

## Supporting bereaved children and young people in public care

CBN Regional Seminars Spring 2008

10.30am – 3.30pm



### Background

Around 1 in 25 school age children and young people in the general population have experienced the death of a parent or sibling, and studies suggest that such figures may be much higher among the looked after population. Some children enter care when a parent dies and there is no-one left to look after them. Others enter care as a result of family difficulties such as parental substance misuse, mental health difficulties, violence and involvement in crime, which also carry increased risks of mortality.

Jane Ribbens McCarthy's literature review (2005) concluded the death of someone significant may have particularly harmful implications for the lives of children who are already disadvantaged, or who have experienced multiple losses. Children and young people who are looked after by the local authority have often faced many losses and changes in their lives, including being separated from their birth family. Their prior experiences - and the care system itself – can affect their experiences of bereavement and their accessing of support.

### Seminar objectives

With a focus on supporting bereaved children and young people in care, this round of Childhood Bereavement Network (CBN) Regional Seminars will

- enable CBN subscribers and others working with bereaved children, young people and their carers to support and learn from each other, sharing ideas, practice, information and concerns
- outline key findings from CBN's recent report of consultations with young people, foster carers and other social care professionals about how to meet their bereavement support needs
- discuss local practice in working with bereaved children and young people who are looked after by the local authority
- identify key resources for those providing bereavement awareness training to foster carers, residential workers and social workers, including the new free training pack accompanying the animated film *Teenage Grief*
- provide an update on key legislation and policy changes affecting bereaved children and young people who are looked after by the local authority.

### Dates and Venues

Nottingham Voluntary Action Centre, <b>Nottingham</b>	6 February
National Children's Bureau, <b>London</b>	13 February
E Anglia Children's Hospice, Milton, <b>Cambridge</b>	21 February
Marie Curie Centre, <b>Newcastle</b>	27 February
St Peter's Hospice, <b>Bristol</b>	5 March
Birmingham Voluntary Action Centre, <b>Birmingham</b>	18 March
Children in Wales, <b>Cardiff</b>	20 March
University of <b>Liverpool</b>	25 March
St Gemma's Hospice, <b>Leeds</b>	2 April
Notre Dame Centre, <b>Glasgow</b>	5 June

### Who should attend?

- CBN subscribers
- Those working with bereaved children and young people who are looked after by the local authority
- Those training and supporting foster carers, residential workers and social workers
- Healthy Care Partnerships
- Looked after children's nurses

### What is CBN?

The **Childhood Bereavement Network** (CBN) is the national, multi-professional network of organisations and individuals working in the field of childhood bereavement. CBN promotes the interests of bereaved children, young people and their families and encourages the development of quality support for them. CBN is hosted by the National Children's Bureau, reg. charity no 258825, and works in partnership with Children in Scotland and Children in Wales.

Seminar places cost **£10** for CBN / NCB / Children in Scotland / Children in Wales members, **£25** for non-members

**Draft Programme** Tea and coffee available from 10am

- 10.30 Welcome and introductions
- 10.45 **Bereavement and young people in public care**  
Presentation of key findings from CBN consultations and pilot work with children and young people who are looked after by the local authority and those working with them.
- 11.45 Coffee break
- 12.00 **Practice examples of meeting the needs of bereaved children and young people in public care**  
Presentations from local services (tbc)
- 12.30 **Policy update**
- 1.00 Lunch with the opportunity for networking. Please bring any information you think others may find useful
- 2.00 **Ideas for delivering bereavement training to foster carers, residential and social workers**  
Will include a chance to see new free materials accompanying the animated DVD *Teenage Grief*
- 3.00 **Update on Childhood Bereavement Network's Grief matters for children campaign**
- 3.30 Close

All attendees will receive a delegate pack. If you are unable to attend the seminar but wish to purchase a delegate pack please contact the CBN office (details below).

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**Booking form:**

Please book ..... place(s) at the **(state venue)**.....seminar for:

Forename	Surname
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Job title	Organisation
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Department	Address
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Tel	Fax
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E-mail	
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Please give details of any dietary or access requirements

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How experienced are you in working with bereaved children and young people looked after by the local authority? Very experienced/quite experienced/not experienced

**Payment details:**

Price: £10 for CBN / NCB / Children in Scotland / Children in Wales members  
£25 for non-members

Cheque enclosed (payable to the Childhood Bereavement Network)  Please invoice for £.....

Once complete, please post to Lana Hashem, CBN, 8 Wakley St, London EC1V 7QE or fax to **020 7843 1439**  
For enquiries, please telephone 020 7843 6309 or email lhashem@ncb.org.uk

**Booking arrangements:**

Please note there are limited places at the seminars. Places are transferable. Directions to the venues will be sent out prior to the event. Cancellation: 50% refund if cancelled 4 weeks prior to event. 0% refund if cancelled later than 4 weeks prior to event.