

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to join us for the National Alliance for Grieving Children's first conference on children's grief.

How Can We Help Children Grieve?

Join the conference via webcast

This half day conference was created to serve as an educational platform to raise awareness and give those who provide support and care to children and youth an innovative way to train their staff and educate their communities about childhood bereavement. This event was created to provide needed resources to those who work with children, teens and their families. This includes, but is not limited to, healthcare providers, clergy, educators, teachers, and counselors.

Session One: Helping Children and Adolescents Cope with Grief and Loss, will be presented by Kenneth J. Doka, PhD. This session explores the ways that children and adolescents cope with loss and grief, when coping with a life-threatening illness of a significant other such as a parent, grandparent, or sibling. The presentation considers both the ways that long-term illness influences the grief process and emphasizes strategies that can be employed during the illness and after death. The workshop is developed for a range of professionals in the field, including psychologists, counselors, social workers, nurses and other health care professionals, as well as educators, teachers, clergy and school-based personnel.

Session Two: Helping Children, Teens and Families after a Sudden or Unexpected Death, will be presented by Donna Schurrman, EdD, FT of the Dougy Center. This session will explore what principles and practices will help us best serve these populations in any setting. Together, we will explore the unique issues and needs that children, teens and families have when the death of a family member or friend is sudden or unexpected.

Session Three : "OMG! You Actually Took a Child to a Funeral!?" Re-childing death memorialization in a busy, ritual "lite" multicultural society, will be presented by Harold Ivan Smith, D.Min., FT. This session will explore ways in which ritual and tradition can be used to help children, teens and families process their grief.

Date: Thursday, November 12, 2015. Registration 8:30-9:00 am, Webcast: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Location: Mercy Hospital of Folsom, 1580 Creekside Drive, Folsom, CA 95630, Classroom 1 & 2

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact, Chaplain Christine Pobanz-Stelter of VITAS Healthcare at (916) 213-1641; christine.pobanz-stelter@vitas.com <<mailto:christine.pobanz-stelter@vitas.com>

RSVP to Juliet Weinberg, 916.566.2238, Juliet.weinberg@VITAS.com by November 6th.

We look forward to seeing you on the 12th of November.