



The Cove Center for Grieving Children has provided programs that have helped children and their families deal with the grieving process for over 21 years. The Cove is recognized as the preeminent children's grief resource in Connecticut and is a member of the National Alliance for Grieving Children.

1 in 7 children will experience the death of a parent or sibling before the age of 20. The Cove is a resource to help children and teens as they travel the difficult journey through grief.

The mission of The Cove Center for Grieving Children is ***“Providing hope and healing for grieving children and teens, and training the professionals who work with them.”***

The Cove fulfills this mission through several means:

- Direct services to grieving children and families at our seven **Cove Family Sites** in West Hartford, Meriden, New Haven, Guilford, Stonington, Newtown/Fairfield County and East Hartford CT that provide a 20 week peer-support program for grieving children ages 4-18 and their families throughout Connecticut.
- **“Good Grief” School Programming** that provides training and program materials for educators and school counselors to later facilitate groups on their own after an initial 10-week program.
- **Professional Development Trainings** for educators, medical and mental health professionals and other individuals working with grieving children and teens in the community.
- **Community outreach and referral** that includes information and educational materials for families with grieving children and teens and the schools and organizations serving them across CT.

Cove programs are designed to create a positive change with real results. Our results include helping children and teens understand the grieving process, how to communicate openly, how to ask for help, how to avoid the negative effects of unresolved childhood grief and, most importantly, to help them understand they are supported and served in a safe and healing environment. We help children understand that within each of them is the capacity to heal.

We promote continuous safeguards against the effects of unresolved grief, which may include depression, drug and sexual addictions, delinquency, increased school dropout rates, self-injury, nonproductive behavior, anger, acting out, and even suicide. We help children identify and eliminate obstacles that might hinder them in their healing process. We also educate and help parents and caretakers in understanding grief and how to appropriately support their child's grieving and healing processes.

The Cove is honored to have been chosen as a partner/provider for a summer bereavement support camp as part of the national Camp Erin network of camps started by The Moyer Foundation and local bereavement organizations. **“Camp Erin Connecticut”** is a free 3-day camp for grieving children ages 6-17 that we are hosting in June 2017. We successfully hosted Camp Erin Newtown in 2013 and Camp Erin CT in June 2014-16. An Advisory Board made up of representatives of bereavement and mental health organizations from across the nation are consulting and assisting with this effort.

We do not charge a fee to our families who attend The Cove and rely on community, individual, and foundation support to fund our services for grieving children.

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