

Hospice Foundation of America's Program
SUPPORTING ADULT CHILD LOSS
Online CE Course

DESCRIPTION

The impact of the death of an adult child on parents is often overlooked, especially when the parents may be older or facing health challenges themselves. Experts will discuss current research; how hospice clinicians and bereavement professionals can better support grieving parents; and the use of life narratives as a way of coping.

PROGRAM DETAILS

The online presentation features an experienced professional offering their own expertise on the topic. On the screen, you will see the slide presentation and will be able to see and hear the expert presenters.

- RELEASE DATE:** Program originally premiered June 10, 2025
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 COURSE 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 – Complete the online exam and evaluation

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

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

REGISTRATION AND COURSE MATERIALS

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.

Course materials include the online program video, slides, and viewer guide. All course materials are accessible online immediately after registering.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

1. Describe the experiences of bereaved parents
2. Identify the unique aspects of parental grief after the loss of an adult child.
3. Identify the existential challenges faced by parents who have lost an adult child.
4. Describe strategies addressing the existential needs of parents facing adult child loss

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Patricia Moyle Wright – Parental Bereavement (45min)

- Introduction of the issue of parental bereavement (10 minutes)
- Research approach, recruitment, interviews (10 minutes)
- Results (15 minutes)
- Conclusions (5 minutes)
- Q & A (5 minutes)

Rebecca Shiner – Existential Issues in Parental Loss (45min)

- Parental loss in developmental perspective: Existential issues faced by parents who have lost an adult child (10 minutes)
- Research on the narratives of bereaved parents (10 minutes)
- Addressing the existential needs of parents facing adult child loss: self-compassion, social connection, narrative identity, and meaning (15 minutes)
- Conclusions (5 minutes)
- Q & A (5 minutes)

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 www.hospicefoundation.org, 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 SPEAKERS

Rebecca Shiner, PhD, is Charles A. Dana Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences at Colgate University, where she has taught since 1999. She received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Minnesota in 1998 and completed her clinical internship at the University of Rochester Department of Psychiatry in 1999. She has published widely on multiple topics relevant to grief: coping with trauma and stress; life narratives and their role in making meaning out of suffering; regulation of negative emotions; managing uncertainty; and resilience. She is currently completing a study on post-traumatic growth and life narratives in bereaved parents. She was included in Princeton Review's *Best 300 Professors* and teaches courses at Colgate on therapy, psychological disorders, happiness, and resilience in the face of suffering and adversity. She has recorded an audiobook, *How to Find the Right Therapy: Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, Psychodynamic Psychotherapy, Family Counseling, and Other Treatments That Work*. Most important for this presentation, she is a bereaved parent herself; her young adult son Leo died by suicide in 2022. She hopes to offer insights from her scholarly expertise, her own experiences, and her work with other bereaved parents to help others best support parents who have experienced the loss of an adult child.

Patricia Moyle Wright, PhD, MBA, MSN, CRNO, ACNS-BC, CNE, CHPN, CPH, FPCN, is a Professor of Nursing at The University of Scranton and practices as a palliative care and hospice nurse practitioner. She conducts research on end-of-life care, including grief, loss, and bereavement. She has published numerous articles and books on end-of-life care.

REVIEWER

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY/REFERENCES:

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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 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 Reviewers) disclose no conflict of interest relative to this educational activity.

FOR QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR ADDRESSING GRIEVANCES, please contact:

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