

The Congregational Health  
Bereavement Program



**Congregational  
Health  
Bereavement  
Resource Guide  
2009**

Supporting bereavement  
in faith communities

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## **The Congregational Health Bereavement Program**

The Congregational Health Bereavement Program is an extension of the Congregational Health department of Baptist Health South Florida. The vision is to create a network of bereavement support groups in faith settings throughout our community. Persons who are grief-stricken can be referred by professionals (such as doctors, chaplains and social workers) to appropriate cultural and religious support groups in our network.

Bereavement support in the faith community recognizes the cultural diversity of grief responses in the Miami-Dade area, as well as the importance of the faith and spiritual community in coping with grief.

### **Congregational Health Bereavement Referral Guide Process**

The following information provides details about the various faith-based bereavement groups and programs offered in the community. Our trained faith-based bereavement facilitators offer their services for free through two different ways:

**Bereavement Support Groups:** this is a gathering of people seeking to address their grief with the support of others also experiencing grief. Some of these groups are focused on specific concerns (such as for parents; while others are general groups for everyone). Some of the groups are closed, meaning that the same group meets for a set number of times. Other groups are open, meaning that anyone can begin attending at any time and stop at any time.

**Bereavement Personal Support:** this is one-on-one service. This is for grieving people who are not comfortable in a group setting or are not able to find a suitable group setting. This is not counseling. In this program, facilitators stay in touch with people in grief by phone, sending cards, meeting over lunch, etc.

Following are some suggestions for selecting the group or program that best meets your needs:

1. Pick a group that appeals to you based on a certain geographical location, a particular denomination, a particular language, a group that identifies with a particular culture, etc.
2. Call the contact person at the number indicated to let them know that you are interested in participating and to double check on the time and location of their program or group meetings.
3. Participate in the meeting to see for yourself if it is what you are looking for.



## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUPS

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**CATHOLIC**

*Good Shepherd Catholic Church*

<b>Contact person</b> (Spanish speaking)	Blanca Zayas <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-386-5598
<b>Address</b>	14187 SW 72 St. Miami, FL 33183
<b>Date of meeting</b>	Every third Wednesday 8:15 p.m. School of the parish, room 106
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Hispanic
<b>Notes</b>	

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**JEWISH**

*Temple Bet Breira Samu-El Or Olom*

Contact person (English speaking)	Phyllis Koss Phone(s): 305-595-5100 <a href="http://www.betbreira.org">www.betbreira.org</a>
Address	9400 SW 87 Ave. Miami, FL 33176
Date of meeting	Call for information
Cultural grouping	Jewish
Notes	When Kaddish in not enough, you don't have to grieve alone when you lose a loved one finding comfort in our community.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*Central Christian Church*

<b>Contact person</b> (Spanish speaking)	Vivian Lozada <b>Phone(s):</b> 786-271-6739
<b>Address</b>	222 Menores Ave. (SW 15 St.) Coral Gables, FL 33134
<b>Date of meeting</b>	Every third Wednesday 7 p.m. Fellowship hall. Follow the signs.
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Hispanic
<b>Notes</b>	

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*Church of God of Prophecy (Center of Hope)*

Contact person (English speaking)	Margaret Davis Phone(s): 305-238-5018
Address	Call for information
Date of meeting	Every Friday
Cultural grouping	
Notes	

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*Covenant Missionary Baptist Church*

<b>Contact person</b> (English speaking)	Dorothy White <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-238-7897
<b>Address</b>	1055 NE 6 Ave. Florida City, FL 33034
<b>Date of meeting</b>	Every third Saturday 10 - 11 a.m.
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Afro-American
<b>Notes</b>	Offers Bereavement Personal Support

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*Episcopal Church of the Ascension*

<b>Contact person</b> (English speaking)	Helen Bhagwandin <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-238-5151 (church)
<b>Address</b>	11201 SW 160 St. Miami, FL 33157
<b>Date of meeting</b>	Every second Monday 7 p.m.
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Multicultural
<b>Notes</b>	They offer an end of year (Advent time) memorial candle light service for the families.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*First Baptist Church of Key Largo*

<b>Contact person</b> (English speaking)	Joyce Nealy <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-451-5843 305-394-2676
<b>Address</b>	MM99 (across Taco Bell) Fellowship Hall, room 16 Key Largo, FL 33037
<b>Date of meeting</b>	Call for information.
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	European-American
<b>Notes</b>	Bereavement support group for people who have lost a loved one in violent death.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*First Saint John Missionary Baptist Church*

<b>Contact person</b> (English speaking)	Mabelene Nesbitt <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-301-9513
<b>Address</b>	13740 SW 264 St. Naranja, FL 33032
<b>Date of meeting</b>	Call for information
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Multicultural
<b>Notes</b>	

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*Iglesia Ejecutiva Bautista*

<b>Contact person</b> (Spanish speaking)	Jose Flores <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-303-9498
<b>Address</b>	6967 SW 24 St. Miami, FL 33155
<b>Date of meeting</b>	<i>"Amor en Acción"</i> Every Wednesday 8 p.m.
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Hispanic
<b>Notes</b>	

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*Martin Memorial AME Church*

Contact person (English speaking)	Mary Johnson Phone(s): 305-254-6850 305-968-4871
Address	14700 Lincoln Blvd. Miami, FL 33176
Date of meeting	Every third Tuesday 6 - 7 p.m.
Cultural grouping	Multicultural
Notes	

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*Miami Temple Seventh Day Adventist*

<p><b>Contact person</b> (Spanish &amp; English speaking)</p>	<p>Maria Gough (Spanish) George Gough (English) <b>Phone(s):</b> 786-242-1419 (home) 786-277-9522 (cellular Spanish) 786-286-5504 (cellular English)</p>
<p><b>Address</b></p>	<p>9175 SW 44 St. Miami, FL 33165</p>
<p><b>Date of meeting</b></p>	<p><i>"Oasis"</i> Every first Thursday in Spanish Every third Thursday in English 7 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Cultural grouping</b></p>	<p>Multicultural</p>
<p><b>Notes</b></p>	<p>They may also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer bereavement personal support, if necessary.</li> <li>• Support to mothers who lost their children</li> <li>• Visit the person at home.</li> </ul>

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church*

<b>Contact person</b> (English speaking)	Rose Miller-Shepp <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-253-1693
<b>Address</b>	16900 SW 100 Ave. Perrine, FL 33157
<b>Date of meeting</b>	<i>"Mt. Moriah Bereavement/Survivor's Care Group"</i> Every Saturday 7 - 8 p.m.
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	African-American
<b>Notes</b>	

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*New Bethel AME Church*

<b>Contact person</b> (English speaking)	Leoni Campbell-Goodluck <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-254-3454
<b>Address</b>	11695 SW 220 St. Goulds, FL 33170
<b>Date of meeting</b>	Every fourth Saturday 10 - 11 a.m.
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Multicultural
<b>Notes</b>	

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*Old Cutler Presbyterian Church*

<b>Contact person</b> (English speaking)	Sandra Jordan-Young <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-238-8121
<b>Address</b>	Prayer Chapel 14401 Old Cutler Rd. Miami, FL 33158
<b>Date of meeting</b>	Every Thursday 7 - 9 p.m.
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Multicultural
<b>Notes</b>	

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*Príncipe de Paz Lutheran Church*

<p><b>Contact person</b> (Spanish speaking)</p>	<p>Myriam Benitez  <b>Phone(s):</b>            786-357-7647 (cellular)            305-226-1612 (work)            305-380-7271 (home)</p>
<p><b>Address</b></p>	<p>6375 West Flagler St.            Miami, FL 33144</p>
<p><b>Date of meeting</b></p>	<p><i>"Ministerio del Consuelo"</i>            Every second and fourth Wednesday            7 - 9 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Cultural grouping</b></p>	<p>Multicultural</p>
<p><b>Notes</b></p>	<p>They may also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer bereavement personal support, if necessary.</li> <li>• Support to mothers who lost their children</li> <li>• Visit the person at home.</li> </ul>

## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

### PROTESTANT

*St. John AME Church*

Contact person (English speaking)	Gillian Turner Phone(s): 305-720-6389 (cellular)
Address	6461 SW 59 PI Miami, FL 33143
Date of meeting	Every Wednesday after the second Sunday. 7 - 8 pm.
Cultural grouping	Afro-American
Notes	Support general bereavement and bereaved parents.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*St. Luke's the Physician Episcopal Church*

<b>Contact person</b> (English speaking)	Carmen Chang <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-279-2465 (church) 305-505-0935 (cellular)
<b>Address</b>	12355 SW 104 St. Miami, FL 33186
<b>Date of meeting</b>	<i>Whispers from the Heart</i> Every second Thursday 9:30 a.m.
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Multicultural
<b>Notes</b>	They may also: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Offer bereavement personal support, if necessary.</li></ul>

## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

### PROTESTANT

*St. Peter's Missionary Baptist Church*

Contact person (English speaking)	Emma Sumpter Phone(s): 305-255-0437 (h) 305-613-3737 (c)
Address	20110 SW 114 Ave. Miami, FL 33189
Date of meeting	<i>Support of Souls in Grief</i> Every third Monday 7 p.m.
Cultural grouping	Multicultural
Notes	They offer support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Widows</li><li>• Divorcees</li></ul> <a href="http://www.soulsingrief.com">www.soulsingrief.com</a>

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**PROTESTANT**

*Tabernacle Seventh Day Adventist Church*

<b>Contact person</b> (English speaking)	Roosevelt James <b>Phone(s):</b> 954-718-5652
<b>Address</b>	8017 NE Second Ave. Miami, FL 33138
<b>Date of meeting</b>	Every Wednesday 7 p.m.
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Multicultural
<b>Notes</b>	They may also: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support seniors through grief education and attend funerals to offer grief support to bereaved families.</li></ul>



**BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT**



## BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT

### CATHOLIC

*Christ the King Catholic Church*

Contact person (English speaking)	Joan Lyons Phone(s): 305-235-0644
Address	Call for information
Date of meeting	Call for information
Cultural grouping	Multicultural
Notes	

## BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT

### CATHOLIC

*Church of the Little Flower*

Contact person (English speaking)	Katie Dunn Phone(s): 305-446-9950
Address	2711 Indian Mound Trail Coral Gables, FL 33134
Date of meeting	Call for information
Cultural grouping	Multicultural
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pre-holiday bereavement support groups</li></ul>

**BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT**

**CATHOLIC**

*Sacred Heart Catholic Church*

Contact person (English speaking)	Teri and Bob Picken <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-257-4106 jtkirk1701@comcast.net
Address	Call for information
Date of meeting	Call for information
Cultural grouping	Multicultural
Notes	

## BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT

### CATHOLIC

*Saint John Neumann Catholic Church*

Contact person (English speaking)	Lorna Fyffe Phone(s): 305-270-8632 305-934-0709 (cellular)
Address	12125 SW 107 Ave. Miami, FL 33176
Date of meeting	Call for information
Cultural grouping	Multicultural
Notes	

**BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT**

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**

*Local Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai*

Contact person (English speaking)	Agnes Sheffy Phone(s): 305-431-3923
Address	Call for information
Date of meeting	Call for information
Cultural grouping	
Notes	

**BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT**

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**

*Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Miami*

<b>Contact person</b> (English speaking)	Alice Lingswiler <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-667-3697 (church) 305-221-0843 (home)
<b>Address</b>	7701 SW 76 Ave. Miami, FL 33143 Emerson room
<b>Date of meeting</b>	<i>"The Grief Support Group"</i> Every first Sunday 1:15 p.m.
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Multicultural
<b>Notes</b>	

**BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT**

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**

*Unity Center of Miami*

<b>Contact person</b> (English, Creole & French speaking)	Cheryl Pestaina Chryl-Ann Forbes <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-232-9503
<b>Address</b>	16320 SW 147 Ave. Miami, FL 33187
<b>Date of meeting</b>	Call for information
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Multicultural
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Annual Memorial Ceremony TBA</li></ul>

**BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT**

**PROTESTANT**

*Christ the King Lutheran Church*

Contact person (English speaking)	Sandy Vanden Phone(s): 305-666-4807
Address	11295 SW 57 Ave. Miami, FL 33156
Date of meeting	Call for information
Cultural grouping	
Notes	

**BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT**

**PROTESTANT**

*Greater New Mount Zion AME*

<b>Contact person</b> (English speaking)	Patricia Davis Betty McNichols <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-245-8761
<b>Address</b>	890 SW Fourth St. Homestead, FL 33030
<b>Date of meeting</b>	Call for information
<b>Cultural grouping</b>	Multicultural
<b>Notes</b>	

**BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT**

**PROTESTANT**

*Iglesia Bautista Aposento Alto*

Contact person (English and Spanish speaking)	Diana Gomez <b>Phone(s):</b> 305-378-8023
Address	15966 66 Ter. Miami, FL 33193
Date of meeting	Call for information
Cultural grouping	Multicultural
Notes	

## BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT

### PROTESTANT

*Iglesia Bautista Dios te Ama*

Contact person (Spanish speaking)	Ernesto Alfonso Phone(s): 305-409-6544
Address	767 East 56 St. Hialeah, FL 33013
Date of meeting	Call for information
Cultural grouping	Multicultural
Notes	

## BEREAVEMENT PERSONAL SUPPORT

### PROTESTANT

*Iglesia Bautista Nueva Esperanza*

Contact person (Spanish & English speaking)	Sergio and Monika Martin Phone(s): 305-273-7129
Address	12313 SW 112 St. Miami, FL 33186
Date of meeting	Call for information
Cultural grouping	Multicultural
Notes	

**Baptist Health South Florida  
Congregational Health  
Phone: 786-594-6360 □ Fax: 786-594-6750  
[www.baptisthealth.net/ch](http://www.baptisthealth.net/ch)**

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