Welcome to today's webinar!

- First time using Webex?
 - -You can communicate with other attendees or the host in the Chat Box and seek technical assistance if needed.
 - -You can type questions about the material presented in the Q&A section.
- Today's webinar will be recorded and shared publicly. Please keep this in mind when sharing information and experiences during the webinar.
- We understand this topic will generate many questions. However, due to the limited time we have, we may not get to every question in the Chat Box. We will create a **Q&A** document to share after the webinar is over.





"Being With" People Experiencing Grief and Loss

Barbara Williams Stewart

&

Mary Anne Tolliver

Learning Objectives

- 1. Participants will learn a post-modern perspective of grief and how to recognize its subsequent expressions and reactions in persons with I/DD.
- 2. Through a narrative of one person's terminal illness, participants will learn how to coordinate services/resources for persons with I/DD and their families.
- 3. Participants will leave equipped with basic tools to "be with" and support grieving persons, their families, other staff and peers.
- 4. Participants will identify caregiver grief reactions to client losses.
- 5. Participants will learn coping strategies to ease their grief reactions.
- 6. Participants will be able to identify "triggers" (Holidays, Family Gatherings, Music, and Birthdays) that may illicit grief reactions.



GRIEF

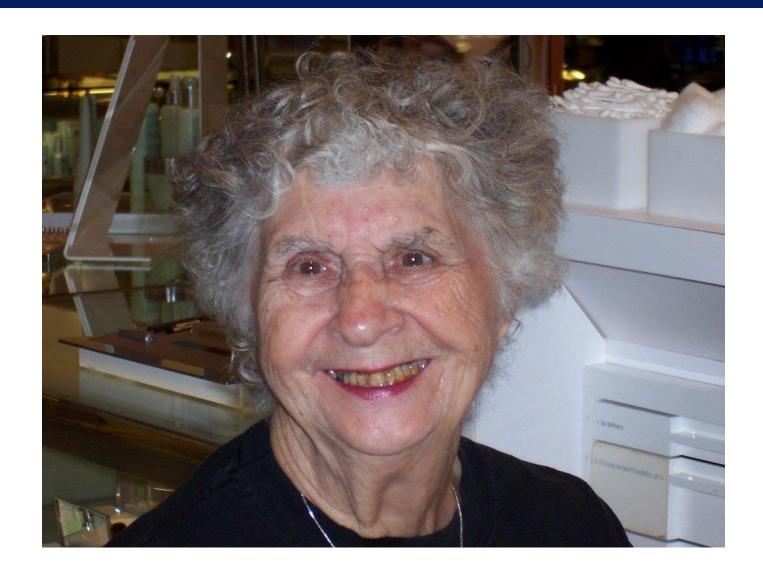
The Notebook

"In times of grief and sorrow I will hold you and rock you and take your grief and make it my own. When you cry I cry and when you hurt I hurt. And together we will try to hold back the floods of tears and despair and make it through the potholed street."

~Nicholas Sparks



Monica's Story





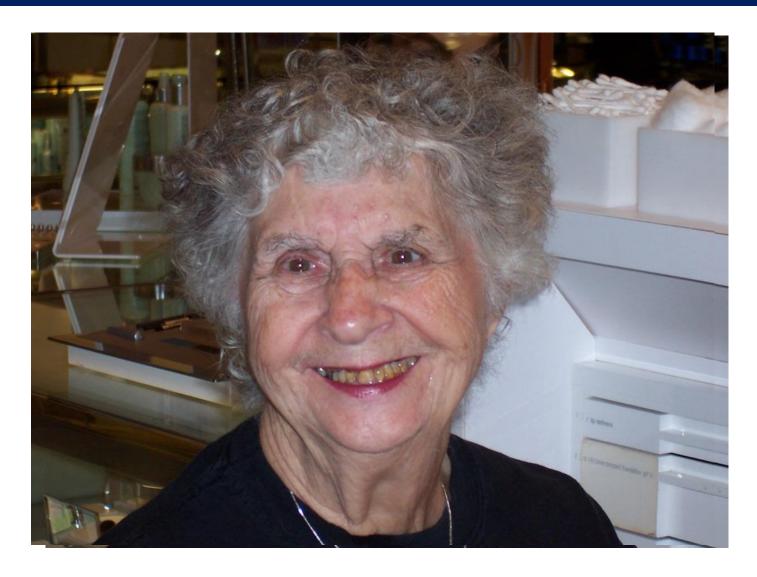
GRIEF & LOSS

Working Definition of Grief

The Concept of "Being With"

Monica's Story

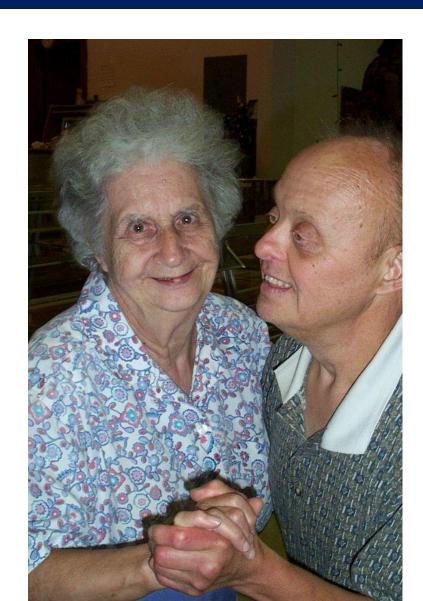






























TYPES OF LOSSES

Relationship breakup Everyday losses

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job
retirement
staff
friends
declining health
move out of family home
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Facing mortality

Death of a family member



Monica's Losses

Parents' death

Transition to supported living

Unfulfilled dreams

Brother's death





TERMINAL CANCER

- 1. Respecting Individual/Family Wishes
- 2. Making Decisions
- 3. Hospice
 - Role of the Individual
 - Role of Support Team
 - Role of the Family
 - Role of the Grief Counselor



Grief Reactions and Expressions

Physical reactions

Behavioral reactions

Cognitive reactions

Emotional reactions

Spiritual reactions



Strategies to Support a Grieving Person

Eye contact and facial expressions

Vocal style

Body language

Verbal following

Open-ended questions

Paraphrasing

Reflecting feelings



THE GIFT of "BEING WITH"





Grief Resources

Books:

In the Presence Of Grief: Helping Family Members Resolve Death, Dying, and Bereavement Issues, Dorothy S. Becvar, 2003

The Tunnel And The Light: Essential Insights on Living and Dying Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, M.D. 1999

Booklets:

Hard Choices For Living People Hank Dunn, 2011

To Order: www.hardchoices.com

Gone From My Sight: The Dying Experience
Barbara Karnes, 2008
To Order: www. Bkbooks.com



More Resources

Online:

Supporting People with Disabilities Coping With Grief and Loss

www.scopevic.org.au/index.php/cms/front
end/resource/id/130

L'Arche Grief Materials www.Aging-and-disability.org/en/grieving



Almost there!

QUESTIONS ??



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