



LOUIS D. BROWN PEACE INSTITUTE

Center of Healing, Teaching and Learning



Best Practices for Serving Survivors of Homicide Victims

Worcester Addresses Childhood Trauma

Best Practices for Serving Survivors of Victims of Homicide Training Team



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Best Practices for Serving Survivors of Homicide Victims

Agenda

Host Welcome and Introductions of Team

Setting the Stage | Shared Agreements Guidelines

Check in with the principles of Peace

Go through training objectives

- Understanding of LDBPI and emotional and Psychological responses of survivors of victims of homicide.
- Distinguish and Identify the roles professionals who respond to cases of homicide
- Don't leave families empty handed



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Best Practices for Serving Survivors of Homicide Victims

Shared Agreements Guidelines

1. Try on.
2. It's okay to disagree.
3. It is not okay to blame, shame, or attack self or others because of our differences.
4. Practice self-focus.
5. Notice both process and content during work session.
6. Practice “both | and” thinking: watch “but”.
7. Be aware of “intent” and “impact” of your actions.
8. Maintain confidentiality.



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7 PRINCIPLES OF PEACE

THE 7 PRINCIPLES OF PEACE CAN GUIDE US TOWARD TREATING OTHERS WITH DIGNITY AND COMPASSION:



LOVE



UNITY



FAITH



HOPE



COURAGE



JUSTICE



FORGIVENESS

Best Practices for Serving Survivors of Homicide Victims

Learning Objective 1:

- **Understanding of LDBPI Approach and Model**
- **and emotional and Psychological responses of survivors of homicide victims**



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LOUIS D. BROWN

1978-1993

“

IF TRUE PEACE IS TO
HAPPEN, IT WOULD BE
UP TO [HIS]
GENERATION
REGARDLESS WHICH
SIDE OF THE STREET
THEY [CAME] FROM.



CENTER OF HEALING, TEACHING AND LEARNING

MISSION

To Serve as a center of Healing, Teaching, and Learning for families and communities impacted by murder, trauma, grief and loss.



BELIEF

All families impacted by murder deserve to be treated with dignity and compassion, regardless of the circumstances.



VISION

To create and sustain an environment where families can live in peace and all people are valued.



Approach and Model

FAMILIES



SERVICES & OUTREACH

Services that are consistent and compassionate for families of murdered loved ones and families of incarcerated loved ones

COMMUNITY



ADVOCACY & AWARENESS

Advocacy for policy that promotes dignity and compassion for all families impacted by murder.

SOCIETY



TRAINING & EDUCATION

Training that instills the value of peace and equips providers, educators, criminal justice/public health professionals and institutional stakeholders to respond equitably and effectively to families dealing with murder, trauma, grief and loss.

People in Massachusetts DIRECTLY impacted by homicide in between 1994-2021



4,467
Homicides

44,670
Survivors

FBI Statistics

Redmond, Lula. (1989). *Surviving: When someone you loved was murdered*. Clearwater, FL: Psychological Consultation and Educational Services, Inc.



Homicide impacts both sides



Families of homicide victims



Families of people incarcerated for homicide

Homicide is a Human Rights Issue

Emotional Stress
+ Physical Stress
+ Financial Stress
= Community Instability



Best Practices for Serving Survivors of Homicide Victims



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In the immediate aftermath of homicide, families may experience:

- Feelings of helplessness following death notification
- Sense of confusion and inability to process all the details regarding the murder
- Total despair at the thought that their loved one is never coming home
- Overwhelming grief or shock imagining the murder or seeing their loved one's body
- Intense anger at the senselessness of their loved one's death
- Feelings of guilt for being unable to protect their loved one



Emotional Needs

- Understanding
- Validation
- Patience
- To be listened to
- A safe place
- To express emotion without judgement
- To be treated with Dignity and Compassion
- To know their loved one matter

Practical and Financial Needs

- Support at the hospital or scene
- Prep for ID of body
- Crime scene clean up
- Temporary or permanent housing
- Securing personal belongings
- Funeral and burial Plans
- Paying for funeral and burial expenses
- Travel arrangements
- Managing multiple agencies

In the week following their loved one's murder, families may experience:



- Trouble focusing, making funeral planning difficult
- Fatigue from decision making
- Numbness or disconnection
- Tension between family members
- Regret or wishful thinking
- Shame or blame for the way their loved one died
- Sleeplessness



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Best Practices for Serving Survivors of Homicide Victims

Learning Objective 2:

- **Distinguish and Identify the roles professionals who respond to cases of homicide**



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Chronological Timeline

Broad description of survivor experience

Death Notification

Providers involved

- Emergency Medical Workers
- Homicide Detective
- Fire Services
- Hospital Chaplain
- Community Chaplain
- Victim Specialist
- Victims Advocate
- Trauma Specialty's

Funeral

- Funeral Directors
- Hospital Chaplain
- Community Clergy
- Community Organization
- City Trauma Response
- Community Trauma Response

Investigation/ Legal Proceedings

- Homicide Detectives
- Victims Specialist
- Prosecutors
- Defense Attorney
- Community Organizations
- Victims Advocate
- DOC
- Parole
- Probation victim advocate

Grieving/Healing

- Community Organizations
- Bereavement Counselors
- Community Clergy
- Youth Counselors
- Primary care Physician
- Mental health Providers
- Youth Provider
- Social Worker
- Other Counselors

Asset Mapping

Death Notification

Funeral Preparation

Investigation |
Legal Proceedings

Grieving | Healing

Equitable and Effective Homicide Response Standards

1. **Survivors Centered**
2. **Culturally Competent**
3. **Practical**
4. **Consistent**
5. **Collaborative**
6. **Communicative**
7. **Transparency**



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Learning Objective 3:

- **Don't Leave Families Empty Handed**



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Don't leave families empty-handed



Survivors of homicide victims need:

- Information about their rights
- A guide to get through the funeral and burial process
- A Victim Compensation application
- To be heard

Homicide Response Tool Kit

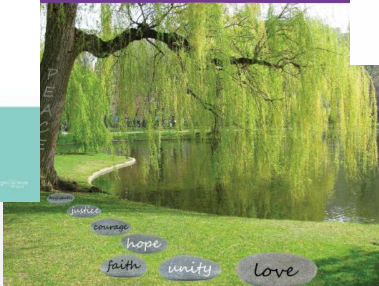
You do not have to go through this alone.

Within the next 24 to 72 hours, contact the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute for:

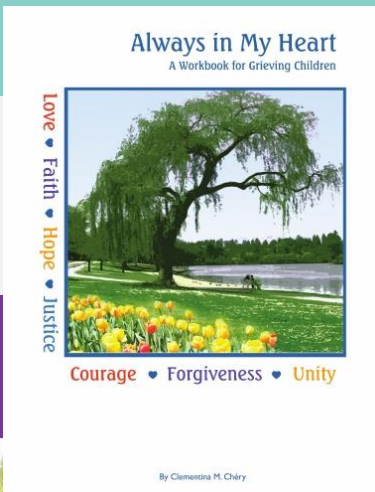
- Clear steps on what to do next, and
- Guidance and support to bury your loved one with dignity and respect **regardless** of the circumstances.

(617) 825-1917
 info@LDBpeaceinstitute.org
 LDBpeaceinstitute.org

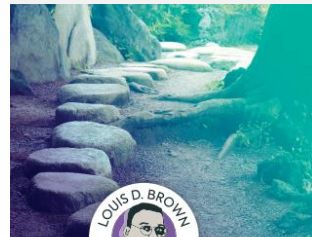
THE SURVIVORS' BURIAL AND RESOURCE GUIDE
 Step-by-Step Workbook for Regaining Control
 SECOND EDITION
 Clementina M. Chéry



When you lose a loved one to murder, the shock is profound. What do you do in the face of unimaginable loss? Where do you start and who is there to help?
 Written by a mother whose son was murdered.



By Clementina M. Chéry



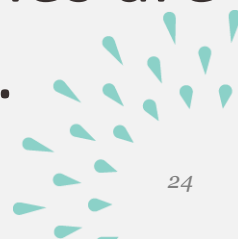
THE SURVIVORS' COURT PREPARATION & RESOURCE GUIDE

A Step-by-Step Workbook for Regaining Control

Chaplain Clementina M. Chéry
 2022



All families deserve to be treated with dignity & compassion regardless of the circumstances, including those whose loved ones are killed by police.



Embracing our Shared Responsibility



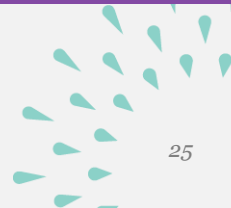
“Violence is not the problem of one neighborhood or group, and the response and solutions are not the responsibility of one sector of the community or of one agency, professional group, or business. Coming together and owning this problem and the solutions are central.”

-Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith



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I AM _____ & _____

I hear _____

I see _____

I taste _____

I touch _____

I smell _____

I wonder _____

I AM _____ & _____

I seek _____

I receive _____

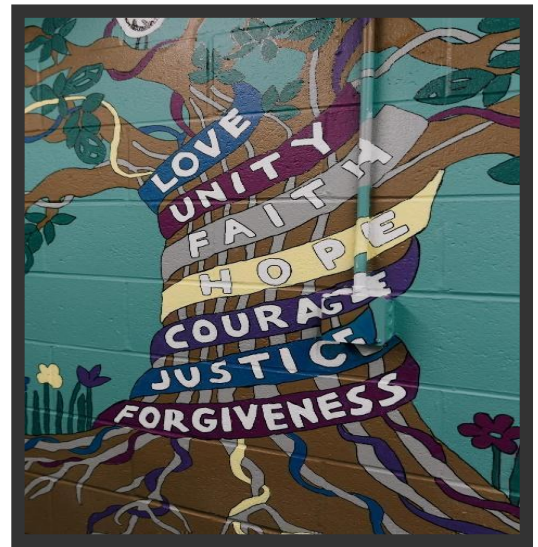
I experience _____

I plan _____

I pray _____

I practice _____

I AM _____ & _____



I pretend _____

I cry _____

I laugh _____

I believe _____

I try _____

I dream _____

I AM _____ & _____

THANK YOU!

Training & Technical Assistance Center



There are many layers to an equitable, effective response to homicide.



Briefings
Conferences
Consultations
Keynote Addresses
Publications
Seminars
Workbooks

Q & A

“Be aware of ‘intent’ and ‘impact’”



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