

For Immediate Release

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The Center for Grieving Children – Childhood Bereavement Conference Supporting Bereaved Families Impacted by Suicide or Overdose-Related Death

The Center for Grieving Children will host a Childhood Bereavement Conference entitled: Supporting Bereaved Families Impacted By Suicide or Overdose-Related Death on Friday, March 22, 2019, 8AM to Noon at the Kittery Community Center, 120 Rogers Road, Kittery, Maine.

This conference is free to the community.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Pamela Gabbay

Dr. Pamela Gabbay is a co-founder of The Satori Group, a national education and consulting company that provides training and consultation to the bereavement field. Dr. Gabbay is an adjunct faculty member at Brandman University and is a member of the national training corps for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP). She is the co-author, along with Andy McNiel, of *Understanding and Supporting Bereaved Children: A Practical Guide for Professionals*. Formerly, Dr. Gabbay was the director of the Mourning Star Center for Grieving Children. She served two terms on the board of directors of the National Alliance for Grieving Children and served as the president of the Southern California Chapter of the Association for Death Education and Counseling. Dr. Gabbay holds a Fellow in Thanatology (FT) from the Association for Death Education and Counseling and earned a Master of Arts degree in Cognitive Psychology from Claremont Graduate University. Additionally, she earned a Doctor of Education degree in Organizational Leadership from Brandman University.

Learning Sessions

- Using art activities and other interventions to foster post-traumatic growth in bereaved children and adolescents
- The scope of impact of suicide/overdose loss in communities

- Intercultural perspective of suicide and substance use issues and bereavement
- Supporting individuals, children, and families after suicide or overdose loss
- Self-care for caretakers

Funding for this educational program is made possible by – York Hospital, Uncommon Hospitality, The Front Porch, familyPLAYmaine, Remax/Don Wunder, and Southern Maine Medical Center.

Registration information is available on the Center for Grieving's website – www.cgcmaine.org or by reaching Florence Young, Director of Programs, The Center for Grieving Children, at 207-775-5216 or florence@cgcmaine.org

ABOUT THE CENTER FOR GRIEVING CHILDREN—For children and families confronting loss, change, and grief when someone close to them dies or is seriously ill, the Center for Grieving Children is an oasis of loving support where it is safe to talk about feelings and experiences. At no charge, the Center's age-specific peer support groups are available weekly in Portland and Sanford. In partnership with Portland Public Schools and South Portland Public Schools, the Center also offers peer support for children resettled locally from countries suffering violent conflict or natural disaster. Additional peer support groups are available for young adults, bereaved parents, and widows/widowers/partners. Community outreach throughout the year brings the Center's training, information, and crisis support to schools, workplaces, and other organizations. Trained volunteers make the Center's services possible. Founded in 1987, the Center serves more than 5,500 people annually, and depends on funding from individuals, businesses, foundations, and United Way.

TO LEARN MORE about the Center for Grieving Children, their calendar of events, and how you can get involved, please follow them on Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram or visit their home on the web at www.cgcmaine.org.