

"It is amazing to witness the healing and hope that grieving children experience when they realize they are not alone.

When children first come to The WARM Place, they may have never met another child their age that also has experienced the death of someone they love in their life. The connection that children make through attending our peer support groups is often the foundation for healing to begin.

The WARM Place provides a safe and nurturing environment for these children to connect and share their stories with one another. It is this connection they form that supports them along their grief journey and lets them know they are not alone."

-Shelley Spikes, Executive Director

The mission of The WARM (What About Remembering Me) Place is to provide year-round grief support services to children ages 3 1/2 to 18 and their families as well as young adults ages 19 to 25 who have experienced the death of a loved one.

Founded in 1989, The WARM Place has expanded its services and companioned over 38,000 children and their families on their grief journeys.



# The WARM Place®

Grief Support Center for Children

*Where grieving children and families find hope*



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## Welcome to Our Program

Grief support groups at The WARM Place are designed for children and their families. In this safe and nurturing environment with trained volunteers and other grieving families, children can express their difficult feelings of grief. They learn that they are not alone, and healing begins.

All grief support groups are offered at no cost to families through the support of our local community. Families are welcome to call The WARM Place to schedule an intake appointment anytime following a death loss. Intake appointments are scheduled Monday - Friday between 9am and 2pm.



## Grief Support Groups

### Evening Groups

Evening groups are for children, ages 5 to 18, and their families. Each night begins with a pot-luck dinner followed by small groups divided by grade levels. Each night of the week is designated for a different type of death loss: Parent, Sibling, or Grandparent/Other family members/Friend. These groups are ongoing and meet every other week in the evenings from 6:15 to 8:30pm. Families may participate for as long as they feel it is helpful.

### PreK Group

PreK Group is designed for children, ages 3 ½ to 5, who have experienced the death of a loved one. Children attend weekly for sessions in the spring and fall with a parent or guardian. Meetings are held during the day for one hour.

### Young Adult Group

Young Adult Group is for men and women, ages 19 to 25, who have experienced the death of a loved one. Young Adults meet in the evenings weekly for sessions in the spring, fall, summer and winter.

## Ways to Get Involved

### Become a Group Facilitator

Group facilitators provide a safe, caring environment for children, preteens, teens, young adults and adults grieving the death of a loved one. Each facilitator completes a minimum of 20 hours of training to work with children under the direction of a counselor. Training sessions are offered twice a year in the spring and fall. Facilitators commit to one year of service and are at least 18-years-old.



### Become a Houseparent

Evening groups begin with a shared meal. Houseparents greet families, prepare the pot-luck meal, and clean the kitchen following dinner. Houseparents must be at least 18-years-old unless accompanied by a parent or guardian while volunteering.

### Support our Program

Your investment in our mission helps ensure no WARM Place child will grieve alone!

Make a General/Planned Gift

Make a Gift in Honor/Memory of a Loved One

Purchase a Wall of Memories Plaque

Sponsor an event

Purchase Items from our Wish List found online

Host a fundraiser such as a bake sale

**“And that is the miraculous thing about The WARM Place...if you trust in the process, you end up right where you are supposed to be.” - WARM Place Alum**

## Normal Childhood Reactions to Grief

Lower grades, aggressive behavior, fears, sleeplessness, nightmares, mood swings, headaches, withdrawal, anxiety, crying, stomachaches, fatigue, and regressive behavior.

## Ways to Help a Grieving Child

Allow expression of all feelings. Help the child share memories. Be honest and specific when telling the child about the death. Realize grief is an ongoing process with no easy answers. Recognize that laughter and play do not mean the child is not grieving. Allow the child to ask questions. Listen.

**Visit [thewarmplace.org](http://thewarmplace.org) for more information**

