

ACCESS Reaching Out to Families in Need

By WKBW Directors

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BUFFALO, NY (WKBW) -- Diane Stanley and Kelly Henning's lives were forever changed 7 years ago, after a small private plane their loved ones were flying in crashed down in Florida near Daytona Beach.



Diane lost her husband, Kevin. Kelly's mother Kathleen, sister Lisa and Lisa's husband Scott also lost their lives that day. Although time has passed, the pain of losing their loved ones has never gone away, but help and understanding for Kelly and Diane came through a national not-for profit group called ACCESS, or Aircraft Casualty Emotional Support Services.

"It's someone you can turn to, someone who will be there for you, who understands and you know they truly understand," said Kelly Henning.

It's a group that provides grief mentors to people who have survived or lost someone in an air tragedy. The two women are so passionate about the program, they became mentors themselves. They're now determined to help others in time of need especially those who may be hurting a year after Continental Flight 3407 crashed down.

"Being right here in Buffalo and to be able to go and actually hug someone and say I've been through this and I've made an ok life for myself afterwards will be comforting, so they can really connect with people," said Diane Stanley.

ACCESS was founded back in 1996 by Heidi Snow, who lost her Fiance when TWA Flight 800 went down into the Atlantic Ocean. Heidi wanted to create a support network specifically for those affected by air disaster-related tragedies, and provide those affected with comfort and support. To get more information about the program visit: www.accesshelp.org