ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES AS A RISK FACTOR FOR COMPLICATED GRIEF

DESCRIPTION:
Current research is showing links between trauma and poor physical and psychological outcomes, including at the end of life and during bereavement. Dr. Burke and Dr. Crunk will discuss the clinical implications of the relation between adverse childhood experiences (ACES) and complicated grief and offer some recommendations for intervention. They will also provide ways to incorporate trauma assessment and intervention into bereavement settings.

PROGRAM DETAILS:
This presentation features experienced professionals offering their own expertise on the topic. On the screen, you will see the slide presentation and will be able to hear the experts talking and presenting. If you login for the live version of the program, you’ll also have the opportunity to email or text the experts questions that they will discuss and answer during the program’s Q & A session.

LIVE DATE: February 20, 2020
TIME: Noon to 1:30pm ET
ON DEMAND: Available for 1 year; until February 19, 2021
LENGTH: 90 minutes
CES: 1.5 hours for a wide variety of professional boards
CE Fee: $9.00 per certificate
CONTENT LEVEL: The program is mainly for professionals already working in the field, but is practical for all levels of education – entry level, intermediate or advanced.
TARGET AUDIENCE: Health care clinicians, social service clinicians and others working in the hospice, palliative care, counseling, hospital, nursing home, funeral home or faith community environments

This program will be live on the air date, recorded and made available for on demand viewing. The recorded program will be available approximately a day after the live event.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS
To view this online program, you will need a computer and screen, reliable internet access, and speakers. If you are showing to a large group, you will need a way to project on a large screen and a sound amplification system. Please test your system ahead of time to ensure you have the capabilities to view and hear the program, as HFA does not provide refunds on registration. Please be sure to test on the same equipment you will use on the day of the program viewing.


Technical Questions? Please contact CommPartners at 1-800-274-9390 or via e-mail at: hospice@commpartners.com.

PROGRAM FEES/MATERIALS:
As there are no refunds on registration (all registrations have immediate access to program video & materials), please be sure to test the system requirements prior to purchase.
**Single Webinar Registration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Individual Viewer</th>
<th>Multi-Viewer - Level 1</th>
<th>Multi-Viewer - Level 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(one viewer per program)</td>
<td>Member: $29.25</td>
<td>Member: $82.50</td>
<td>Member: $112.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-member: $39.00</td>
<td>Non-member: $110.00</td>
<td>Non-member: $150.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Education Partner Packages**

Access 6 webinar programs and Living with Grief® 2020 with one registration!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Individual Package</th>
<th>Multi-Viewer - Level 1</th>
<th>Multi-Viewer - Level 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(one viewer per program)</td>
<td>Member: $236.25</td>
<td>Member: $420.00</td>
<td>Member: $731.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-member: $315.00</td>
<td>Non-member: $560.00</td>
<td>Non-member: $975.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Unlimited CE Certificate Bundle**

Living with Grief® + 6 Webinars:

Member: $900 / Non-member: $810 (Individual CEs are $9.00 per certificate)

**HOW TO REGISTER:**

Register directly online, on HFA’s website: [https://hospicefoundation.org/HFA-Products/Education-Partner-Package](https://hospicefoundation.org/HFA-Products/Education-Partner-Package).

If an individual would like information on which organizations are registered in their state (so they may attend a site viewing in their area), they may contact HFA at 800-854-3402.

**MATERIALS AREA:**

Course materials are accessible to all registered individuals immediately after registering. Materials are available on HFA's website at [https://hospicefoundation.org/Shop-HFA/My-Account](https://hospicefoundation.org/Shop-HFA/My-Account). From here, click on "Orders/Courses." Materials include log-in information (viewing instructions and technical information), CE instructions, the program’s slides, and additional program material. Information will be posted to your account as they become available.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

At the conclusion of this program participants will be able to:

1. Identify adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and the risks they pose for increased physical and psychological distress in adulthood
2. Recognize the relation between complicated grief (CG) and ACEs
3. Consider trauma-informed strategies to incorporate into clinical practice when working with ACEs- and trauma-exposed bereaved clients

**PROGRAM OUTLINE:**

- Introduction (25 minutes)
  - Growing evidence points to the prevalence of toxic stress in childhood and its cascading effects on lifetime physical and psychological health.
  - ACEs:
Exposure to adverse childhood experiences (ACEs; Felitti et al., 1998; e.g., abuse, neglect, household dysfunction) has been linked to insecure attachment and demonstrates graded associations with increased risk of suicidality, lifetime depressive disorders, substance abuse, severe obesity, ischemic heart disease, cancer, and early mortality. However, little is known about the role of ACEs in adults who have experienced the death of a loved one.

- Complicated grief:
  - Although many individuals respond to loss and trauma with relative resilience (Galatzer-Levy, Huang, & Bonanno, 2018), a subset of grievers struggle greatly, experiencing a protracted, debilitating, and sometimes life-threatening grief response known as complicated grief (CG; Prigerson et al., 1995; Shear et al., 2011).

### Aim of webinar (10 minutes)

In this webinar, the researchers will present findings from their study examining the role of ACEs in the development of CG using data from a national sample of bereaved adults (N = 324).

### Study procedures (10 minutes)

### Results (15 minutes)

- Results revealed that higher ACEs scores were associated with increased risk of CG. Younger adults in our sample who had recently lost a child, sibling, or romantic partner to violent death, or who had a history of prior losses were at greatest risk for experiencing CG.

### Discussion of Findings and Clinical Implications (25 minutes)

- The present research can assist clinicians and researchers in identifying the enduring impact of ACEs, the relation between ACEs and CG, and the utility of promoting specific coping strategies to help survivors address painful grief symptoms.
- Specifically, this study supports the inclusion of ACEs in screening and assessment protocols when working with bereaved individuals with a focus toward preventive intervention and trauma-informed bereavement care (Burke & Neimeyer, 2012).
- In addition, identifying ACEs as a CG predictor could promote proactive support for grievers with a history of trauma or toxic stress. The webinar presenters will discuss study results and recommendations for trauma-informed grief therapy and bereavement research.

### Question and Answer Session (5–10 minutes)

---

**CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) CREDITS:**
This program is valid for 1.5 hours of CE credit. The CE cost is $9 per certificate. CE credits are available for 1 year, until February 19, 2021.

A complete list of board approvals for this webinar program is posted to HFA’s website at [www.hospicefoundation.org](http://www.hospicefoundation.org).
*An Unlimited CE package is available for multi-viewer registrations. If purchased, the program organizer will be provided with a unique payment code to distribute to their attendees to use in place of payment online.

**COURSE COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS:**
Participants must attend the entire 1.5 hour program. Partial credit is not awarded. Participants must also complete the entire CE process online, before the CE deadline (see above for specific CE deadlines). In order to go online, attendees will need to enter in a Course Code, which is only provided at the end of the program. Attendees will also need to enter in their Site ID# (same as their Invoice # when they purchased the program). The online CE process includes a required evaluation form and exam. The exam must be completed at 80% or above (the exam may be re-taken, if necessary). Attendees will be able to choose the board they wish to receive credit from (from Hospice Foundation of America’s list of board approvals*) and will then be able to print their CE certificate immediately after completing all CE requirements online (on HFA’s CE site at educate.hospicefoundation.org).

*A complete list of board approvals for this webinar program is posted to HFA’s website at www.hospicefoundation.org.

**EXPERT PANELISTS:**
Elizabeth Crunk, PhD, is a mental health counselor and an Assistant Professor of Counseling at the George Washington University in Washington, DC. She provides psychotherapy to individuals and couples who are coping with a range of concerns, including grief and loss, depression and other mood disorders, anxiety, relationship concerns, breakup recovery, self-esteem, family estrangement, family of origin concerns, chronic illness, and stress. In particular, she specializes in treating diverse issues in grief and bereavement, including complicated grief, anticipatory grief, non-death loss, and life transitions. Dr. Crunk’s specialized training and nine years of research experience in grief and loss equips her to help individuals navigate these challenging experiences.

Laurie A. Burke, PhD, provides psychotherapy to bereaved adults. Her specialty is treating Complicated Grief, Traumatic/Violent Death Loss, and Spiritual Crisis. A loved one's death can be distressing, but most mourners ultimately adapt. Even though there is no "right" way to grieve or length of time it "should" take, some mourners feel "stuck" in their grief. They have difficulty accepting the loss, struggle to create a new life, or feel life is meaningless after the loved one's death. They may feel numb, shocked, angry, or other distressing emotions. Dr. Burke's training, research, and clinical experience gives her the confidence to help grievers maneuver through difficult losses.

**REVIEWER:**
Lynda Shand, CHPN, CNE, RN, PhD, Associate Professor, Mercy College

**BIBLIOGRAPHY/REFERENCES:**
Other organization’s websites:
National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative https://www.samhsa.gov/child-trauma

Peer-reviewed journal/resource:


Textbook:

COPYRIGHT NOTICE:
HFA's program is copyrighted. Its use and dissemination is restricted and unauthorized duplication is prohibited.

Individual Registration - Provides one person, the registrant, access to the webcast for personal viewing.
Multi-Viewer Registration - Provides one person, the registrant, access to the webcast for streaming from one computer to a group of people.

CE Credits for this program may only be obtained through HFA. CE instructions will be provided to the registered contact for the organization (or to the registered individual) prior to the live air date and to attendees at the end of the program.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITY (ADA):
Reasonable accommodation may be made available, on an individual basis. To request accommodation, please contact HFA via email at educate@hospicefoundation.org or call 800-854-3402, or write to HFA, 1707 L Street NW, Suite 220, Washington, DC  20036.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:
Planners (Panelists and Review Committee Members) disclose no conflict of interest relative to this educational activity.

FOR QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR ADDRESSING GRIEVANCES
Please contact Hospice Foundation of America (HFA)

CONTACT INFORMATION
Hospice Foundation of America
1707 L Street NW, Suite 220
Washington, DC  20036
educate@hospicefoundation.org
1-800-854-3402 toll-free
(202) 457-5811 phone
(202) 457-5815 fax