

Safe Harbor

First Lutheran Church 521 N. 8th St. Manitowoc, WI 54220
Stephanie Bowman, facilitator 920 682-7742

Registration Form

Teen's Name: _____ Birth Date: _____ age _____

School attending _____ year in school _____

Parent/Guardian's Name _____

Phone: Teen _____ Parent/Guardian _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail teen: _____ Parent/Guardian: _____

Name of Emergency Contact Person: _____

Relationship to you: _____ Phone: _____

Name of Deceased: _____ Age: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Date of death: _____

Cause of death:

Died at: _____ home _____ hospital _____ hospice _____ work _____ other

Are you seeing anyone regarding your grief?

_____ therapist _____ school counselor _____ doctor _____ other

Other deaths and losses you have experienced, and approximate date (friends, grandparents, other family members, pets, etc.):

What other changes, if any, have you experienced (moved, changed schools, etc.)?

Other children/youth in the family:

Name: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Family religious affiliation _____

Deceased's religious affiliation _____

Parent/Guardian

I give my consent for _____ to attend the Safe Harbor teen grief group.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Confidentiality and Right to Privacy

Safe Harbor Teen Grief Group, is a peer support service. It is not professional counseling. While information shared within the group is confidential, confidentiality will be broken if there are concerns about harm to self or others and that includes: active suicidal thoughts or plan, drug and alcohol abuse, or sexual abuse/activity. If such instances arise, information will be shared, as appropriate, with parents/guardians, DCFS, or law enforcement. If there is a concern, Safe Harbor can supply referral information for professional services.

In signing this document, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above information and have had the opportunity to ask questions. I understand and accept my rights to privacy and the exceptions to privacy (listed on the back of this page).

Name (Printed) _____ Date _____

Signature of teen _____

If youth is 13 years of age or under, please sign

Signature of parent/guardian _____ Date _____

YOUR RIGHTS & EXCEPTIONS TO YOUR PRIVACY

We honor your rights to privacy and confidentiality. Privacy and confidentiality help to create a safe environment for people to listen and to share their life stories and experiences. The staff facilitator(s) will not discuss your participation and/or what is said and done in the group with anyone outside of the group. If you want the staff facilitator to discuss your participation with another person, please submit that request in writing to Stephanie.

Six Exceptions to Privacy

- Exception #1: Wisconsin law requires our staff to report any actual or suspected physical, sexual, or emotional abuse or neglect to the appropriate government agency. Sexual abuse includes youth under 16 involved in sexual activity.
- Exception # 2: If we learn that someone with whom we are working has a specific intent to bring harm to himself/herself, we reserve the right to inform other family members and/or make appropriate referrals if necessary to keep the individual safe.
- Exception #3: If we have reason to be concerned about the drug and/or alcohol use or abuse by a teen, we reserve the right to inform the parent/guardian.
- Exception #4: If information is ordered by the court, including a subpoena, we are required to comply with the order of the court.
- Exception #5: If we learn that someone participating in the program intends to commit a violent act, we will take steps to protect the intended victim against such danger or inform police, or both.
- Exception #6: The rights and exceptions to privacy apply to information disclosed in support groups. All group members are encouraged to keep such information confidential, but Safe Harbor cannot guarantee they will do so.

You are welcome to call Stephanie Bowman at 682-7742 to discuss your rights to privacy and these six exceptions to your privacy.

Ground Rules

1. **Confidentiality** – It is important to respect the privacy of each individual as we are all connected. Please keep the confidentiality of the other group members as this is a safe place to share your thoughts, emotions, concerns, and grievances. Also, if there is any suspicion of inflicting harm upon yourself or another it is the duty of the facilitator to report their concern.
2. **No Cell Phones** – Cell phones and MP3 players are used all day, everyday – especially for teens. We ask that you turn your phone on silent (Not vibrate! We can still hear!), and refrain from using them for the hour of time that group takes place. If there is an important call you are expecting please just let a facilitator know in advance.
3. **Attendance** - Safety and trust of the group is built on regular attendance. If you are going to be absent please contact Stephanie (contact info found on info sheet). The more we work and talk together the stronger our bond towards one another will become which will strengthen the group and ultimately help the grieving process.
4. **No Visitors Please**- Because of confidentiality and continuity issues, we ask you not to bring additional family members, friends, or others. Exceptions must be discussed with the facilitator.
5. **Punctuality** - We all have very busy schedules. It is important for our group to start and end on time.
6. **Listening** – There is a healing power when being heard. Everybody has a right to be heard without interrupting, commenting, or interpreting.
7. **Sharing** – The purpose of this group is to share about the death of a loved one. Every group member is allowed time to share.
8. **Advising** - Many times people are told what they should or should not be feeling. However, every person is different thus feeling different things. It is important to be given the tools to share without anybody giving you advice, unless it is asked for.
9. **Silence** – Some people heal through sharing while others heal through listening. When in the circle, passing is completely acceptable.
10. **Alcohol/drugs** - Please do not use alcohol or drugs before group. Using these substances will hinder the individual and group grief process defeating the process.
11. **Judgments** – It is very easy to judge others and their situations. Please do not use verbal or non verbal offenses as we all cope and do things differently.
12. **Closing** – Because we know that saying “goodbye” is important to the grieving process, please announce that you are closing one session prior before your final group. Closure is important in many aspects of our life and affects people differently so please be aware of that.

Information Sheet

Principles of Safe Harbor

1. Grieving and mourning are the natural reactions to the death of a significant person in a teen's life.
2. Everyone deserves the opportunity to be heard and understood, and to establish and validate the significance of the loss.
3. The duration and the intensity of grieving and mourning are unique for each individual.
4. A secure environment is essential for youth to express their emotions confidentially, be themselves, and be accepted by their peers.

Attendance and Continuity in a Group

The group is open-ended not time limited. Therefore, participants can continue for any length of time and stop attending whenever he/she decides. To build group cohesiveness regular attendance is important and expected of all participants. Continuity helps create a safe and supportive group.

Confidentiality and Privacy

We honor your confidentiality and privacy. This helps to create a safe environment for participants to listen and to share their personal experiences and stories. The coordinator and volunteer facilitators will not discuss your participation and/or what is said and done in the group with anyone. (See 6 Exceptions to Privacy)

Cost

There is no fee for participating in Safe Harbor

Contact Info

Stephanie Bowman, Safe Harbor Facilitator

First Lutheran Church

521 N. 8th St.

Manitowoc, WI 54220

920 682-7742

sb_flcmanitowoc@sbcglobal.net