



# GoodNews from The Good Works Show

## The Finley Project: In a Time of Tragedy, Offering a Ray of Hope

When a time that is supposed to be filled with love and joy turns to tragedy and sadness, it's important for supports to be in place to guide the affected on their journey toward recovery. The Finley Project, a national nonprofit organization, does just that for mothers who suffered the loss of an infant by providing grief counseling and services in their time of deepest need.

Noelle Moore, founder and executive director of The Finley Project, started the organization after her life was turned upside-down in 2013: her father died unexpectedly, her newborn baby died of medical negligence, and, two weeks after her baby's death, her husband left her. The organization's namesake, Moore's daughter was the catalyst to start something for which Moore saw a great need-- to walk with mothers right after the loss of a child.

According to Moore, infant loss is the big elephant in the room that is uncomfortable to talk or hear about. The devastation, though, is staggeringly common. One in four mothers will experience a miscarriage or the loss of a child before they turn one. The Finley Project seeks to help these mothers, offering a seven-part holistic program as part of the organization's mission. "There is a huge gap between the hospital and the home when something like this happens," Moore said. "We step in the gap so that families don't feel so alone."

The Finley Project provides funeral planning, meal and grocery gift cards for three weeks, one house cleaning a month for three months, one massage a month for three months, and ongoing support groups. They also provide the resources for twelve life and

mental health therapy sessions, and all women in the program are supported by the mentorship of another who has experience with similar loss.

The services provided by The Finley Project are free of charge to the mothers in the program, usually costing the organization around \$2,000 per mother. The nonprofit is supported by local organizations and individuals who have experience with similar situations, or have a heart to help the cause. In fact, 80% of the organization's giving comes from individuals who have either experienced loss, are familiar with loss, or they really value the work being done.

The Finley Project seeks to increase the dialogue, and raise awareness. "We are stepping in the gap for people who are really not equipped to help mothers through the unimaginable," Moore said. "We have to provide her the tools to heal."

While providing mothers with these healing tools, Moore also hopes to inspire their stories to be told. "I would encourage any mother out there who is weighed down by feeling hopeless or lost, or feeling like they have no identity, that there is hope and when you open your mouth and share about that child, you are honoring every time you speak their name," she said. "Their life does matter, and you have the power to honor them."

To learn more about The Finley Project, how you can receive services, or how you can volunteer, visit [www.thefinleyproject.org](http://www.thefinleyproject.org) or call (407) 463-7576.



Tune in Saturdays at noon on NewsRadio 106.7 FM as we highlight the good that makes Atlanta Work.

Learn more at [GoodwillNG.org/goodworks](http://GoodwillNG.org/goodworks) or email the show at [goodworks@ging.org](mailto:goodworks@ging.org).