



For Immediate Release:

September 19, 2023

For Media Inquiries:

Rachel French

rfrench@thehapfoundation.org

Executive Director of Communications

The HAP Foundation announces Three-Part Learning Series on Grief after Traumatic Loss

Support after substance abuse and overdose, homicide, and suicide loss

The HAP Foundation's [Missing Pieces](#) program along with its partners are hosting a three-part learning series for care providers on grief support following a traumatic loss from overdose and substance abuse, homicide, and suicide. The first session, to be held on September 19, focuses on how to better support children, families and communities impacted by death of people from overdose and substance use.

"Through our continuous commitment to provide grief support following loss, we are proud to host a series of educational opportunities for professionals," said Joseph Matty, President of The HAP Foundation. "Overdose is currently the number one cause of death for people under the age of 50 in the United States. By working together with our partners, we hope to identify and share strategies to understand this type of grief following traumatic loss to support all communities."

Partners of the three-part learning series include Buddy's Place, a program of Pillars Community Health, Lightways Hospice and Serious Illness Care, Fox Valley Hands of Hope, Willow House, and Heartlight with Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago.

Missing Pieces, a program of The HAP Foundation, provides a centralized hub for grief support, education and resource navigation for families and communities impacted by a pediatric death. Through a network of organizations that bring expertise in child loss by illness, trauma, homicide, overdose, and suicide, we serve families and children grieving prenatal through young adult deaths. This program was co-founded by Kristin James, Executive Director of Pediatrics at HAP, and Dr. Kelly Michelson, Critical Care Physician at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago and Professor of Pediatrics at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine.

###



thehapfoundation.org



About The HAP Foundation

The HAP Foundation is an independent nonprofit that provides education, advocacy, workforce development, and research on hospice, palliative care, and grief for all ages. With four decades rooted in direct patient care, it currently focuses on educating communities and professionals on hospice and palliative care; engaging in community-based research to better understand and impact disparities in hospice, palliative care, and grief support; and advancing policies that assist individuals and families during end of life. Also, The HAP Foundation offers association management and consulting services.

