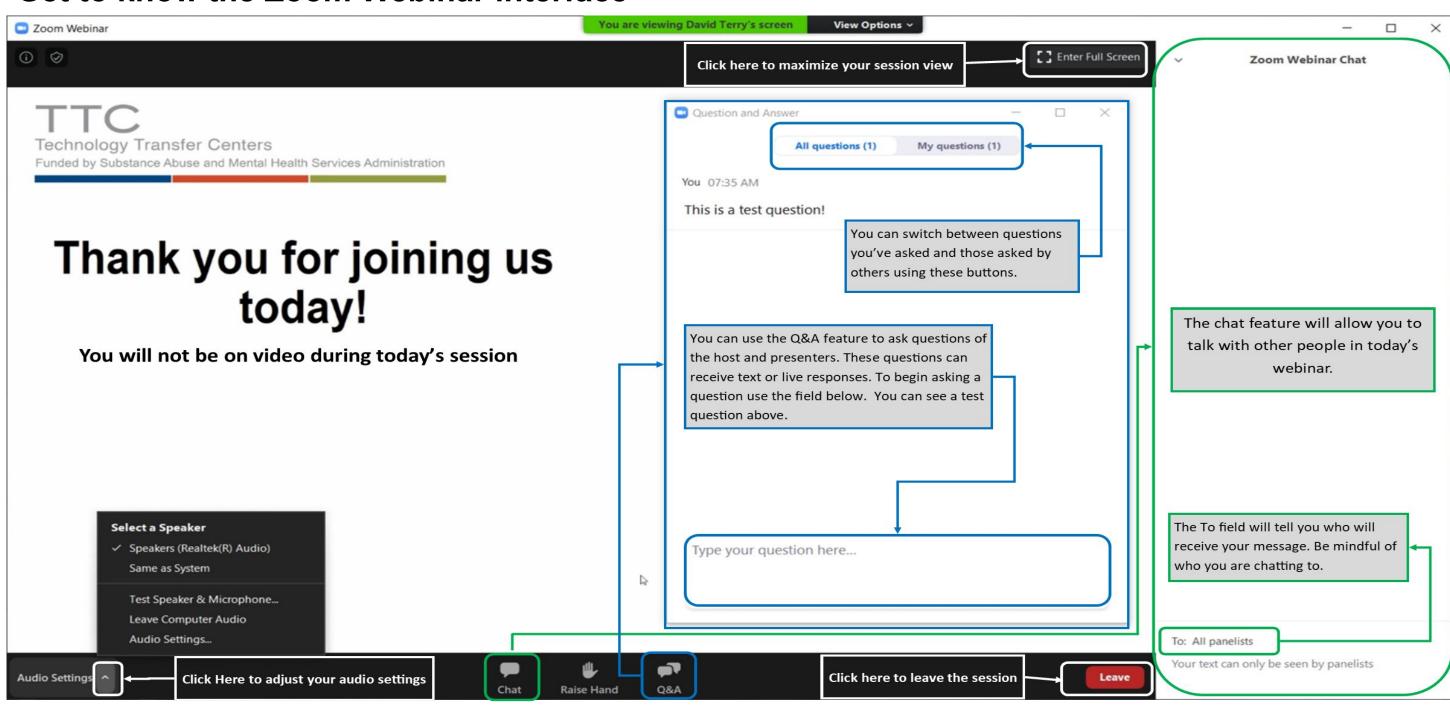




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#### Get to know the Zoom Webinar interface



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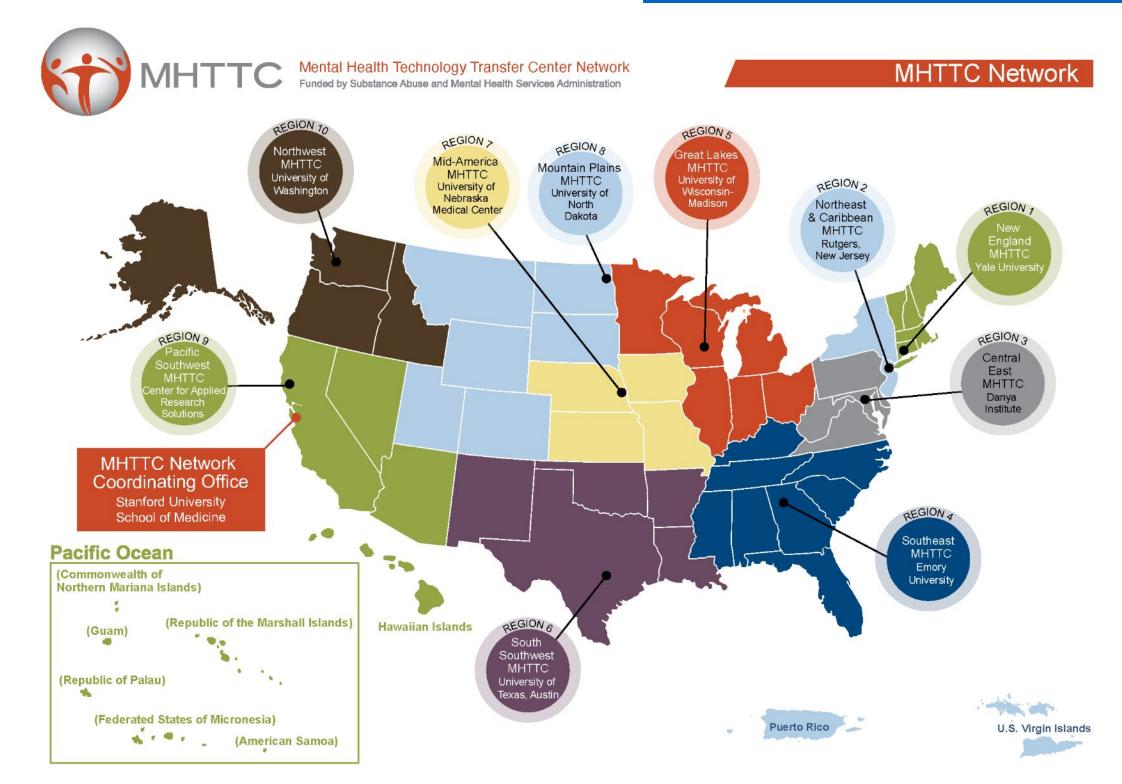
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At the time of this presentation, Dr. Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon served as Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Administrator of SAMHSA. The opinions expressed herein are the views of the speakers, and do not reflect the official position of DHHS or SAMHSA. No official support or endorsement of DHHS, SAMHSA, for the opinions described in this presentation is intended or should be inferred.

### Connect with Your MHTTC at www.mhttcnetwork.org



# Welcome to the MHTTC Grief Sensitivity Virtual Learning Institute 2023!

#### This Year's Theme:

"Working with grief in the context of violence: Strengthening our skills to strengthen ourselves"

# GRIEF:

An ongoing and evolving experience involving cognitive, emotional, physical, and behavioral responses to a loss.

Responses may be related to the object of loss, secondary losses and stressors, the self, others, and the world (i.e., beliefs about safety, security, worldview, etc.).



GSVLI Day 2:

Special focus on school violence prevention, intervention & postvention and grief

#### Collective Nouns for Humans in the Wild

A group of grandmothers is a *tapestry*. A group of toddlers, a *jubilance* (see also: a *bewailing*). A group of librarians is an *enlightenment*. A group of visual artists is a *bioluminescence*. A group of short story writers is a Flannery. A group of musicians is - a *band*.

A resplendence of poets.

A beacon of scientists.

A raft of social workers.

A group of first responders is a *valiance*. A group of peaceful protestors is a *dream*. A group of special education teachers is a *transcendence*. A group of neonatal ICU nurses is a *divinity*. A group of hospice workers, a *grace*.

Humans in the wild, gathered and feeling good, previously an exhilaration, now: a target.

A *target* of concert-goers.

A target of movie-goers.

A target of dancers.

A group of schoolchildren is a target.

Kathy Fish

# GSVLI Day 2 - What might today feel like?

Opening & Welcome	MHTTC Staff	9:00 am- 9:15 am PT // 12:00 pm- 12:15 pm ET
Keynote	Roberto Rivera	9:15 am - 9:45 am PT // 12:15 pm -12:45 pm ET
Overview of Day	MHTTC Staff	9:45 am - 10:00 am PT // 12:45 pm -1:00 pm ET
Panel 1: Grief Sensitive School Crisis Response	Hannah West, Saun-Toy Trotter, & Tuyl Mogabgab	10:00 am - 11:15 am PT // /1:00 pm -2:15 pm ET
Break		11:15 am-11:30 pm PT // 2:15 pm -2:30 pm ET
Panel 2: Unpacking the Uncomfortable - Cultural Humility's Role in Our School-Based Grief Work	Canada Taylor Parker, Nicole Barnes & Samira Moosavi	11:30 am- 12:45 pm PT // 2:30 pm - 3:45 pm ET
Break		12:45 pm PT- 1:00 pm PT //3:45 pm - 4:00 pm ET
Workshop Practice Session: Growing through Grief: Understanding and Supporting Students Exposed to Loss	Marisa Nowitz and Oscar Widales-Benitez, Trauma and Grief Center at the Hackett Center for Mental Health	1:10 pm- 2:40 pm PT // 4:10 pm - 5:40 pm ET
Closing	MHTTC Staff	2:45 pm - 3:00 pm PT // 5:45 pm - 6:00 pm ET

The MHTTC Network uses affirming, respectful and recovery-oriented language in all activities. That language is:

STRENGTHS-BASED AND HOPEFUL

INCLUSIVE AND
ACCEPTING OF
DIVERSE CULTURES,
GENDERS,
PERSPECTIVES,
AND EXPERIENCES

HEALING-CENTERED AND TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE

INVITING TO INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN THEIR OWN JOURNEYS

PERSON-FIRST AND FREE OF LABELS

NON-JUDGMENTAL AND AVOIDING ASSUMPTIONS

RESPECTFUL, CLEAR AND UNDERSTANDABLE

CONSISTENT WITH OUR ACTIONS, POLICIES, AND PRODUCTS

La Red de los Centros de Transferencia de Tecnología sobre Salud Mental (MHTTC, por sus siglas en inglés) utiliza un lenguaje afirmativo, respetuoso y orientado a la recuperación de las personas, en todas sus actividades. Este lenguaje es:

BASADO EN LAS FORTALEZAS Y EN LA ESPERANZA

INCLUSIVO Y DE ACEPTACIÓN A DIVERSAS CULTURAS, GÉNEROS, PERSPECTIVAS Y EXPERIENCIAS

CENTRADO EN LA SANACIÓN Y SENSIBLE AL TRAUMA MOTIVA A QUE LAS PERSONAS DECIDAN SU CAMINO

CENTRADO EN LA PERSONA Y LIBRE DE ETIQUETAS

LIBRE DE SUPOSICIONES Y JUICIOS

RESPETUOSO, CLARO
Y COMPRENSIBLE

CONSISTENTE CON NUESTRAS ACCIONES, POLÍTICAS Y PRODUCTOS

Adapted from: https://mhcc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Recovery-Oriented-Language-Guide\_2019ed\_v1\_20190809-Web.pdf

Adaptado de: https://mhcc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Recovery-Oriented-Language-Guide\_2019ed\_v1\_20190809-Web.pdf

# Want to learn more?

#### **Fact Sheets**

- We have a series of fact sheets focused on addressing various grief-related topics
  - Defining Grief
  - Responses to Grief Across the Lifespan
  - Preventive Strategies and Protective Factors
  - Cultural Responsiveness
  - Evidence-Based Treatments for Grief

#### Resources

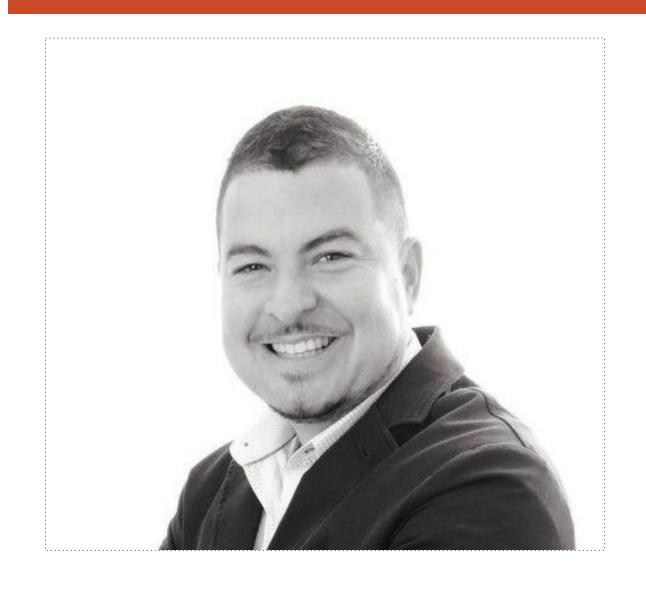
- Responding to COVID-19: Grief, Loss, and Bereavement visit our webpage for events and resources:
  - https://mhttcnetwork.org/centers/global-mhttc/responding-covid-19-grief-loss-and-bereave ment
- GSVLI 2023 Faculty Curriculum Vitae

# Resourcing yourself

- Be sensitive to your own grief and reactions throughout the Learning Institute. Take breaks, stretch, drink lots of water...
- Helplines and Support
  - 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline 988
  - NAMI 1-800-950-NAMI (6264) or <u>info@nami.org</u>
  - Mental Health America- Text MHA to 741741
  - SAMHSA's National Helpline referral and information 1-800-662-HELP (4357)
  - SAMHSA's Disaster Distress Helpline 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746
  - Help Texts
  - https://letsreimagine.org/resources

# Keynote Speaker Roberto Rivera, PhD Healing and Thriving in Tumultuous Times

9:15 am PT - 9:45 am PT / 10:15 am -10:45 pm MT / 11:15 am - 11:45 am CT / 12:15 pm -12:45 pm ET



Roberto shares research and gives practical examples on how school communities are creating educational ecosystems where staff and students are healing from grief and trauma and learning to thrive.

# Reflecting on Roberto's words...

What might you integrate into your practice and work?

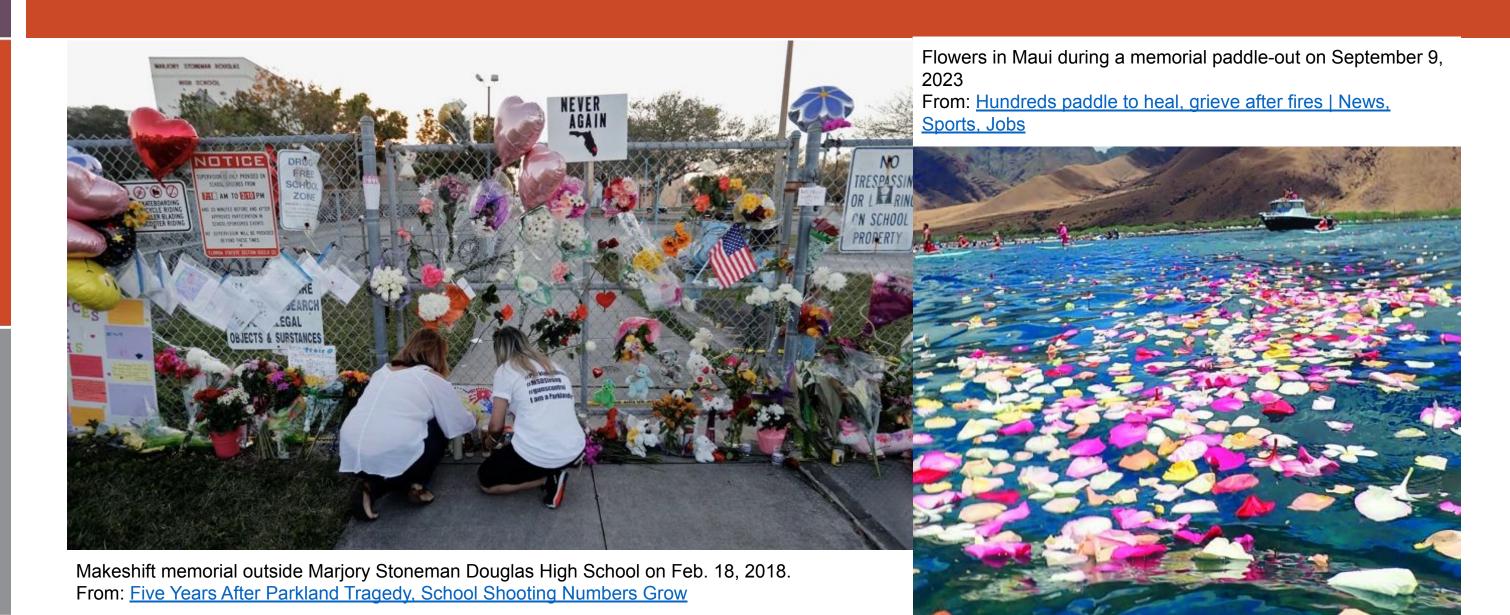
What might you need to study further?

What might need strengthening?

# Coming up next...

Panel 1: Grief Sensitive School Crisis Response	Hannah West, Saun-Toy Trotter, & Tuyl Mogabgab	10:00-11:15 am PT / 1:00- 2:15 pm ET ( <u>view your time zone</u> )
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Closing	MHTTC Staff	2:45-3:00 pm PT / 5:45 - 6:00 pm ET (view your time zone)

# Panel 1: Grief Sensitive School Crisis Response



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#### DAY 2- School Mental Health

Panel 1: Grief Sensitive School Crisis Response



Tuyl Mogabgab LCSW-BACS, MPH



Saun-Toy Trotter
MA



Hannah West PhD, LP, BCBA

## Saun-Toy Latifa Trotter

- Healer
- Black, queer, cis-gendederd woman
- Home is Oakland, CA- unceded Ohlone land
- Clinical Director of School Based Behavioral Health and Health Education at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland
- Member of School Based Health Center team
- Psychotherapist LMFT





Mother, wife, daughter, aunt, sister, friend, lover of nature, books and dancing...





## What Brings Me to Grief Work

- 17 years working in schools in East and West Oakland
- Experience of death of clients, mentors, school staff and community members.
- Being Black and member of LGBTQQI community
- Personal loss- Being a fellow griever



#### **Grief and Traumatic Grief**

Needing both hands to count...

- Grief is normal, not liner, changes over time and can be forever
- Cultural traditions
- Acknowledge and process grief
- Violent death results in traumatic grief
- Trauma needs to be processed and safety re-established



### How Are We Healing

- School-Community partnership
- Screenings
- Transparency in communication
- Acknowledge and validate all emotions including "numb"
- Allow students to memorialize their dead
- Both targeted and universal interventions
- River of loss (Malkia Devich-Cyril)

Story- Day of healing



# SUICIDE POSTVENTION IN SCHOOLS.

TUYL MOGABGAB, LCSW-BACS, MPH SHe/Her/Hers







Exposure to an intense event that threatens or causes harm to one's emotional and physical well-being.

Overwhelms a person's ability to cope.

Creates difficulty in functioning.





INTEGRATED TRAUMA& HEALING FRAMEWORK

Leslie Briner & Teddy McGlynn-Wright

# SAFE BELONGING DIGNITY AGENCY

TUYL MOGABGAB, LCSW-BACS, MPH she/her/hers







# Hannah M. West, PhD, BCBA

- Licensed Psychologist
- Board Certified Behavior Analyst
- Clinician at Sunflower Pediatric Behavioral Health



 Regional Trainer for the Mid-America Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC)





# Responding to Crises and Needs in Schools

#### A school's role is to:

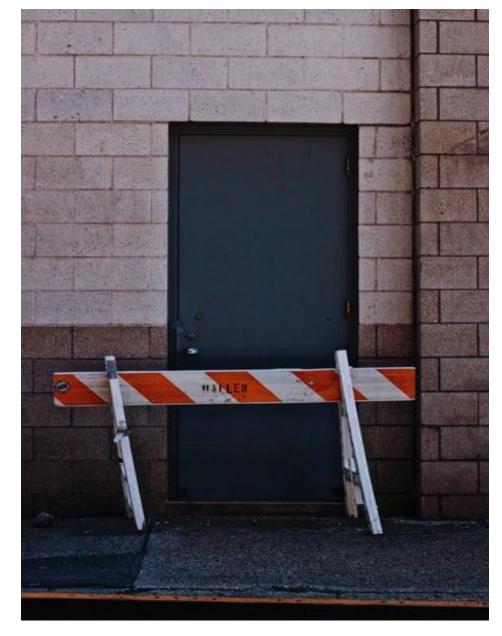
- Reestablish and empower social supports and connections
- Educate teachers, parents, and students about what are common responses to trauma and grief and about resources available to them
- Intervene to provide immediate coping tools and strategies, as well as to refer for more intensive supports for those who need it

#### Remember:

- Schools should not force sharing/engaging in specific ways Symptoms do not automatically indicate psychopathy. It is normal to feel grief in the response of crisis events

# Importance of Crisis Planning

- Provides a plan for response, especially important to provide automatic responses that are known to all school personnel
- Preventative instead of responsive approach to crisis events



# Triage

- Definition:
  - the process of sorting victims, as of a battle or disaster, to determine medical priority in order to increase the number of survivors
- Levels primary, secondary, referral
  - Proximity (especially emotional proximity) and pre-trauma vulnerability
- How?
  - Screening and referral practices
- Important in matching student needs with the resources we have available

# **Care for Caregivers**

- Teachers/educators are impacted by crises too
- We have to be able to provide supports and space for them as well
- Importance of educator well-being and MH literacy



"During the Camp Fire, many staff and administrators lost homes, drove through flames with the thought that they may not survive, and witnessed the destruction of their school and town. Because of this, many of the immediate interactions were not regarding safety plans, task completion, etc., but were about the health and wellness of the staff.

When we prioritize inquiry into the health and wellness of an individual, we are offering attention to one's full humanity."

# Panel discussion +

Q & A

# Closing Panel 1

From what you heard during this session...

What might you integrate into your practice and work?

What might you need to study further?

What might need strengthening?

# COMING UP NEXT

	Break	11:15-11:30 am PT / 1:15- 2:30 pm ET
		( <u>view your time zone</u> )
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Closing	MHTTC Staff	2:45-3:00 pm PT / 5:45 - 6:00 pm ET (view your time zone)

#### Break. Breathe. Hydrate. Stretch. Eat. Hum. Journal.

(11:15 am-11:30 pm PT // 12:15 pm -12:30 pm MT // 1:15 pm - 1:30 pm CT //2:15 pm -2:30 pm ET)



### Panel 2: Unpacking the Uncomfortable - Cultural Humility's Role in Our School-Based Grief Work

#### **Cultural Humility:**

- •A personal lifelong commitment to self-evaluation and self-critique
- •Recognition of power dynamics and imbalances, a desire to fix those power imbalances and to develop partnerships with people and groups who advocate for others
- Institutional accountability

(Tervalon & Murray-Garcia, 1998)

A "lifelong process of self-reflection and self-critique whereby the individual not only learns about another's culture, but one starts with an examination of [their] own beliefs and cultural identities"

National Institute of Health

#### DAY 2- School Mental Health

Panel 2: Unpacking the Uncomfortable - Cultural Humility's Role in Our School-Based Grief Work



Nicole Barnes LICSW



Samira Moosavi CCLS



Canada Taylor Parker CFSP, EOLD

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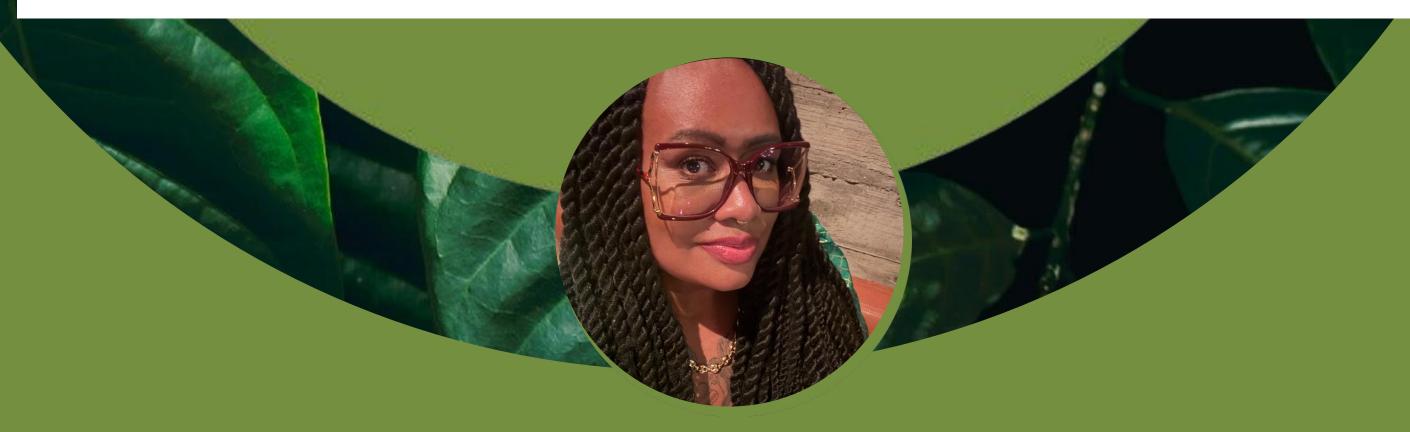


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### Beyond the dominant culture lens:

### Postvention for BIPOC Youth & Communities



Canada Taylor Parker she/her

Suicide Prevention Coordinator & Postvention Response Lead, Certified Funeral Celebrant, Death Doula, urban farmer, mama, widow, wife, creative human



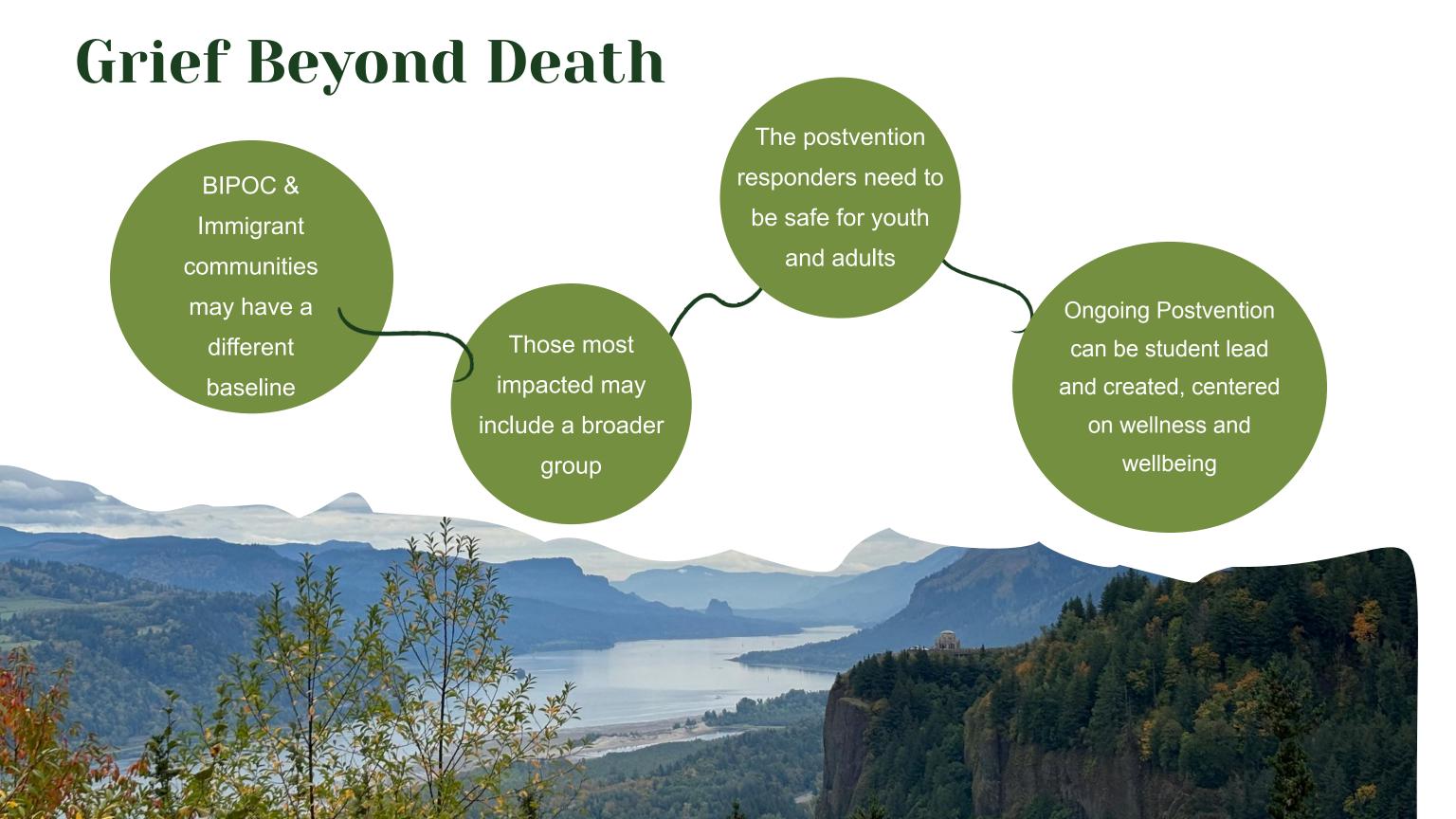
#### **POSTVENTION BASICS**

Provide immediate support for students, staff, family and community impacted by death.

Focuses on those most impacted by the death to prevent suicide contagion while providing some level of support to the entire community.

While postvention has ongoing phases, many community supports are dedicated to the immediate aftermath and intermediate needs.

Those identified as closest to the deceased are often the primary focus of ongoing, long term postvention.





# Postvention Centered In Healing and Transformation

Youth, families, and communities are resilient, but they are seeking rest. What are you offering?

How is your school integrated into the larger community, the organizations, and culturally grounded spaces?

How do you invite and create healing practices that center the dominant culture lens?

# Shift leaders to support responses

- Culturally specific providers
- Community organization
- Youth and adult feedback
- No us and them it's just
   us
- Engage entire community



Transformation & healing are a lifetime process, especially for BIPOC youth. We are born with historical and intergenerational trauma and grief. What we experience in our lifetime adds weight to what we already carry. Let your support be part of a foundation the student builds upon.

## Growing Through Grief Nicole Barnes, LICSW

### COVID and Violence



- Childhood bereavement due to death of a parent increased 25% by 2020
- Four leading causes of death (COD) in Hennepin County, 2022
  - COVID (7<sup>th</sup> COD)
  - Homicide by gunshot (2<sup>nd</sup> leading COD for AA parents, 9<sup>th</sup> for White, and 6<sup>th</sup> for all)
  - Accidental overdose (first leading COD for all)
    Suicide (4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> COD)

- George Floyd (2020), Winston Smith (2021), Daunte Wright (2021), Deshaun Hill (2022)
- 1:4 (26%) of residents in Mpls and St. Paul report fear of attack or harm
- 1995 highest murder rate 96 people
- 2021 93 murders and 655 car jackings
- 2022 80 murders





### A New Approach to Grief Support



#### C.A.R.E.S. Model

School-based support

Personal or community-based death experience

8-week peer support group

Co-facilitated with program and school staff

Train and equip the school-based facilitator for future groups

Barrier Free: no cost, no transportation, open attendance policy (uniquely designed for participation in one group or all eight groups, and/or repeated group cycles)

**C- Community:** Coming together to learn and receive support. Peer relationship building. Trust.

A - Awareness: What is grief and trauma and how do they overlap? Trauma and grief informed.

**R - Resiliency:** Finding our strength and light when life feel dark. Self identification and coping strategies.

**E - Empathy:** Recognizing our capacity for compassion for self & others. Listening.

**S - Strength:** Knowing that "being strong" can mean being vulnerable and open to support from others.





### Students Grieving



#### **Who Attends Groups**

- Shooting survivors
- Family violence
- Neighborhood violence/gangs
- Sexual assault survivors
- Substance abuse households
- Incarcerated parents
- Kids who fled from "war torn/government unrest"
- Deceased parents/siblings
- Homelessness

#### **Student Feedback**

•My neighbors stayed up all night- not all at once, but they took turns watching to make sure no one would get hurt. We had to put stuff away in our yard like sharp things that could be used as a weapon, and like gas grills, so more fires wouldn't start. I didn't like it at all.

•It was kind of weird. I put my hair in a big scarf. Some girls were laughing and said I looked like I had a rag on my head, and I looked like a ... N-word. I felt sad. I went to the bathroom and took my scarf off. I don't wear anything that other students might say mean things about.

• My parents and I left my country because my dad said things against the government, and he was going to be killed. We traveled for over three months. Sometimes we traveled by car and train, but mostly we walked. I was scared all the time that my dad would die.





### Challenges, Signs of "Good," Lessons Learned



#### Challenges

- Scheduling, scheduling, schedulinghighly mobile kids not in school regularly, school activity conflicts, staff shortages
- Student identification mobile kids and busy school staff

#### Signs of "Good"

- Students initially hesitate to come to group, but after one session are sharing how being in group helped them feel calmer and have a better outlook on their day to come.
- Students start by saying they don't like talking about their feelings, but by the end of the hour they are offering up information to their group members about dreams for a racism free world and wanting "world peace".
- Increased participation 10-15 students in traditional groups across 2 schools prior to CARES. 55 students in groups across 7 schools after CARES.
- 2023-24, 12 schools anticipated to participate.

#### Lessons Learned

- Humility
- Go beyond being aware, apply change
- The line to success is not straight
- Plan for 1 week participation and prepare for 8 consistent weeks of participation
- Suffocated grief is real
- Few safe places for students to process emotions and natural curiosity related to death, violence, and grief





### Samira Moosavi, CCLS

- Certified Child Life Specialist supported families in the hospital environment and at end-of-life
- Previous role in Children's Bereavement
   Program running school-based programming,
   peer support groups and bereavement camps

### Duality

-School sites honoring student/staff deaths dependent on cause of death

-Holding student needs and family wishes

-Staff sitting with own grief while supporting student grief

### Culture

- -Of school
- -Of students
- -Of school site infrastructure
- -Of needs

# How can we move alongside someone instead of for them?

Practicing Cultural Humility begins with us in asking ourselves such questions as:

- 'Am I self-reflective?'
- 'What is my own personal culture?'
- 'Am I clear about my personal values, beliefs, thoughts, feelings in a particular situation?'
- 'How does my values and beliefs affect how I perceive others?'
- What are my biases, sensitivities, triggers with respect of another's expression of personal culture?'

Some key questions we can ask a child/youth who's grieving:

- 'Can I learn more about how you or your family...',
- 'Can you teach me how you...,'
- 'Can you draw for me what it (personal culture) looks like?',
- 'What would I need to know about you so I can be of help/support?'

Being in a state of Cultural Humility not only allows us to bring power imbalances in check but also fosters within us a more respectful way to support others in their individual expressions of grief and loss.

## Panel discussion



Q & A

From: Taking A Culturally Humble Approach to the Bereavement Journey - Lighthouse For Grieving Children

### Closing Panel 2

From what you heard during this session...

What might you integrate into your practice and work?

What might you need to study further?

What might need strengthening?

### Extended Learning

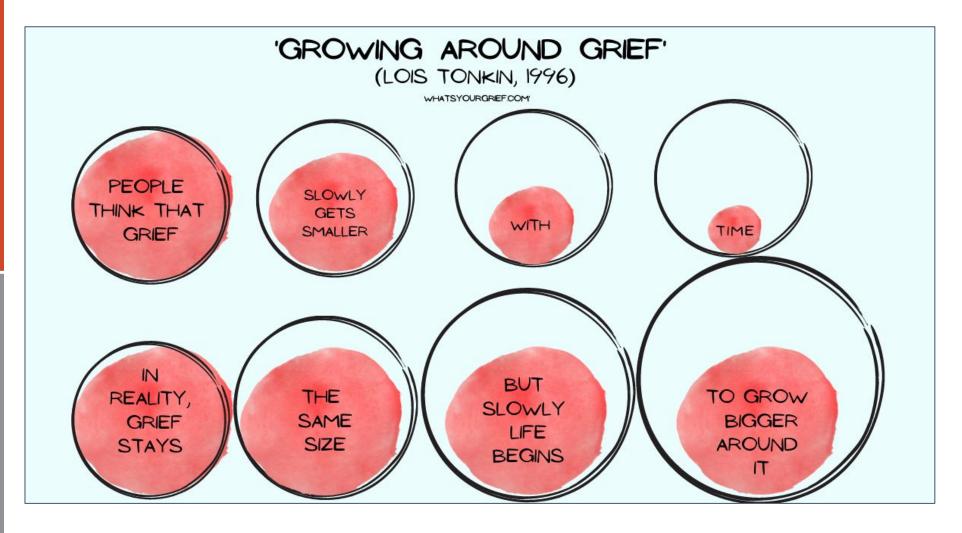
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# Workshop Practice Session Growing through Grief: Understanding and Supporting Students Exposed to Loss



"The death of a loved one leaves a hole in your heart that will never completely go away but with the help of caring people it will become smaller."

—Darren, 17

<u>18-Quotes from Teens about Support</u> (Children's Grief Awareness Day)

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### Working Agreements for Our Time Together

**Safety and self-preservation first.** You know yourself best. If you need to shake it out, find something green in the room, hydrate - please do.

We are each our own best expert. Stick with "I" statements and avoid advice-giving. Your experience is yours and please honor and respect that others' experiences are theirs. If you'd like to hear specific advice or insight about other's strategies and practices during this time, just ask.

**Be as present as possible:** We've all got a lot going on. And this time is for us and our growth and learning.

**Sharing isn't mandatory:** We will offer a couple moments to free write and reflect, referring to personal and professional experiences. While we invite you to share in the chat, there's not requirement to share.

Recognize that no two grief experiences are the same and that grief isn't held equally (in our culture nor in our workforces). Let's listen to each other with care, respect and dignity.

**Expect and accept a lack of closure.** This workshop will not be able to speak to everything, but it will speak to some things. Take what feels resonant and translate what might not feel central but could be impactful. Know that there is always room for more learning, listening and leading.

#### DAY 2- School Mental Health

Workshop Practice Session: Growing through Grief: Understanding and Supporting Youth Exposed to Loss



Marisa Nowitz Oscar Widales-Benitez
LCSW-S PhD

### Growing Through Grief: Understanding and Supporting Students Exposed to Loss

Marisa Nowitz, MSW, LCSW-S

Senior Director of School and Community Engagement

Oscar Widales-Benitez, PhD

Sr. Clinical Implementation Specialist

Trauma and Grief (TAG) Center at The Hackett Center for Mental Health





#### **Overview**

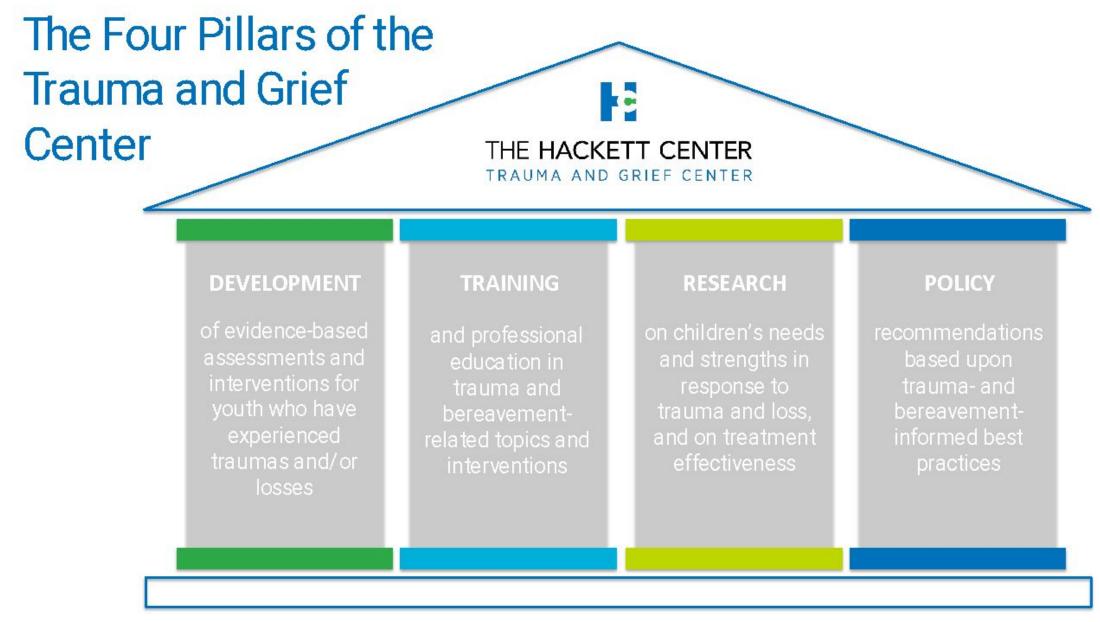
Overview of childhood grief Trauma and loss reminders **Cultural Humility** Supporting students Exploring the "cost of caring" Questions & discussion





#### Trauma and Grief (TAG) Center at The Hackett Center for Mental Health

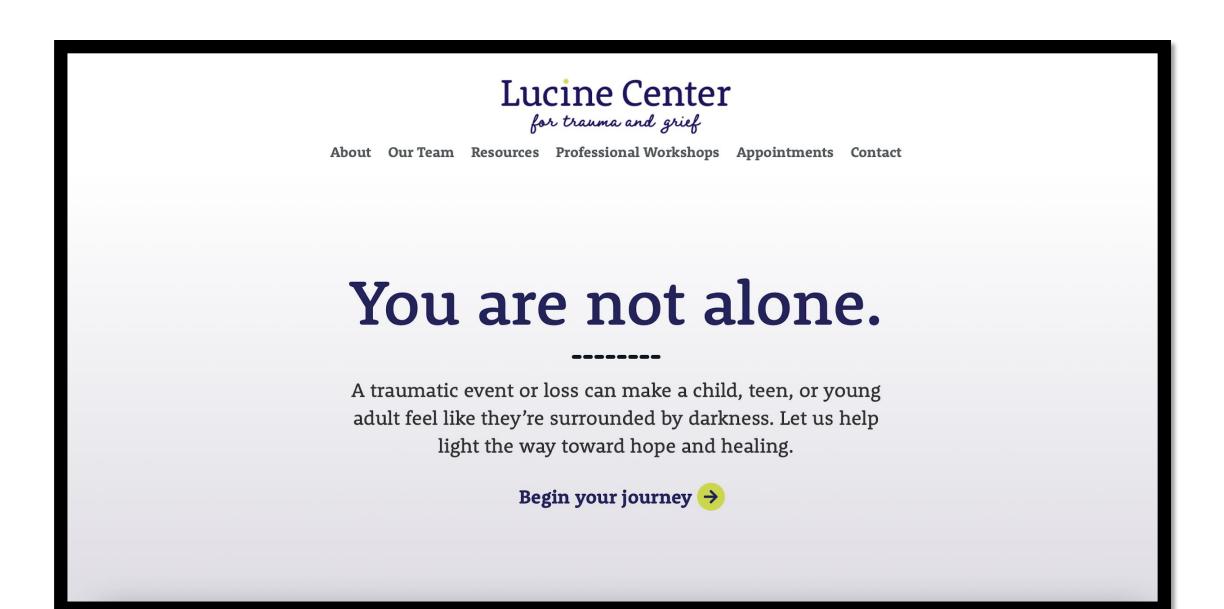
**Executive Director: Julie B. Kaplow, PhD, ABPP** 







#### **Lucine Center for Trauma and Grief**









### Grief Overview









### Why Focus on Bereavement?



Most frequently reported type of trauma in clinic-referred

(FOUTE: et al., 2014)



Most common form of trauma worldwide

(Burns et al., 2020)



Most distressing form of trauma among adults and youth in the general population

(Breslau et al., 2004; Kaplow, Saunders, Angold, & Costello, 2010)



Strongest predictor of poor school outcomes above and beyond any other form of trauma

(Oosterhoff, Kaplow, & Layne, 2018)





#### **How Do Children Typically Grieve?**

- "Typical" grief reactions are hard to define
- Very few large studies of bereaved children... even fewer studies of bereaved children followed over time, even fewer with diverse populations
- Grief reactions influenced by:
  - developmental level
  - previous life experiences
  - relationship to deceased
  - culture
  - religious/spiritual beliefs
  - family
  - social environment
  - cause of death





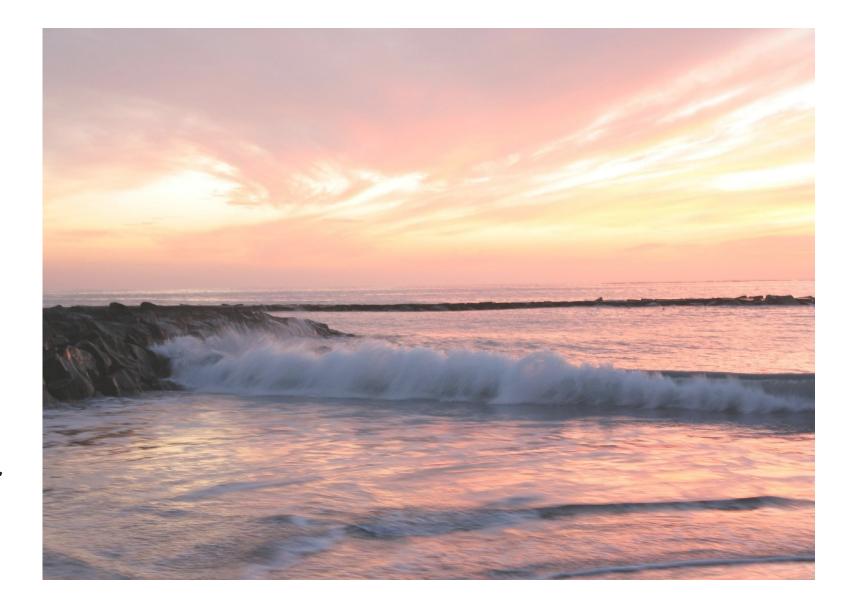


## **Typical Grief Reactions**

Can be very intense (pining, yearning, sadness, anger or protest over the loss).

Are often at least temporarily associated with decreased functioning.

Typically transition from pain to more pleasant reminiscing over time.







## **Unanswered Questions**

- What does childhood grief look like in children of different ages, cultures?
- What constitutes a "healthy" or "adaptive" grief reaction versus an "unhealthy" or "maladaptive" grief reaction in children?
- How does grief change over time?
- When and how should we intervene?





## **Prolonged Grief Disorder (PGD)**

- Newer diagnosis in DSM-5
- For diagnosis of a child, the death had to have occurred at least 6 months ago, symptoms have to be present for at least a month and be intense enough to cause impairment
- Approximately 10-20% of bereaved youth develop PGD, but most studies have focused on middle class, Caucasian youth only
- Informed by Multidimensional Grief Theory





## **Multidimensional Grief Theory**

Layne, Kaplow, & Pynoos (2011)

## **Separation Distress**

## **Existential / Identity Distress**

## Circumstance-Related Distress

Adaptive/Helpful Maladaptive/Unhelpful

MEADOWS

**POLICY INSTITUTE** 



## **Grief Reactions Activity**

- I miss my person so much I feel like crying all the time.
- When I grow up, I want to help people get through tough times like the ones I've been going through.
- I feel like when my person died, I lost a big part of myself.
- I keep thinking about how things could have been different so that my person wouldn't have died.
- I want to do positive things to help keep other people from dying the way my person died.
- Talking to my person out loud or in my mind makes me feel better.





## A multidimensional framework is important because...

## Distinct dimensions of grief may:

- Be more prominent at certain developmental stages
- May not be present in all bereaved populations
- Require <u>different treatment components</u> (i.e., different therapeutic activities to address different grief domains)





#### **Observable Classroom Behaviors**



"Unhelpful" (maladaptive) grief can look like:

- Social withdrawal (important predictor of suicide risk)
  - not wanting to get close to anyone because they don't want to experience another loss
  - feeling self-conscious or "different" from other kids due to the death
- School problems poor school grades, truancy, lack of school connectedness
- Problems with peers getting into fights or arguments
- Distractibility or inattention may be so consumed with grief they can't pay attention in school





## Hypothesized Risk Factors For Childhood Maladaptive Grief Previous traumas

Older children (teens)

Prior mental health problems

Avoidant coping strategies

Impaired functioning of surviving parent

Lack of social support

Frequent exposure to trauma/loss reminders

Secondary problems following death

Circumstances of the death





## Trauma and Loss Reminders



### **Trauma and Loss Reminders**

Layne, Warren, et al.

2006

#### **Trauma** Reminders

- Images, sounds, smells, people, situations that remind child of the traumatic event
- Often lead to PTSD
- Always distressing

#### **Loss** Reminders

- Images, sounds, smells, people, situations that remind child of the absence of the person who died
- Often lead to grief reactions
- Can be comforting





## **Cultural Humility**



## **Bereavement & Grief are Culture Dependent**



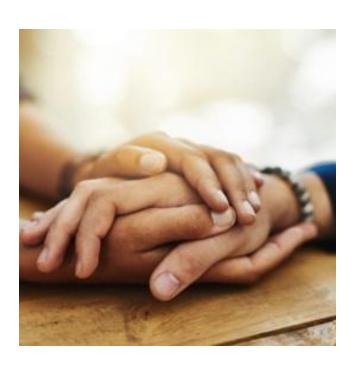
Death



Bereavement



Mourning/Grief



Coping





## **Defining Culture**

How do you define culture?

Think of one or two words that come to mind.





## **Defining Culture**

"the <u>dynamic</u> and <u>active</u> process of constructing shared meaning, as represented by <u>shared</u> ideas, beliefs, attitudes, values, norms, practices, language, spirituality, and symbols, with acknowledgement and consideration of positions of <u>power</u>, <u>privilege</u>, and <u>oppression</u>"





## **ADDRESSING Model Framework**

Cultural Characteristic	Power	Less Power
Age and Generation	Adults	Children, teens, elders
Developmental Disability	Temporarily able-bodied	Individuals with disabilities
Disability Acquired Later in Life	Temporarily able-bodied	Individuals with disabilities
Religion	Christian	Non-Christian
Ethnicity & Race	White or Caucasian	People of color
Socioeconomic Status	Owning & Middle Class	Perceived lower status due to occupation, education, income, or rural
Sexual Orientation	Heterosexual	LGBQ+ people
Indigenous Heritage	Non-native	Native
National Origin	U.S. Born	Immigrants & refugees
Gender	Male	Women, transgender, non-binary, and intersex people

## **Shifting Perspectives**







## **Understanding Cultural Humility**

"cultural humility incorporates a <u>lifelong commitment</u> to <u>self-evaluation</u> and <u>critique</u>, to redressing the <u>power imbalances</u> in the [provider]-patient dynamic, and to developing mutually beneficial and non-paternalistic <u>partnerships</u> with communities on behalf of individuals and defined populations."





## **Three Dimensions of Cultural Humility**



Intrapersonal



Interpersonal







#### **Multicultural Practices**



## Awareness

- Own Assumptions, Values, and Biases
- Understanding our own privilege



## Implicit Bias – Defined

 "the attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner"





#### **Multicultural Practices**

## Knowledge

- Respectful curiosity & willingness to learn
- Asking & not assuming

## Skills

Intervention strategies and techniques

## Action

Practice





## Bereavement, Grief, & Culture – Immigrant Latino Youth

#### **Immigrant Youth in the Nation**

Approximately 3 Million in the US

Relocate by choice & high SES in country of origin and host

Forced to migrate and/or low SES in country of origin

#### Youth with Forced Migration Experiences

High rates of exposure to trauma and loss

At-risk for numerous negative social and emotional outcomes





## Unique Experiences of Grief and Loss in Immigrant Youth

Experiences of *grief* often include loss of loved ones such as caregivers, immediate family, relatives, &/or companions.

#### Other unique forms of loss include loss of...

- Cultural Norms
- Language
- Religious Customs
- Social Status
- Social Support Systems
- Adjustment to a New Culture
- Changes in Identity

(Achotegui, 2019; Bhugra & Becker, 2005)







## Unique Experiences of Grief and Loss in Immigrant Youth

Experiences of both types of *ambiguous loss*:

#### Loved one is physically missing or bodily gone

- -Loved ones and country of origin are physically left behind
- -Loved ones are often kidnapped by cartels or criminal groups

#### Loved one is psychologically/emotionally absent

-Loved ones may become emotionally unavailable as a result of homesickness and the stresses of adaptation.

( Falicov, 2002)

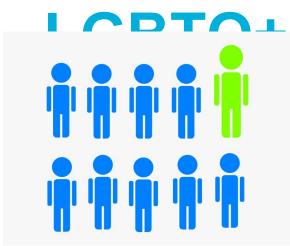


These experiences leave immigrant youth with questions, no verification of death, no certainty of reunification or that the person will come back.





## Bereavement, Grief, & Culture – Intersectionality



1 in 10 youth identify as LGB



Approximately 50% of LGBT+ youth feel unsafe at school



More than half of LGBT+ youth screen positive for anxiety and/or depression

(Conron, 2020) (HRC

(HRC, 2023)

(HRC, 2023)



LGBT+ youth are four times more likely to attempt suicide than their peers

(Johns et al., 2020)





## **Grieving LGBTQ+ Latinx Youth- Barriers**

Perceived lack of support & understanding

Social stigma and discrimination

Limited access to friendly/affirming spaces





### **LGBTQ+ Youth & Disenfranchised & Collective Grief**

## Disenfranchised Grief

 Grief tied to a loss that is not openly acknowledged or socially accepted

## Collective Grief

 Grief that's part of a shared emotional response from a common loss





## Implications for Mental Health Providers Working with LGBTQ+ Youth

Continued training Utilize inclusive language Be mindful of spaces Confront prejudice





## **Exploring Grief Within a Multicultural Framework**

Clarifies the role of bereavement on current difficulties

Provides opportunity to explore mourning rituals and effect on current grief

Clarifies what type of help makes sense and for how long

Develops a shared understanding of bereavement and grief

Enhances rapport and motivation



(Smid et al., 2018)



## **ADDRESSING Model Framework**

Cultural Characteristic	Power	Less Power
Age and Generation	Adults	Children, teens, elders
Developmental Disability	Temporarily able-bodied	Individuals with disabilities
Disability Acquired Later in Life	Temporarily able-bodied	Individuals with disabilities
Religion	Christian	Non-Christian
Ethnicity & Race	White or Caucasian	People of color
Socioeconomic Status	Owning & Middle Class	Perceived lower status due to occupation, education, income, or rural
Sexual Orientation	Heterosexual	LGBQ+ people
Indigenous Heritage	Non-native	Native
National Origin	U.S. Born	<u>Immigrants &amp; refugees</u>
Gender	<u>Male</u>	Women, transgender, non-binary, and intersex people

## **Case Conceptualization**

### Risk Factors

- Low social support
- Stigma
- Violent death
- Acculturative gap
- Limited emotional awareness

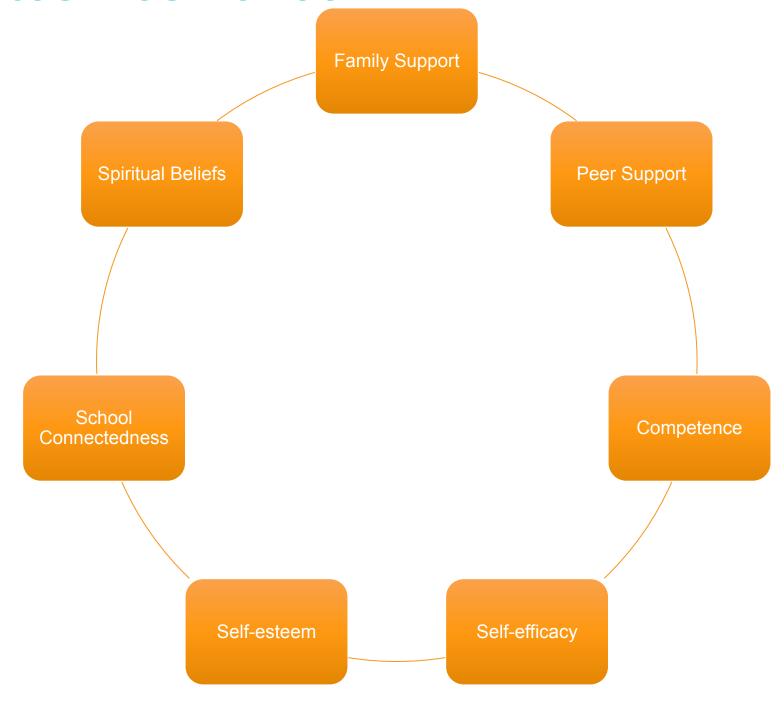
## **Protective Factors**

- Familismo
- Academically driven
- School belonging
- Engaged and motivated





### **What Promotes Resilience?**







## **Supporting Students**



## **Asking the Million Dollar Question**







# What's WRONG with you? What HAPPENED to you?





## **Showing You Care**

- Allow the student to lead the way in what they do or don't want to share about their loss
- Get student's permission before sharing information with other students
- Provide choice (where to sit, which book to read)
- Help develop strengths and interests
- Thumbs up or down to indicate if the student is having a good day or bad day
- Greet student and let them know they were missed







## **Showing You Care (cont'd)**

- Send student to nurse to rest if having trouble staying awake or focusing
- Allow student to eat or assist them in getting food if needed
- Ease transitions time warnings ahead of activity transitions (fire drills, loud sound, etc.)
- Re-teach lessons or postpone testing
- Presence, presence, presence







# **Additional Coping Strategies**

Read a book

Write in a journal

Exercise

Deep breathing

Think about something calm

Listen to music

Sing

Lift weights

Play an instrument

Dance

MEADOWS



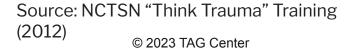












# When to Seek Support



- ✓Behaviors impact different parts of student's daily life (school, home, with peers)
- Extreme signs of depression (tearful, not able to get out of bed in the morning)
- Any gesture related to self-harm or mention of suicidal or homicidal ideation
- ✓ Signs of possible PTSD
- ✓When in doubt, refer out!





# **Exploring the Cost of Caring**



# **Being "Trauma-Informed"**

A program, organization, or system that is trauma-informed realizes the widespread impact of trauma and understands potential paths for recovery; recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in clients, families, staff, and others involved with the system; and responds by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices, and seeks to actively resist re-traumatization.





# 10 Core Areas of a Trauma-Informed School

- 1. Physical and emotional well-being of staff
- 2. Creating a trauma-informed learning environment
- 3. Identifying and assessing traumatic stress
- 4. Addressing and treating traumatic stress
- 5. Trauma education and awareness
- 6. Partnerships with students and families
- 7. Cultural responsiveness
- 8. Emergency management/crisis response
- 9. School discipline policies and practices
- 10. Cross-system collaboration and community partnerships





# **The Cost of Caring**

Secondary Traumatic Stress

Vicarious Trauma/Grief Compassion Fatigue

Burnout







## **Risk Factors**



Personal

History of unresolved trauma/loss

Pre-existing psychological conditions

Women

Isolation

Inadequate support system



Professional

Lack of quality supervision

High percentage of trauma in caseload

Lack of professional support system

Inadequate training

Lack of experience





**Warning Signs** 







# THE GOOD NEWS!

### **Compassion Satisfaction =**

Deriving pleasure from helping others

### **Vicarious Resilience =**

Positive transformation as a result of bearing witness to individuals overcoming adversity

\*\*Routinely caring for yourself can help reduce the cost of caring and increase resilience.\*\*

# The "S" Word

Self-care is the ability to engage in helping others without sacrificing other important parts of one's life.







# **Cultural Considerations**

Jönsson, et al. 2020

Cultural factors that can influence beliefs surrounding self-care practices may include:

- Dietary traditions
- Family structure
- Beliefs about self-care
- Religious practices
- Beliefs about physical activity
- Beliefs regarding medical care













# Self-Awareness is Key

### ProQol.org

#### PROFESSIONAL QUALITY OF LIFE SCALE (PROQOL)

COMPASSION SATISFACTION AND COMPASSION FATIGUE (PROQOL) VERSION 5 (2009)

When you [help] people you have direct contact with their lives. As you may have found, your compassion for those you [help] can affect you in positive and negative ways. Below are some-questions about your experiences, both positive and negative, as a [helper]. Consider each of the following questions about you and your current work situation. Select the number that honestly reflects how frequently you experienced these things in the <u>last 30 days</u>.

I=Neve	r 2=Rarely	3=Sometimes	4=Often	5=Very Often
1.	I am happy.			
2.	I am preoccupied with more	than one person I [help].		
3.	I get satisfaction from being	able to [help] people.		
4.	I feel connected to others.			
5.	I jump or am startled by une	expected sounds.		
6.	I feel invigorated after worki	ing with those I [help].		
7.	I find it difficult to separate r	my personal life from my life	as a [helper].	
8.	I am not as productive at wo [help].	ork because I am losing sleep	over traumatic exp	eriences of a person I
9.	I think that I might have been	n affected by the traumatic s	tress of those I [help	].
10.	I feel trapped by my job as a	[helper].	10.0	
11.	Because of my [helping], I ha	ave felt "on edge" about vario	ous things.	
12.	I like my work as a [helper].			
13.	I feel depressed because of t	he traumatic experiences of	the people I [help].	
14.	I feel as though I am experie	ncing the trauma of someon	e I have [helped].	
15.	I have beliefs that sustain me	2.		
16.	I am pleased with how I am	able to keep up with [helping	techniques and pro	otocols.
17.	I am the person I always war	nted to be.	86 7W 85.0°	

### Nami.org

#### Self-Care Inventory

Rate the following areas in frequency:

- 5 = frequently
- 4 = occasionally
- 3 = rarely
- 2 = neve
- 1 = it never occurred to me

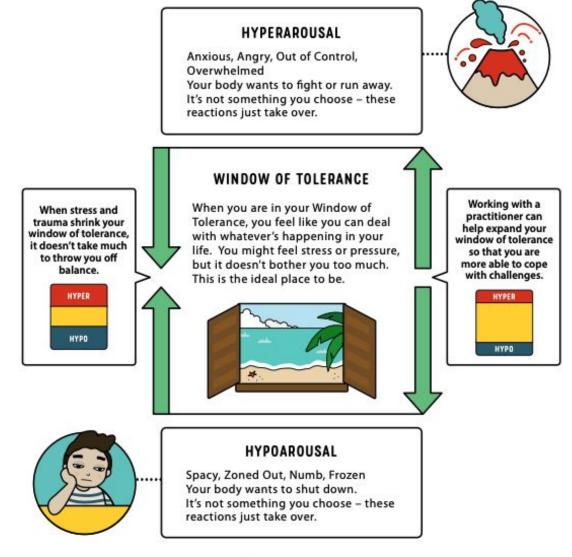
Physical Self-Care		4	3	2	1
Eat regularly (e.g. breakfast, lunch and dinner)					
Eat healthy foods					
Exercise consistently	20				9
Get regular medical care for prevention					
Get medical care when necessary			135		
Take time off when sick					12
Dance, swim, walk, run, play sports, sing or do some other					
physical activity that is enjoyable to self					
Take time to be sexual	30				12
Get enough sleep					
Take vacations					
Wear clothes you like					
Take day trips or mini-vacations	2				
Make time away from telephones					
Other:					

Psychological Self-Care	5	4	3	2	1
Make time for self-reflection					
Engage in personal psychotherapy					
Write in a journal					
Read literature that is unrelated to work					2
Do something in which you are not an expert or in charge					
Cope with stress in personal and/or work life					
Notice inner experience (e.g. listen to and recognize thoughts, judgments, beliefs, attitudes and feelings)					
Provide others with different aspects of self (e.g. communicate needs and wants)					
Try new things					
Practice receiving from others					
Improve ability to say "no" to extra responsibilities					
Other:					





# Window of Tolerance Model





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# **Strategies to Self-Regulate**



Mindfulness

Cognitive reappraisal

Deep breathing

Take a walk

Go outside

Engage your senses

Caring, nurturing self-talk

Laughing





# **Questions? Comments?**







# We welcome your feedback!



tgct2.com
"Training Evaluations" tab
"General Training Evaluation"





## **Contact Us**

### Marisa Nowitz, MSW, LCSW-S

Senior Director of School and Community Engagement mnowitz@mmhpi.org

Oscar Widales-Benitez, PhD

Sr. Clinical Implementation Specialist

owidales@mmhpi.org

TAG Center Virtual Learning Li tagcenter.org

**Lucine Center for Trauma and** 

lucinecenter.com (832) 244-9502









### Marisa Nowitz, MSW, LCSW-S

Senior Director of School and Community Engagement

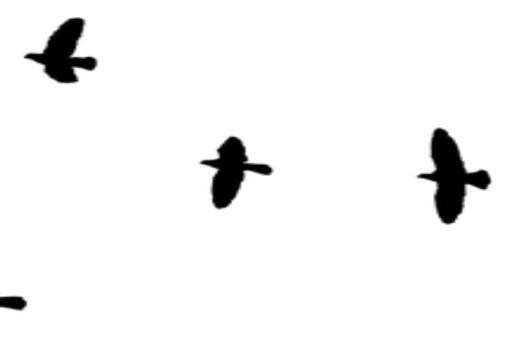
Oscar Widales-Benitez, PhD

Sr. Clinical Implementation Specialist

Trauma and Grief (TAG) Center at The Hackett Center for Mental Health

# Closing GSVLI Day 2





What I received / What I learned...

What I valued in this space...
What I'm still wondering...

# **Next Steps**

The MHTTC Network is funded through SAMHSA to provide this training. As part of receiving this funding we are required to submit data related to the quality of this event.

Please take a moment to complete a **brief** survey about today's Institute.

Note: there are two parts to the survey, please complete both.



Day 2 Survey:

http://ttc-gpra.org/GPRAOnline/PCS?e= 0088240105&n=M



## A HUGE GSVLI thank you to

Each regional MHTTC for funding speakers and ensuring this learning experience was possible

To all the GSVLI faculty whose wisdom, experience, and guidance contributed to our collective grief sensitivity learning

### To the MHTTC Grief Coordination Group who planned this GSVLI

- Leora Wolf-Prusan, Pacific Southwest MHTTC
- Erin Briley & Casey Morton, Mountain Plains MHTTC
- Dave Brown, Danya Institute
- Felicia Benson & Jessica Gonzalez, MHTTC Network Coordinating Office
- Shelbie Johnson, Mid-America MHTTC
- Gabrielle Orsi, Northwest MHTTC

### To our session hosts, moderators & tech support

- Leora Wolf-Prusan, Pacific Southwest MHTTC
- Oriana Ides, Pacific Southwest MHTTC
- Jessica Gonzalez, Network Coordinating Office
- Erin Briley, Mountain Plains MHTTC
- Dave Brown, Danya Institute
- Felicia Benson, Network Coordinating Office
- Heather Gotham, Network Coordinating Office
- Shelbie Johnson, Mid-America MHTTC
- Gabrielle Orsi, Northwest MHTTC
- Ricky Canelo, Network Coordinating Office







### Extended Learning and Resources Related to GSVLI Day 2

- Guiding Students and Families Through Grief (ASCD)
- Helping Students After a School Shooting (NSBA)
- https://imaginenj.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Becoming-Grief-Informed\_A-Call-to--Action.pdf
- Grief Has Engulfed the Learning Environment. Here's What Can Help (Opinion)
- Grief Support for Teachers & Staff | Dougy Center
- Creating Space for Grief: Cultivating an Intersectional Grief-Informed Systemic Pathway for Teacher Leaders (Everett, 2021)
- Supporting Grieving Students in School Setting: A Guide for School Personnel | Eluna Network
- An Empty Seat in Class: Teaching and Learning After the Death of a Student by Rick Ayers
- <u>Humanizing Grief in Higher Education: Narratives of Allyship and Hope</u>, Edited by Nicole Sieben and Ann Shelton
- <u>Reclaiming Wholeness: Healing Grief</u>, Stephanie Cariaga, Luana Morales, and Kiese Lovette Vita (abbreviated recording)
- Grief and Sustainability, Staci Haines and Strozzi Institute
- Traumatic Grief | The National Child Traumatic Stress Network
- <u>Childhood Traumatic Grief</u> (NCTSN)
- Helping Young Children with Traumatic Grief: Tips for Caregivers (NCTSN)
- <a href="https://schoolcrisishealing.org/memorialization-and-commemoration/">https://schoolcrisishealing.org/memorialization-and-commemoration/</a>
- Coalition to Support Grieving Students
- National Center for School Crisis and Bereavement

- <u>Taking A Culturally Humble Approach to the Bereavement Journey</u>
   <u>Lighthouse For Grieving Children</u>
- Our Right to Grieve: Grief-Informed Recommendations and Resources for Healing-Centered & Racially-Just School Cultures (School Crisis Recovery & Renewal project, 2023)
- <u>RITUALIZING REMEMBRANCE in our SCHOOL CULTURES:</u> <u>Día de los muertos</u> (School Crisis Recovery & Renewal project, 2021)
- Hook, J. N., Davis, D. E., Owen, J., Worthington Jr., E. L., & Utsey, S. O. (2013). Cultural humility: Measuring openness to culturally diverse clients. *Journal of Counseling Psychology*<sup>®</sup>. doi:10.1037/a0032595
- <u>Cultural Responsiveness To Racial Trauma | The National Child Traumatic Stress Network</u> (NCTSN, 2020)
- A Cultural Humility Checklist (The Opioid Response Network)
- 3 Things to Know: Cultural Humility | Hogg Foundation for Mental Health
- Module 8: Cultural Competence & Cultural Humility (UNC): https://ready.web.unc.edu/section-1-foundations/module-8/
- Cultural Humility versus Cultural Competency—IME Grand Rounds (2019): <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKqnyvlkUBs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKqnyvlkUBs</a>
- https://nacq.org/events/
- Urban Peace Movement | Healing the Healers: Supporting Youth-service Workers who Provide First Line Support to Youth in Crisis
- School Mental Health Crisis Leadership Lessons: Voices of Experience from Leaders in the Pacific Southwest Region | Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) Network (2020)
- 10 Pillars of Recovery and Renewal (School Crisis Recovery & Renewal project, 2021)

