

1 IN 5 CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE THE DEATH OF SOMEONE CLOSE TO THEM BY AGE 18. (KENNETH DOKA, EDITOR OF OMEGA, JOURNAL OF DEATH AND DYING)

"KIDS WHO HAVE LOST A PARENT ARE MORE THAN TWICE AS LIKELY THAN NONBEREAVED KIDS TO SHOW IMPAIRMENTS IN FUNCTIONING AT SCHOOL AND AT HOME, EVEN 7 YEARS LATER." (UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY)

BECAUSE KIDS GRIEVE

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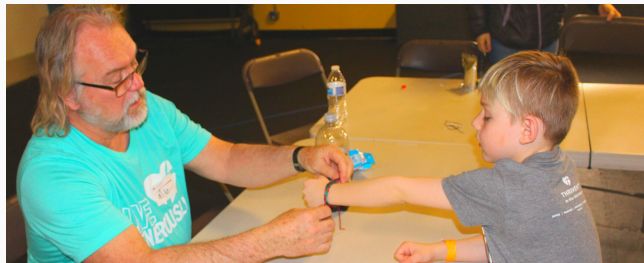
BECAUSE KIDS GRIEVE

You can make a significant difference!

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are numerous ways you can volunteer with options for whatever amount of time you can give. BKG tries to match you and your experience, skills, hobbies, etc. with a volunteer opportunity that will be most fulfilling for you and helpful for grieving children and teens. BKG provides training for all volunteers as well as background checks. You could be a "Big Buddy" where you are assigned to spend time to one of our events with a particular child or teen. BKG always needs grant writers and those who can organize fundraisers. There are opportunities via the Internet where you could volunteer from your home in some more of administrative kind of role. Some are crafters who could lead a session at one of BKG's events that would allow for the children and teens to find expression for the grief. Some crafters donate items that are comfort gifts which they have made. Contact BKG and let's have a conversation to see if there is some way you can help us "journey with mourning children and teens."



ONE OUT OF EVERY 20 CHILDREN AGED FIFTEEN AND YOUNGER WILL SUFFER THE LOSS OF ONE OR BOTH PARENTS. THESE STATISTICS DON'T ACCOUNT FOR THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO LOSE A "PARENTAL FIGURE," SUCH AS A GRANDPARENT OR OTHER RELATIVE THAT PROVIDES CARE. (OWENS, D. "RECOGNIZING THE NEEDS OF BEREAVED CHILDREN IN PALLIATIVE CARE" JOURNAL OF HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE NURSING. 2008; 10:1)

"The loss of a parent had an early and persistent negative impact on the academic and social functioning of the child that was in part due to the onset of depression within the first two years after the parent's death."
(University of Pittsburgh
Department of Psychiatry)

OUR MISSION

To assist in creating a safe culture in southern Idaho, where children and teenagers, ages 6 through 17, who have experienced the death of someone they care about, can share their feelings of grief and loss, including grief experienced in preparation for these losses, with their peers and supportive adult volunteer advocates as they progress toward eventual healing on their journey through grief.

OUR VISION

To support children and teenagers, ages 6 through 17, to feel safe and not alone in exploring thoughts and feelings related to their bereavement, and to have skills that assist them in moving through their grief to restored hope and eventual healing.