessible space for those grieving."

Buell emphasized the importance of peer support groups, stating, "Bereaved individuals often feel isolated in their experiences, but connecting with peers facing similar situations can positively impact the grief process. Peer support is a vital part of healing for both children and adults."

An Inspiring Evening

This year's fundraising event features a special screening of *The Unbreakable Boy*, a heartwarming film that tells the true story of Austin, a young boy with autism and osteogenesis imperfecta, a condition that causes brittle bones. Despite the challenges he faces, Austin's story is a testament to resilience, love, and the strength of community—values that align closely with the mission of Michael's Place.

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Every year, we look forward to 'A Night at the Movies,' where we unite the community to support Michael's Place," Buell shared. "The Unbreakable Boy is a powerful celebration of inner strength and hope. As we continue to see rising demand for grief support services, this event is vital—not only for raising critical funds but also for fostering a spirit of connection and resilience."

Event Details:

- **Date and Time:** Friday, April 25th, 7:00 PM
- **Location:** AMC Classic - Cherry Blossom 14, Traverse City, MI
- **Tickets:** $35 for adults, $25 for children under 18. Purchase tickets at MyMichaelsPlace.net/a-night-at-the-movies or by calling (231) 947-6453.

Sponsors and Gratitude

Michael's Place extends a heartfelt thank you to its Presenting Sponsor, Flat Cap Ventures, and our Major Sponsors, MSU Federal Credit Union, North Bay Produce, and Snap! Printing, along with all the other generous sponsors, donors, and volunteers who have helped make this event possible. "We are deeply grateful to our sponsors and volunteers who continuously partner with us to ensure 'A Night at the Movies' is a success," said Michael's Place board president Karen Browne. "Their support allows us to provide innovative and compassionate programs designed to help those who are grieving."

All proceeds from the event will directly benefit grieving children, teens, and adults in our area.

About Michael's Place:

For over 23 years, Michael's Place has been a trusted provider of grief support services in northern Michigan. Our programs are designed to meet the unique needs of children, adults, and the community, offering compassionate care and promoting healthy healing. Last year alone, we served nearly 4,000 individuals throughout the region.

For more information or to get involved, visit MyMichaelsPlace.net or call (231) 947-6453.

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