

UNDERSTANDING THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF THE OPIOID CRISIS ON CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Thursday, November 7, 2019 • 8am – 4pm

Crowne Plaza
801 Greenwich Avenue
Warwick, Rhode Island

PROGRAM FEE: \$130 — Groups of 4 or more: \$115 each

Register online (closes 11/1/19) at <http://friendsway.org/register-online-for-the-2019-friends-way-conference>

Phone registration: Please call Joanne King at (401)667-6505

Continuing Education Credits are in-process for CME, APA, NASW, and Nursing

The opioid epidemic that is crippling our country is taking a toll on the children, youth, and families: Children who have disruptions in their lives or inadequate care from an addicted parent, families who lose a child to addiction, grandparents who step in to provide substitute care, friends and classmates who experience addiction, and children whose developmental trajectory includes an increased likelihood of their own substance use in adulthood. This conference will examine the ripple effect that the opioid epidemic has set in motion in our homes, schools, and communities, and how we can respond to the needs.

KEYNOTE: *“Rooted in Hope: Grief Support Following Substance Abuse Loss”*

WRAP-UP: *“RECHARGE: Fostering Compassion Resiliency”*



Tina Barrett, EdD, LCPC, Executive Director Tamarack Grief Resource Center, Missoula, MT, has over 20 years experience with end-of-life and grief support programs and non-profit management. Since 1994, she has specialized in family systems, strength-oriented, outdoor-based support following grief and trauma. Barrett is a licensed-counselor with experience in schools, psychiatric hospitals, treatment centers, group homes, and private practice. She is the Founder/Executive Director of Tamarack Grief Resource Center in Montana. In addition to serving on various advisory boards, Barrett is on the Board of Directors for the National Alliance for Grieving Children (NAGC).



Ariell Pirwitz, Outreach and Development Specialist, Tamarack Grief Resource Center, Missoula, MT Opioid and Suicide Loss Survivor blends years of personal and professional experience. Ariell speaks first-hand to the complexities surrounding stigmatized loss, multiple losses, the importance and impact of death narrative, and developmental considerations. Ariell was a participant in Tamarack Grief Resource Center grief support programs and joined the staff team in 2017. Her experiences have ignited a passion to spread awareness and help support others who have experienced significant loss.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

8:00 Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:45 Opening Remarks

9:00 Keynote: “Rooted in Hope”

10:45 Panel: “Struggling with Loss”

Facilitator: Barbara Morse Silva, WJAR

Panelists: Barbara Minter, mother

Ryan Erickson, brother, Policy Advisor to the Governor

Lori Dorsey, grandmother, BHDDH

Peter Slom, DCYF SA Liaison

12:15 Lunch with Speaker: “A Best Practice Model for Supporting Children’s Grief,”
Ryan Loiselle, LICSW, FRIENDS WAY

1:30 Breakout Session

- Treating the Trauma of Family Disruption: John Sargent, MD, Chief of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Tufts Medical Center

- How Addiction in the Family Changes Children: Linda Mahoney, CDCS, Administrator of Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Programs

- Supporting Students in our Schools Affected by Opioid Addiction: Sarah Dinklage, LICSW, Executive Director of Student Assistance Services, Rhode Island

- The Role of Faith in Supporting Families with Addiction: Rev. Bettine Besier, St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Alton, RI

3:00 Wrap-up Session: “RECHARGE: Fostering Compassion Resiliency”

FRIENDS WAY is a unique organization serving Rhode Island and Southern Massachusetts that provides peer support bereavement groups for children and teens who have experienced the death of a loved one.

www.friendsway.org 765 WEST SHORE RD • WARWICK, RI 02889

