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The Department of Spiritual Care

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Young, Grieving *Spouse* *Group*

(20-55 year age group)

FALL/WINTER SERIES 2023

“The love that we have
known with our husband
or wife here on earth will
never die. It is eternal. Death
has not taken it away; it has
only separated us in body,
BUT NOT IN HEART.”

- JULIE YARBROUGH

Participants will be screened for Covid. Restrictions may
change to any local mandates updates.
Vaccinations, masks, and social distancing are
recommended throughout the in-person, evening sessions.

Elm & Carlton Streets | Buffalo, New York 14263
www.RoswellPark.org
1-800-ROSWELL (1-800-767-9355)

National Cancer Institute-Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center
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52511 (05/23)



Overview

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This program is for grieving individuals between the ages of 20-55 years old who have recently suffered the loss of a spouse. The purpose is to offer understanding, suggestions for coping, support, friendship, and most of all hope during this most difficult time.

Losing your wife or husband can be overwhelming. It seems that just yesterday you were married; yet now you find yourself alone and grieving. With the death of your spouse, comes heart wrenching emotions, personal changes, and worries about the future.

The grieving process takes us through the initial response of shock and sadness, through acceptance and understanding, and eventually to the rebuilding of our lives.

Join us for these sessions to gain a better understanding of the grieving process and some ideas about how you may be able to help yourself through this difficult time. We want to assist you on your journey in a supportive atmosphere.

Sincerely,
Rev. Dr. Melody Rutherford,
Director of Spiritual Care

Reactions

PDFCOMMON REACTIONS

Throughout the recovery process, people who are grieving may experience many reactions:

- Shock
- Emotional release
- Depression
- Physical symptoms of distress
- Anxiety
- Hostility
- Guilt
- Hesitancy to renew normal activities
- Healing of memories
- Acceptance of one's new role in life

Feelings You May Experience

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| • Sadness | • Numbness |
| • Loneliness | • Phobias |
| • Anger | • Purposelessness |
| • Rage | • Self-Pity |
| • Fear | |

Feelings of loss tend to be very painful, and we may feel like avoiding the intensity of these difficult emotions. It is as if by not experiencing the pain we can somehow avoid the reality that someone we care about has passed away.

COMMON THOUGHTS

- "It's not real."
- "I can't handle this."
- "Am I always going to feel like this?"
- "I should have done more."

The reality, however, is that we cannot avoid the pain of grief forever. On the other hand, by expressing our feelings we can begin to move forward and to heal from the loss.

Goals

GOALS

The goal of the Grief Educational Program is to identify some of the common struggles we share as we experience the grief journey. The first step to coping with grief is to have people who support you on your journey to healing and inner peace.

Dates & Times

PROGRAM DATES

The program is held in person from 6:30pm - 8pm on 3rd Tuesday of the month.

In extenuating circumstances, the program may be held virtually, in which case participants who RSVP will be contacted and provided a link to join the virtual group.

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

Location

LOCATION

Christ United Methodist Church
350 Saratoga Road
Amherst, NY 14226

Free parking available. Please enter through center glass doors. Parking lot in the back of the church. Participants will be screened for COVID. Vaccinations, masks, and social distancing are recommended throughout the in-person sessions. Restrictions may change due to any local mandate updates.

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Registration

REGISTRATION

To RSVP for **individual sessions**, please call the Spiritual Care Department at 716-845-8051.

To register for the Young, Grieving Spouse Group Grief Series, please cut on dotted line, complete the following form and return to:

The Spiritual Care Department
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center
Elm & Carlton Streets
Buffalo, NY 14263

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email Address: _____

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