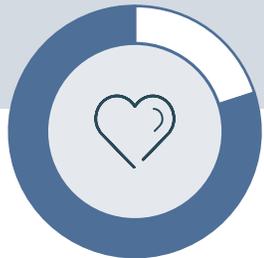


Childhood grief: a pervasive problem.

Childhood grief in America is too frequently overlooked. An estimated 1 in 14 children in the U.S. will lose a parent or sibling before age 18,* constituting over 4 million children nationally.

Losing a parent can be incredibly difficult and isolating:



Nearly 80%

of those who lost a parent growing up agree that **the experience was the hardest thing** they have ever had to face.



65%

agree that after their parent died, they felt like there was **no one they could talk to.**



59%

of those who lost a parent growing up say they have **experienced more feelings of sadness or depression in their life** compared to most adults.

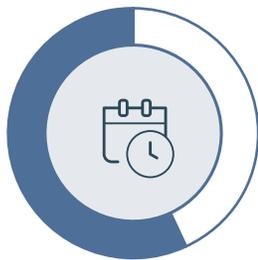


Simple gestures matter the most.

Grieving individuals said these are some of the most helpful things family and friends can do to support them:

- Share stories about their loved one
- Remember important dates like birthdays and death anniversaries
- Spend holiday time with them
- Continue to ask how they are doing well after the loss

Too often support is short-lived or inadequate:



Those who lost a parent growing up said it took **6+ years before they could move forward**, yet

57%

reported that support from family and friends waned within the first 3 months following the loss.



56%

of those who lost a parent growing up say that **their peers didn't know how to act** around them after the loss.



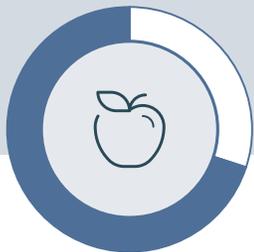
54%

of those who lost a parent growing up say they **struggled to find grief resources** after the loss.

* Results from the Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model (CBEM) developed by Judi's House/JAG Institute www.judishouse.org/CBEM. Cited statistics reflect findings from the New York Life Foundation's 2017 Bereavement Survey as well as a 2012 survey of educators conducted by the New York Life Foundation in partnership with the American Federation of Teachers.

Grief in the classroom.

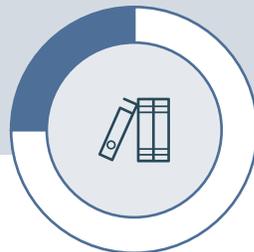
Despite the prevalence of bereavement, grief resources in school are lacking:



Nearly 70%
of teachers have at least **one grieving student in their classroom.**



Only 7%
of teachers have had **any amount of bereavement training.**



Only 25%
of those who lost a parent growing up say their **school was well prepared to help them.**

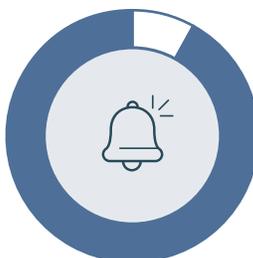
Educators can help grieving students by:

- Identifying** skills and sharing resources that support the coping process
- Providing** ongoing support and being there when they are ready to talk
- Allowing** them to express themselves constructively
- Opening** the lines of communication between school and home
- Guiding** other students on how to respond to them

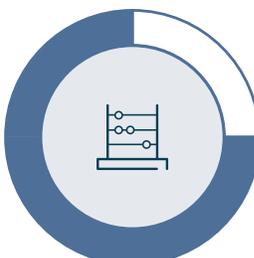
Grief can have a serious impact on students but support from educators makes a difference:



More than 2/3
of educators "always" or "usually" see withdrawal, difficulty concentrating, absenteeism, and a **decrease in academic performance.**



92%
of educators say **childhood grief is a serious problem** that deserves more attention from schools.



75%
of Americans agree that **schools have a pivotal role to play in supporting grieving students.**

Additional resources: grievingstudents.org, an industry-endorsed multimedia platform for educators and school communities developed by the Coalition to Support Grieving Students in partnership with the New York Life Foundation and the National Center for School Crisis and Bereavement.

Cited statistics reflect findings from the New York Life Foundation's 2017 Bereavement Survey as well as a 2012 survey of educators conducted by the New York Life Foundation in partnership with the American Federation of Teachers.