

Making A Difference

Tragedy inspired the family of Michael Appleby and influenced the career of his sister Kaitlin.

BY MEL HAGREN



Kaitlin Appleby

In the midst of tragedy there is hope. The darkest of times, some say, precede the brightest and best days.

Taking these statements to heart provides the resilience to move forward. For the Appleby family, the beginning of their trial of despair took place when 16-year-old Michael lost his life in an automobile accident two days before Thanksgiving, 2001. It appeared then, and in many ways still does, to have been a senseless tragedy, a loss that was beyond description.

