## Dionne Martinez, Sharing Parents Return to Zero August 30, 2014



Dionne Martinez is a long time Elk Grove resident. She lives with her husband and as she states; "I have four children, two who are with me and two who soar". On June 1, 1997 Dionne lost her first child, 'Puter, to a miscarriage. A few months later, in her fourth month of pregnancy, she and her husband learned their son had a fatal fetal anomaly. One month later, on January 3, 1998, their son, Cashew, was born silently.

The loss of their son led Dionne and her husband to a local bereaved parents support group, Sharing Parents, an all -volunteer organization that offers support to parents who have experienced the loss of a child from time of conception to early infancy. Because of the wonderful support they received, a year later Dionne became a volunteer for this organization.

Dionne strongly believes that too often parents with a pregnancy loss are not supported and their beloved babies go unacknowledged. It is this passion to support parents and educate their family, friends and the medical community, that keeps Dionne volunteering over the past 15 years. Today she and her husband have a 15 year old son and a 12 year old daughter. Dionne states: "I want people to know that my subsequent children are a blessing but not replacements for my two boys. Though many years have passed, Cashew and 'Puter still matter".

For more information regarding Sharing Parents call (916) 424-5150, email: <a href="mailto:sharingparents@yahoo.com">sharingparents@yahoo.com</a>, website: sharingparents.org or

facebook.com/SharingParentsofSacramento