

ABOUT

The Memory Garden is a welcoming space for those grieving from fertility and pregnancy losses. This is a space for mourning, remembrance and healing. Located in a beautiful setting adjacent to Eternal Home Jewish Cemetery in Colma, California, The Memory Garden serves as a communal space for individuals, families and spiritual caregivers to gather.

VISITING THE GARDEN

The Memory Garden is open to the public Sunday through Friday from 9am to 4pm, and closed on Jewish holidays. No reservations are required. Individuals and groups may make reservations for private gatherings by contacting Eternal Home Cemetery 650-755-5236, Sinai Memorial Chapel 415-921-3636 or by email reservation@sinaichapel.org.

THE MEMORY GARDEN



IN THE MOMENT

Take a deep breath. Walk through the olive and redwood trees on the path. This space has been created for you. Stand quietly in the round meadow. Reimagining the Jewish practice of leaving a stone at a cemetery, reposition a few of the small stones in the flowing water. Take your time to make this space your own.

The Memory Garden
1051 El Camino Real, CA Colma 94014
(South side of Eternal Home Cemetery)
415-921-3636 or 650-755-5236
reservation@sinaichapel.org
www.thememorygarden.org





BACKGROUND

According to Jewish tradition, no formal burial or funeral is held for a miscarriage, stillbirth, or for an infant who dies before eight days of age. The traditional mourner's prayer, Kaddish, is not recited nor is the seven-day mourning period of Shiva observed. Given the high infant-mortality rate of generations past, these customs were developed to nurture and protect families. Today we hesitate less than those before us to discuss our losses. We are more likely to seek comfort and strength in not only naming our losses, but also in memorializing them.

OPEN FOR HEALING

Many people seek ways to heal and end the isolation that can accompany pregnancy loss. Through our communal partnership with Jewish Family and Children's Services, social workers and clergy are available for you and your family. For more information visit jfcs.org/memorygarden or call 415-449-1212 for guidance, counseling, education, and spiritual support.

ALL ARE WELCOME

The Memory Garden belongs to the entire community: couples, individuals, and families who identify as secular or observant; those of all denominations; folks of all genders, ethnicities, and backgrounds; young and old; LGBTQI+ identified; and interfaith families; are all welcome.

The Memory Garden at Eternal Home Cemetery is owned and operated by Sinai Memorial Chapel Chevra Kadisha.



VISION

The dream for The Memory Garden began when two local Jewish mothers, Debbie Findling and Abby Porth, who had each suffered pregnancy losses, began to imagine a place where parents, prospective parents, and others could go to reflect, pray, mourn, and heal. They launched The Memory Garden to recognize the value of Jewish memorial space and ritual for grappling with these losses.



When Sinai Memorial Chapel was presented with the vision for The Memory Garden, it embraced a leadership role in making it a reality. Sinai has always viewed the death of an infant as the community's loss of potential that requires a communal response and thus serves families in these instances without charge.