

## Caring for the Molds of your Child

- These molds are an important part of legacy creation for many families and we hope that they will help you remember your child.
- In order to take care of them, please leave them in a safe, well-aired place (like the top of your refrigerator) for at least 3 weeks, to allow all water to evaporate.
- When they are completely dry, please know that they are very breakable and treat them with caution.
- If there is still a bit of pink molding product on them, just gently brush it off with a toothbrush or a toothpick.
- When they are dry, you can use sand paper to remove all bumps along the base of the mold. Be gentle as it is abrasive, but can help beautify your mold.
- They can be painted, but this might hide the beautiful details of hands and/or feet.
- We encourage the use of spray varnish, after they are dry, done in three or four separate sprayings. This will help to preserve the plaster, which will disintegrate over time and with touching.
  - You can purchase spray varnish at any home renovation store. Either water-based or oil-based are helpful, but the oil-based varnish will take longer to dry and needs to be done in a well-ventilated area.
- We encourage you to think about placing the mold in a secure container, so that it is not accidentally broken- if something does break off, regular white glue will reattach the broken item.
- For secure containers, you can use a glass-covered cheese board, or a clear acrylic container.



- We want to be able to continue to provide these for families. If you are able to make a donation to the SickKids Foundation, it can be directed to the Grief Support Program, PACT, to continue to provide these valuable mementos.