



GRIEF AND YOUTH HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS

RESOURCE TOOLKIT



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*All data and links were accurate at the time of publication, but may change over time.



GRIEF AND YOUTH HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS

INTRO



November marks both National Homelessness Awareness Month and National Children's Grief Awareness Month, both of which highlight issues that impact youth mental health and often overlap. This month offers an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the unique challenges faced by young people coping with grief and/or housing instability. It also calls on us to recognize the emotional toll these experiences can take, and to advocate for more supportive systems.

- **Over 1.2 million U.S. students experienced homelessness during the 2021–2022 school year.¹**
- **In Georgia, there are an estimated 46,000 homeless children.²**
- **1 in 11 children in the U.S. will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18.³**

Despite these challenges, young people continue to demonstrate strength and adaptability.⁴ No child should have to face the pain of losing a loved one or the instability of homelessness — but when they do, our communities can be ready to respond with compassion. Let's take this month (and all year!) to elevate youth voices, advocate for access to mental health care, and help create safe and supportive environments.

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FOR URGENT SUPPORT TEXT OR CALL 988

FOR EVERYONE



Homelessness and grief are distinct experiences, yet both can have a significant impact on a person's mental health, emotional development, and sense of security/safety. Regardless of your age or role — whether you're a neighbor, friend, or family member — your understanding and advocacy can make a difference.

DOUBLE! ACTION:

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) has created a large variety of trauma-informed resources for children and families dealing with homelessness, grief, and other difficulties.



DOUBLE! ACTION:

Kate's Club is a Georgia-based nonprofit organization that empowers children and teens facing grief through community, connection, and creative expression. Explore their offerings, such as programs, events, and resources for all ages to support grieving youth.



FOR URGENT SUPPORT TEXT OR CALL 988

FOR YOUTH



If you (or someone you know) is dealing with grief or housing insecurity, you're not alone. These experiences can feel overwhelming, but there are safe spaces and people who care.

ACTION:

Explore [Youth.gov's Homelessness & Runaway Prevention page](https://www.youth.gov/youth-topics/homelessness) to find support services, helplines, and programs designed for youth experiencing housing instability.



FOR URGENT SUPPORT [TEXT OR CALL 988](https://www.youth.gov/youth-topics/homelessness)

FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS



Children and teens navigating grief or homelessness need stability, understanding, and emotional support. As a caregiver, your role is crucial in helping them feel seen, safe, and heard.



ACTION:

Check out Sesame Street in Communities for videos, activities, and conversation guides that help families talk about grief and homelessness with young children.



FOR URGENT SUPPORT TEXT OR CALL 988

FOR EDUCATORS & PROFESSIONALS



Educators and youth-serving professionals are often the first to notice signs of grief or homelessness in students. Your awareness and response can be life-changing. Creating trauma-informed environments and connecting students to resources is essential for their mental health.

ACTION:

Visit the National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) to access training materials, toolkits, and practical guidance for supporting students facing trauma and housing instability.



Resources – National Center for Homeless Education

The National Center for Homeless Education creates and distributes resources on educating children an...

[nche.ed.gov](https://www.nche.ed.gov)

ADDITIONAL FYF RESOURCES



Check out the the Kate's Club x FYF resource one-pager on understanding loss & grief as well as last years grief awareness toolkit for more resources!



GRIEF AWARENESS RESOURCE TOOLKIT



Kate's Club

FOR URGENT SUPPORT TEXT OR CALL 988



QUESTIONS? CONTACT

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