

PRESS RELEASE from Cruse Bereavement Care
Tuesday 25th March 2008
For immediate release



CRUSE BEREAVEMENT CARE WINS £200,000 GRANT TO SUPPORT BEREAVED MILITARY FAMILIES

Cruse Bereavement Care, the leading national charity providing support and information for anyone who has been bereaved, has won a major grant from the Department of Health to develop services for military and ex-military personnel and their families.

The grant will total almost £200,000 over three years and will enable Cruse to develop specialised training for its volunteers so that they can meet the particular needs of this group of people. Military deaths are often sudden and traumatic, and following the loss of a serviceman or woman families can face major disruption to their lives. In addition to training existing volunteers, the grant will enable Cruse to reach out to more bereaved service families and to recruit and train new volunteers with a military background and understanding of the issues.

Debbie Kerslake, the recently-appointed Chief Executive of Cruse, commented: "We are delighted with this grant, which shows that the Government understands the contribution that bereavement support can make to the mental health and general well-being of families who deserve our very special consideration at this time of conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan. We look forward to being able to help many more bereaved military and ex-military families as a result of this funding."

Cruse Bereavement Care has a mission to promote the well-being of bereaved people and to enable anyone bereaved by death to understand their grief and cope with their loss. It has more than 5,500 volunteers in nearly 140 branches across England, Wales and Northern Ireland and operates a national Helpline, together with a specialised website for children and young people, www.rd4u.org.uk. Further information about Cruse can be found at www.cruse.org.uk.

- ends -

Press enquiries: Charlotte Barney, 020 8939 9551; charlotte.barney@cruse.org.uk
Debbie Kerslake, 0121 427 9461; debbie.kerslake@cruse.org.uk

PO Box 800 | Richmond | TW9 1RG
020 8939 9530
www.cruse.org.uk

Royal Patron: Her Majesty the Queen
Charity No. 208078 | Company Limited by Guarantee No. 638709 (London)
Registered Office: Unit 0.1 | One Victoria Villas | Richmond | TW9 2GW