

# 2015 - 2016 Annual Report



Children's Bereavement Center's Mission:

The Children's Bereavement Center mission is to help children, young adults, and their families adjust to life after the loss of a loved one within a supportive community of their peers, and to promote healthful grief, healing and growth.

Our Impact CBC has been 1450+ serving South Florida participants for 17 years served this past currently program year 94 groups per month 4 family locations, 2 young adult and 2 older adult groups \$0 to attend throughout Miami-Dade and CBC is a groups **Broward Counties** 501(c)3

#### CBC ORGANIZATION

#### LEADERSHIP

Chloé Di Pietro Ansley Elfmont Claude Grubair Kathy Kramer, LCSW, CT Elaine Webb Peter Willig, LMFT, FT

SENIOR ADVISOR Mindy Cassel, PhD

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Nancy Ansley Eduardo Bertran Pedro "Peter" Busse Maggie Eidson Fader Julie Fishman Berkowitz Megan Fitzpatrick Linda Frazier Edward Golden David Goldweitz Jeffrey Lehrman Elizabeth Leight Ashleigh Lindenauer Gary Mansfield Albert "Nick" Masi Carola Mengolini Marconi Naziazeni Janá Sigars-Malina Seth Werner

This past August, I stepped down from my role as CEO of the Children's Bereavement Center, making way for new leadership and an opportunity for me to contribute to the organization in a more defined role, one of Senior Clinical and Program Advisor, offering clinical and programming guidance, including oversight of projects on behalf of the CBC.

We are fortunate to welcome Claude Grubair as our new CEO. He brings 20+ years of demonstrated success in management in independent school education. He has broad experience in marketing, budget and finance, strategic planning, fundraising, and human resources. Claude has been a long-time advocate of the CBC, regularly engaging students in volunteerism with charitable organizations throughout the community. He is both an effective leader and a tremendous resource to the CBC. I look forward to assisting him as he leads the organization and continues to expand our reach.

It is hard to believe that it has been more than seventeen years since the CBC was created with my friend and co-founder, Dr. Carol Berns. In those first few years, people came from great distances to find support, causing us to realize that the need went beyond our immediate community. As a result, the CBC has grown exponentially, from an original group of eight children from five families, to 94 monthly groups with 1450 participants this year!

Our successful development is due in large part to the remarkable partnerships that the CBC has been privileged to form with like-minded individuals, businesses, organizations, and funders such as VITAS Healthcare, the New York Life Foundation and the National Alliance of Grieving Children, our school partners and funding partners including The Batchelor Foundation, Florida Blue Foundation, Health Foundation of South Florida, the Miller Family Foundation, Trip Advisor Foundation, and Azamara Cruises and Royal Caribbean International among the many who support the CBC.

In addition to our remarkable Board of Directors and Staff, and Volunteers in our groups and committee, I am ultimately grateful for the opportunity to continue to work with the people of the community to provide a pathway to ease their adjustment after losing someone they love. For children, there may be no greater roadblock than the loss of a parent, sibling, grandparent or anyone who has played a major role in the child's life. Yet, time and again, at the CBC, we observe the dramatic impact that results from the camaraderie of other children, caring teen and adult facilitators, and the opportunity to metabolize profound loss at one's own pace and time.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work together with Claude and our CBC Team. I look forward to my new role, and to making a meaningful contribution in the next chapter in CBC's development. And thank you, for your continued support.

With warm regards,

Minay Cencel, DaD.

#### About CBC's Partner, VITAS Healthcare

In collaboration with the CBC, VITAS is able to extend its mission to bring specialized assistance to grieving children, young adults, and their families. VITAS is the nation's leading hospice provider. Since the company was founded in Florida, VITAS has been working to ensure that



terminally ill patients and their families receive compassionate and effective end-of life care. In addition to clinical end-of-life care for patients, the VITAS team provides a wide range of assistance to families, including bereavement support following a loss. VITAS chaplains and social workers are experienced bereavement specialists and provide information,education, and resources to help those who are going through a period of bereavement. Dedicated VITAS staff and volunteers also undergo special training to assistduring CBC Peer Support Group sessions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT VITAS HEALTHCARE, CALL 1.800.723.3233 OR VISIT VITAS.COM/FLORIDA



# **PROGRAM REPORT**



## YEAR IN HIGHLIGHTS

Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen recognized the Children's Bereavement Center on the House Floor in Washington D.C. in Febuary 2016.



March 2016 Dharma Studio Hosts Community Yoga Classes benefitting the CBC



#### March 2016



CHILDREN'S BEREAVEMENT CENTER RECEIVES A \$10,000 COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANT FROM NEW YORK LIFE! Peter Busse, New York Life Agent and CBC Board Member was Instrumental in this effort. We thank you for your dedication and advocacy on behalf of the CBC. This grant will assist the CBC in providing

seminars to healthcare and education professionals to learn best practices in supporting families experiencing loss.



New York Life Foundation



Ronald McDonald House Charities awarded us a \$10,000 grant to support our bereavement groups!





#### Rockin' on the Green 2016

The Children's Bereavement Center (CBC), Presenting Sponsors New York Life Foundation and Nancy Hector along with Spotlight Sponsor VITAS Healthcare, hosted the annual Rockin' on the Green event, Saturday, April 2, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at Ransom Everglades Middle School. The evening was a night of casual chic dinner, dancing and shopping, all while supporting children and families grieving the loss of a loved one. The event raised \$211,768 to support the CBC's FREE grief peer support groups in Miami-Dade and Broward counties.







Comic Cure's fundraising event-Florida's Funniest Female with headliner Kira Soltanovich showcased more than 10 female comedians from across the state of Florida competing for the coveted title! The event benefited the Children's Bereavement Center and the Women's Fund of Miami Dade.







(L photo) - CBC Clinical Director, Peter Willig and CEO, Mindy Cassel presenting to colleagues at the National Alliance for Grieving Children (NAGC) Symposium in Indianapolis in June 2016. (R photo) CBC and Vitas Healthcare staff at the symposium.

June 2016 Good Burger, Good Cause at Shake Shack South Miami to benefit the CBC

> Children's Bereavement Bereav



Good Burgers For A Good Cause



### July 2016

Program Director, Kathy Kramer was chosen as one of South Florida Luxurv Guide Women of Style and Substance!





June 2016

Drinkhouse Fire & Ice Painting & Wine Night to benefit the CBC



# TRAINING

Every August the CBC holds its one **V LUNTEER** time yearly new facilitator training for all program locations throughout Miami Dade and Broward.

This two-part training prepares volunteers to work in our free bereavement peer support groups.

## 2016 End of Year Candle Lighting Ceremonies

The ceremony is a ritual we hold dearly, as rituals allow us to link our present with our past and our future. They connect us as a community in our shared sense of loss and moreover, in our shared sense of support and hope.





## July 2016: New CEO, Claude Grubair, joins the CBC Team!

Claude Grubair is a senior administrator with demonstrated success in management roles within the independent school education industry. He has broad experience in marketing, budget and finance, strategic planning, fundraising, and human resources. He has a track record of achieving results through detailed process management, innovative thinking and the ability to motivate and build enthusiastic and productive teams.



#### DORAL GROUP MOVES TO BELEN JESUIT PREPARATORY SCHOOL

In partnership with VITAS® Healthcare, the free CBC Doral Peer Support Groups now meet weekly at Belen. We are most grateful to Belen Jesuit Preparatory School for partnering with the CBC and hosting children and adults groups on their kids' from the Doral group beautiful campus.



Our very creative CBC

worked on these beautiful

projects in memory of their loved ones.



On Thursday, November 17, 2016 the Children's Bereavement Center supporters joined forces and helped beat last year's record of \$9,524. Together we raised a record breaking \$43,918 on Give Miami Day 2016! This total was made possible with the 79 generous and outstanding gifts collected within the 24 hour period.



Misha's Cupcakes Brings Sweet Hope on Children's Grief Awareness Day 11/17/16 with proceeds from vanilla minis benefiting the CBC!



NITROGEN ICE CREAM

October 2016

Over 1.000 runners and their families came out to Zoo Miami on Saturday, November 19, 2016 to support the CBC's annual Steps for Healing 5K and Kids Fun Run fundraising event. We raised \$96,500 to support the CBC's FREE grief peer support groups in Miami-Dade and Broward counties.







# **EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

Category	Number Completed	Contacts
Trainings	40	1,458
Inservices/Loss Response	51	3,551
Newsletter/Publicity/Email/Mailers/Blog	32	Varied (Google 16K, Summer Mailer (1.5K), Expos
Post/Google AdWords		12K), Monthly email/newsletter, Media – Radio/TV)
Fundraisers/Events	25	3,015
Development/Replication Meetings	78	523
TOTAL =		<mark>8,507 +</mark>

## Seminar After the Loss: Supporting Children and Families Following a Death

We have developed this half day (3 hour) seminar designed specifically for medical professionals. It addresses many of the issues faced by physicians, nurses, social workers, palliative care teams, and others who are engaged in patient/family care when there's been a death. We also hope to address some of the realities of self-care, and compassion fatigue, that Medical staff experience when they have a patient death, or loss of their own.

Our goal in creating this seminar is to engage community partners and provide educational content that enriches their staff while also ensuring that our patient and community families are well served in the face of loss.

## Seminar Funding: \$43,000

March 2016 | Peter Willig, CBC

Clinical Director, presenting at

the New York Life Quartley Agent

Meeting



July 2016 - After the Loss Seminar to Baptist Hospital Professionals

October 2016 | Miami-Dade Police Department- Youth Outreach Program officers. Loss in children and families as an issue in the community they serve.

# **FINANCIALS**

Revenues		
Contributions and gifts	\$	232,203.00
Grants	\$	133,187.00
License fees	\$	60,000.00
In-kind contributions	\$	514,700.00
Special events (net of costs)	\$	319,546.00
Other Income (including interest, dividend, gain and loss on investments)	\$	6.833.00
Interest and dividend income	Ψ	0,000.00
Unrealized loss on investments		
Total revenues	\$ 1,2	266,469.00



Functional Expenses	
Program services (including in kind)	\$ 950,587.00
Management and general	\$ 94,563.00
Fundraising	\$ 92,261.00
Total functional expenses	\$ 1,137,411.00



## **DEMOGRAPHICS & RESEARCH**











As we have since the program's inception, CBC is engaged in ongoing program evaluation through qualitative participant research, feedback and volunteer post-group sessions. This information guides the changes to continually improve CBC programs, professional seminars and facilitator trainings. In addition, the process of self-reporting enables participants to reflect on the evolution of their grief while attending the CBC.

Through a collaboration with the Mailman-Segal Center at Nova Southeastern in, under the direction of Nurit Sheinberg, Ed.D., Director of Research and Evaluation, the CBC developed a new methodology for the evaluation process which was instituted for this program year, (2016-2017), to reduce the response burden of our participants, and improve data collection and reporting. A post-secondary analysis of the data will be completed by the Nova team following the 2016-2017 CBC program year.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

120 Ocean Drive LLC Akerman Allegheny Franciscan **Ministries** Anima Domus Nancy & Oswald Ansley Armor Correctional Health Services Michele & Scott Baena Bank of America **Baptist Health South Florida** Luis & Ana Maria Bared, **Richard & Natalie Baron** David M. Barry Joann Sawitz Bass The Batchelor Foundation Yael Ben-Chanoch Berger Singerman LLP Harold Blue Bryn & Associates Calamos Advisors LLC Seth Cassel Chapman Foundation The Children's Trust Ira & Jill Coleman Colson Hicks Eidson Rachel & Antonio Delgado Jane & Andrew Dolkart **Dunsbaugh-Dalton** Foundation The Educational Foundation of America Martin & Dolores Elkin Victoria Elliott **Encina Solutions LLC** ETC Chemicals LLC Eventbrite Sandra & Mitchell Fishman Fiske & Co. Florida Blue Florida Health Kids Corporation **Florman Family Foundation** FPI Linda Frazier Fridolin Charitable Trust Garfield Charitable Foundation **Giving Back Foundation** Global Healthcare Advisors. LLC

David Howard Goldberg Edward Golden Lisa Goldman Greenberg Traurig Amedeo Guazzini Harold & Marion Gordon Foundation Health Foundation of South Florida Nancy Hector Herbert W. Hoover Foundation Peggy and Douglas Hudson Katzman Family Foundation Kaufman Rossin & Co. Angelina, Dillon & Joshua Kave Robert Kindler Kramer & Associates Kathy & Jim Kramer Robert Kramer Robert & Judy Kramer Terri & Jeffrey Krasnoff Elizabeth & Nathan Leight Leon Medical Centers Lisa & Benjamin Leon Michael Levitz Ashleigh & Alec Lindenauer Luis E. Barreto & Associates Anthony & Sandra Mallo Gary Mansfield Alexandra Mantilla Wendi & Nick Masi MCCI Medical Group Pepe Mellado Miami Children's Hospital Foundation The Miami Foundation Miami Medical Consultants Richard Dean Middleton Miller Family Foundation MK Real Estate Group, Inc. Harve Mogul Monsanto Fund **Robert & Lainey Nacron** New York Life Foundation New York Life Insurance Company Daniela & Ramon Nuila NV5, Inc.

O. Paul Decker Memorial Foundation Obdula Devon Bernard Foundation Otte Polo Group Joel Perwin Sandi & Larry Pimentel Lezlie & Miguel Poyastro **Professional Bank** William Richey Harvey & Maria Rogers Ronald McDonald House Charities Ron Rosen & Fern Samek Rosen **Royal Caribbean Cruises** International S & K Worldwide Realty The Sacred Space Miami Randy Schenkman Selma Oritt Foundation Shepard Broad Foundation Jana Sigars-Malina Andrew Simon Daniel & Honit Simon Nicholas Singer Marte & Paul Singerman M Soffer Stearns Weaver Miller Linda & Edward Steinberg **TD** Charitable Foundation Terra Group Trip Advisor United Way **VITAS Healthcare** Vitas Healthcare Corporation Enda & Mary Walsh Ware Foundation Dale Webb Seth Werner & Annetter Franqui Wille Family Foundation Ellen & Louis Wolfson Woman's Relief Association, Inc. Yagoda & Lehrman Law Firm LLC Mary & Carl Zalaznik

## THANK YOU FACILITATORS

#### Coconut Grove and Lift From Loss\* Program

Mia Abril Leah Ackerman\* Rosa Admire Cindy Amar\* Cindy Aovn Allison Armas Bonnie Blank Gelina Burke Brett Dachs Barbara Davis Jane Dolkart Avis Feldman Ellen Friedman Gabrielle Gardner Vicki Geist George Gonzalez\* Beverly Gordon Mae Greenberg\* Carvl Grof Neal Hamel Sofie Hamersmith Adele Hertz Marilyn Konfino Midge Blumberg-Krams\* Barbara & Jeffrey Lehrman Jenny Leon Peter MacNamara Leon Mandler Margarita Mills Marilyn Milstein Huston Ochoa\* Trish Pedroso Allison Perez Valeria Rodriguez Erika Rosner Barbara Ross\* Iris Salzberg Bonnie Schur Lisa Sloat Kavla Spigelman Rae Stein Natalie Tanen Martha Valdivia Carol VanGinkel Vanessa Velis Nelcy Vincente Marjorie Wilkoff



#### **Doral Program**

Rosario Alvarez Maria Anderson Robert Cemillan Erleen Garabal Lynn Gelman Maria Gomez Gladys Hernandez Fernando Hoffman David Lane Charles Lowry Teresa Punzi Maria Sequeira Danial Touhy Sylvia Vasquez



Miami Shores Program

Svbil Allison Manny Borrajo Judith Reiter-Cornelissen Megan Fitzpatrick Lianne Graubart Lisa Hannigan Gladys Hernandez Pedro Jimenez David Lane Isabel Lane Nora Ann (Tudy) Lange Jenny Leon Phyllis Littman Kettly Loiseau Charlene MacDonell Lisa Mylott Denise Palacios Veronica Palacios Edna Quiros Carolina Rabin Ramon Bello-Ramero Alfred Sasiadek **Bianca Sassine** Kevin Stowe Judith Weisenfeld Deena Zaron



#### **Broward Program**

Lilian Borunda Josie Brown **Christine Clifford** Elizabeth Clifford Tom Dalton **Carlee Davis** Patty Davis Elisha Evanko Sara Graham Phyllis Greene Sara Harris Jaqueline Jeffrey Jaqueline Leonor Leila Lopez Thom McLeod Candy Mixsell Sam Reynolds Larry Schuval Nalatie Spencer Larry Thompson







Thank Yvu

## **CBC LOOKING AHEAD**

#### COMMUNITY IMPACT INITIATIVE

In the new year the CBC will bring a new program that will expand our work into the Miami-Dade inner-city neighborhoods as they grapple with the impact of a tremendous rise in homicides, especially child murder.

Changing the **Impact of Loss in the Inner-City -- A Community Approach** will create a collaboration with Miami's inner-city families and community leaders to fill a void in services, help families understand the impact of loss on the cycle of violence and encourage the development of skills that can heal and strengthen the social fabric of the community.

### PALM BEACH EXPANSION

To fill a significant void in bereavement services for children and families in Palm Beach County (PBC), the CBC will begin offering our highly successful grief peer support services there in September 2017. This opportunity to expand our programming has been made possible through both the CBC's continued collaboration with VITAS Healthcare—which contributes a bereavement team, volunteers, and supplies for the groups—and the CBC's professional staff—which provides training and oversight.

The CBC obtained the initial funding for the initiative through a generous grant from Florida Blue. A PBC community school partner will host the CBC groups for children and adult participants. This site, the CBC's fifth to be dedicated to the support of grieving children and families, will offer groups for children from early elementary school through high school, as well as for the adults in their lives (parents, caregivers, and extended family).

### LOOKING AHEAD TO PARTNERSHIPS WITH

CARE Elementary School Family Central FIU's Center for Children and Families Girl Power Lotus House Our Kids of Miami-Dade/ Monroe, Inc. Overtown Youth Center

