



Grief Intensive Training

July 8-10, 2026

Online for **21 CE**

Death is a part of life. Grief is the natural response. Yet many professionals have not had the training nor developed the skills to support clients through this tumultuous journey. This experiential course will provide you with theoretical and practical approaches to use in your work with grieving children, adolescents, and/or adults. You will have the opportunity to enhance and practice your skills and to reflect upon your own comfort in dealing with death and bereavement.

OUR HOUSE, the leading grief support center and training facility in Los Angeles, offers comprehensive trainings for mental health clinicians, clergy, school personnel, and medical and hospice professionals. Through lecture, case discussions, small group activities, and role plays these trainings will enhance your ability to counsel grieving clients in private practice, school, and agency settings.

Training Objectives:

Demonstrate Knowledge of Grief Theories: Participants will be able to identify and explain at least three major contemporary theories of grief (e.g., Worden's Tasks of Mourning, Dual Process Model, Meaning Reconstruction). Identify at least three natural grief responses for children, teens and/or adults.

Apply Intervention Techniques in Practice:

Participants will demonstrate competency in applying at least three grief intervention strategies (e.g., narrative therapy, group facilitation, memory-making activities) during role-play exercises or case simulations, as evaluated by a facilitator.

Reflect on Personal Attitudes Toward Death and Grief:

Participants will complete a structured self-reflection that explores their personal beliefs, experiences, and comfort levels related to death and bereavement. Participants will identify at least three symptoms of secondary traumatization and compassion fatigue.

Analyze Case Examples Using a Multi-Dimensional Framework:

Participants will analyze at least two case studies involving grieving clients (children, adolescents, or adults) and articulate a multi-dimensional approach to care that incorporates theory, cultural factors, and developmentally appropriate interventions.

Register Today!

<https://events.humanitix.com/grief-intensive-training-july-2026>

GRIEF INTENSIVE TRAINING

Location: Online

Date: July 8-10, 2026

Time: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm with 1 hr lunch break

Pricing:

Early Bird General Registration: \$550

Early Bird Student/Intern Rate: \$440

General Registration as of June 1 · \$610

General Student/intern rate as of June 1 · \$500

- Grief across the lifespan
- Theoretical models for understanding grief
- Cultural diversity among grievers
- How traumatic death effects the grieving process
- The healing potential of grief work
- Self-care and compassion fatigue
- Age-appropriate language for explaining death, suicide, and funerals to children

Jenny Rivera-Cruz, LCSW has over 13 years in a non-profit setting, including a clinical role through a DMH funded program. Jenny's professional experiences include working with the Latino community, developing curriculums for wellness groups, providing individual, groups, couples, family therapy and program management. Throughout her professional career, she empowers others to find their inner strengths and is committed to help others live a better quality of life. Jenny serves OUR HOUSE Grief Support Center as the Clinical Coordinator for the Spanish Community Program. Jenny strongly believes that everyone deserves to be treated with respect, dignity and worth of the individual/person. Jenny received her Master of Social Work degree from The University of Southern California.

Cancellation Policy: Refund less processing fees refunded upon written request received 7 days prior to course date. No refunds thereafter.

Course meets the qualifications for 21 hours of continuing education credit for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs and/or LEPs as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences. OUR HOUSE Grief Support Center is approved by the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (Provider # 124762). to sponsor continuing education for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs and LEPs. OUR HOUSE Grief Support Center maintains responsibility for this program/course and its content. Provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider #CEP 15119, for 21 contact hours. Approved by the Nursing Home Administrator Program, Provider #CEP 1718.

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

Talya Block, LCSW, is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with a deep commitment to children & families in the L.A. area. As the Clinical Director of Child & Adolescent Programs, Talya supports children & their families throughout their grief journey with the Family Support Program. She also trains & supervises volunteers & Master of Social Work (MSW) students, helping to foster the next generation of social workers.

Before OUR HOUSE, Talya worked as a medical social worker at Children's Hospital Los Angeles in the Blood and Marrow Transplantation Program, where she supported patients & families navigating complex medical challenges. In addition to her work at OUR HOUSE, Talya maintains a private practice, NextGen Therapy Group, where she continues to provide individualized care to clients.

Talya earned her bachelor's degree in Biopsychology, Cognition & Neuroscience as well as Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from the University of Michigan.

Melisa Castanon, MSW, ASW Clinical & Community Education Coordinator is a clinical social worker at OUR HOUSE Grief Support Center. She earned her Master of Social Work from the University of Denver. Her work focuses on coordinating grief support groups, conducting clinical intakes, facilitating support groups, supervising volunteers, and providing trainings for volunteers as well as educational presentations in community and medical settings that strengthen professionals' ability to support individuals and communities navigating death, dying, and grief. She has been with OUR HOUSE for two and a half years and previously facilitated support groups for individuals living with cancer and for those grieving the death of a loved one from cancer. She is deeply committed to expanding access to compassionate, informed grief support and is passionate about helping ensure that individuals and families receive the care and understanding they deserve after a loss.

Course completion certificates will be awarded shortly after training. Grievances should be reported directly to the Executive Director. OUR HOUSE encourages prompt reporting of complaints so that we can take appropriate action.

We are committed to providing an inclusive and accessible experience for all participants. If you have any accessibility needs or require accommodations to fully participate in our program, please contact our Senior Administrator, Kellie J. Adan, kellie@ourhouse-grief.org. We are happy to work with you to ensure appropriate support is in place.

Quotes from Previous Attendees

The instructors were beyond excellent in their communication, preparation, and emotional support for the entire group. I found it so constructive for my practice and I am beyond thrilled to include this in my future work.

Amazing training! Provided a ton of in depth training but in a way that felt accessible and applicable to my work.



Grief Intensive Training Agenda

- Day 1
- Universality of Grief
- 10 minute break
- How do we Grieve? A look at what Culture, Psychology and the Arts teach us about this thing called Grief
- 1 hour LUNCH
- J. William Worden's Task Model & Natural Grief Responses
- 10 minute break
- Demonstration of Adult Intake
- Art Experiential
- CLOSING

Day 2

- Techniques for Deepening the Expression of Grief
- 10 minute break
- Experiential
- 1 hour LUNCH
- Children's Grief
- Demonstration of Family/Child Intake
- 10 minute break
- Grief & the DSM
- CLOSING

Day 3

- Grief After Traumatic Death
- Attachment & Grief
- 10 minute break
- Cultural & Religious Perspectives
- 1 hour LUNCH
- Complications of Grief & Disenfranchised Grief
- Experiential
- 10 minute break
- Meaning Making, Resilience & Hope
- Guarding Against Secondary Trauma/Compassion Fatigue
- Art Experiential
- CLOSING