## Hospice Foundation of America's Program

# KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR WORKING WITH SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE LOSS

# **Self-Study ONLINE Course**

## **DESCRIPTION**

Suicide is now among the top 4 causes of death for some age groups in the United States and the 11<sup>th</sup> cause of death in the entire US population, leaving many bereaved survivors, including children and teens, in need of informed grief support and guidance. Join Joanne Harpel, President of Coping After Suicide, to learn the most prevalent grief reactions of suicide loss survivors; how suicide bereavement is similar yet different from other traumatic loss; how suicide loss may affect family systems; and strategies for effective grief support.

### **PROGRAM DETAILS**

Hospice Foundation of America has taken its popular webinar program and created a self-study course for professionals. The online presentation features an experienced professional offering his own expertise on the topic. On the screen, you will see the slide presentation and will be able to see and hear the expert presenter.

**RELEASE DATE:** Program originally premiered November 14, 2023

**ON DEMAND:** Viewing available to registered individuals for 6 months after purchase.

LENGTH: 90 minutes CE HOURS: 1.5 hours

**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: The course is useful to Health care clinicians, social service clinicians and others

working in the hospice, palliative care, counseling, hospital, nursing home, funeral

home or faith community environments

## HOW THE ONLINE SELF-STUDY PROGRAM WORKS

**Step 1 -** Register/purchase the course

Step 2 - View the course online through the link in your confirmation email or in your account.

**Step 3 -** Follow the instructions provided to receive your CE certificate\*.

## TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

A computer and reliable internet connection. Mobile service provider charges may apply.

## **REGISTRATION INFORMATION/FEES**

Register directly online, on HFA's website: www.hospicefoundation.org.

There are no refunds on registration. \*Few exceptions may occur depending on the circumstance. To request a refund, a written request must be received (and granted) by HFA.

## **REGISTRATION POLICY**

#### INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

Provides one person, the registrant, access to the self-study course for personal viewing and continuing education. Discounts may be available for multiple viewers. Please check HFA's website at <a href="https://www.hospicefoundation.org">www.hospicefoundation.org</a> for current pricing.

<sup>\*</sup>An evaluation and a short exam are a part of this process.

### **MATERIALS AREA**

Course materials (Video, Program Slides, and Viewer Guide) are accessible to all registered individuals online immediately after registering. Download materials are available on HFA's website at <a href="https://hospicefoundation.org/Shop-HFA/My-Account">https://hospicefoundation.org/Shop-HFA/My-Account</a>, under "Orders/Courses."

## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS PROGRAM, PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

- Identify common themes in the emotional impact of suicide loss on individuals and families
- Recognize particular themes among teen survivors of suicide loss
- Describe whether and how bereavement after suicide is quantitatively and qualitatively different from bereavement after other causes of death.

#### PROGRAM OUTLINE

- 1. What's so tricky about suicide? (2 mins)
- 2. What is a suicide "survivor" and how many are there? (3 mins)
- 3. Is suicide bereavement quantitatively different? (2 mins)
- 4. Are survivors at greater risk? (3 mins)
- 5. The near universality of the individual survivor experience (15 mins)
- 6. Effect on the family (15 mins)
- 7. The Dual Process Model of Grief (3 mins)
- 8. Prolonged Grief Disorder (2 mins)
- 9. Child and teen survivors of suicide loss (10 mins)
- 10. Your own views (1 min)
- 11. Questions & Answers

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

This program is valid for 1.5 contact hours of continuing education. View the current list of board approvals on HFA's website at <a href="https://www.hospicefoundation.org">www.hospicefoundation.org</a>, located on the program's registration page.

## **COURSE COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS:**

Participants must view the entire 90-minute program (online-streaming video). Partial credit is not awarded. Participants must also complete the entire CE process online before a certificate is awarded. 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).

#### EXPERT PRESENTER

**Joanne L. Harpel, MPhil, CT, JD,** is the President of Coping After Suicide, the President and CEO of Rethink The Conversation, and the former longtime Senior Director for Public Affairs and Postvention for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. She holds a JD from the NYU School of Law, masters from Cambridge University, and a BA from Amherst College.

#### **MODERATOR**

Jillian Blueford, PhD, LPC, NCC, CT, is a Clinical Assistant Professor for the school counseling program at the University of Denver, a Licensed Professional Counselor in the state of Colorado, and is certified in Thanatology: Death, Dying, and Bereavement. Over the years, Dr. Blueford has provided grief counseling to individuals of all backgrounds in various settings, including schools, outpatient facilities, and currently in private practice in the Denver area. Further, Dr. Blueford is a grief and loss scholar, who has conducted research and scholarship via her dissertation, peer-reviewed publications, webinars, podcast

features, and several regional, national, and international presentation. Seeking that all counseling professionals are equipped and competent in grief counseling, Dr. Blueford also works with other educators and clinicians as Co-Chair of the Grief Counseling Competencies Task Force to develop key competencies for the training programs.

### **REVIEWER**

Angela Novas, MSN, RN, CRNP, Senior Medical Officer, Hospice Foundation of America

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY/REFERENCES:**

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Yossi Levi-Belz. (2022) <u>Growing together: interpersonal predictors of posttraumatic growth trajectory among suicide-loss survivors</u>. *Anxiety, Stress, & Coping* 35:3, pages 284-297.

Delgado, H., Goergen, J., Tyler, J., & Windham, H. (2023). A Loss by Suicide: The Relationship Between Meaning-Making, Post-Traumatic Growth, and Complicated Grief. *OMEGA - Journal of Death and Dying*, 0(0). https://doi.org/10.1177/00302228231193184

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CE Certificates for this program may only be obtained through HFA.

# SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITY (ADA)

Reasonable accommodation may be made available, on an individual basis. To request accommodation, please contact HFA via email at <a href="educate@hospicefoundation.org">educate@hospicefoundation.org</a> or call 800-854-3402, or write to HFA, 1707 L Street NW, Suite 220, Washington, DC 20036.

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Planners (Panelists and Reviewers) disclose <u>no</u> conflict of interest relative to this educational activity.

## FOR QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR ADDRESSING GRIEVANCES

PLEASE CONTACT Hospice Foundation of America (HFA)

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