

A background image of a classroom with desks and chairs.

**Grief Reach**  
**Request for Proposal**  
**Dedicated cycle for Grief Support**  
**In School Communities**



**Dedicated Cycle for Grief Support in School Communities**  
**November 1st - December 20th, 2021, at 8 p.m. E.T.**  
**Decision by February 2022**

Submission Information

You may submit your application to the Grief Reach RFP through the following link.  
<https://childrengrieve.org/grief-reach>

Please direct inquiries to Megan Lopez at the National Alliance for Children's Grief  
[megan.lopez@childrengrieve.org](mailto:megan.lopez@childrengrieve.org)

**Request for Proposals Overview**

[The New York Life Foundation](https://www.newyorklifefoundation.org), in partnership with the National Alliance for Children's Grief, is requesting grant proposals through the Grief Reach Program. The focus of the 2021/2022



Winter Grief Reach cycle is grief support in school communities. For children who grieved at home in the past year, the return to school post pandemic presents a challenge. Losses grieved in isolation must now find space in a classroom environment. The New York Life Foundation and the National Alliance for Children's Grief through this program are powering up bereavement organizations in communities to support schools in the grief work that must be done. This is a critical investment in these students but also in the communities they live in. We look forward to partnering with you.

This grant program began in 2011 as a partnership between the National Alliance for Children's Grief and the New York Life Foundation. The goals are to:

- Increase access to bereavement support services in local communities, especially diverse communities
- Enhance the capacity of organizations providing bereavement support service
- Expand bereavement support services to address unmet needs
- Support communities dealing with grief and loss with tangible resources

New York Life Foundation provides the funds for these grants, and the National Alliance for Children's Grief manages the oversight and RFP process. Final decisions on grants are made by a review committee consisting of representatives from the National Alliance for Children's Grief and the New York Life Foundation, and other experts within the Childhood Bereavement field. The application process has been streamlined for expediency. **Please complete the following questions by 8 p.m. E.T., December 20th.** Please limit your responses to the stated characters per question; the reviewers will not see responses over the limit.

## Overview:

### *Winter Cycle Application timeline:*

- ✦ Application Opens: *November 1st*
- ✦ Grief Reach Informational Call: *November 16th, 2021, 1:30 p.m. E.T.*
- ✦ Grief Reach Final Questions Call: *December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 3:00 p.m. E.T.*
- ✦ Application Closes: *December 20th, 2021, 8:00 p.m. E.T.*

**This competitive Request for Proposal is focused on addressing the need for bereavement support services in school communities.** Below is the list of criteria:

1. Organizations must currently serve children who have experienced a death. This competitive grant program is limited to those organizations that currently work with schools that serve children and youth who have experienced a death. For the purpose of this grant program, bereaved children and youth are defined as children under the age of 25 who have had a person die. Applicants for this grant program may serve youth



outside of these limits, but grant funds, if awarded, support bereaved children under the age of 25.

2. Pending and/or current partnership with a school and/or school district: Grants will only be accepted for organizations that are partnering with the local school communities to provide services. These grants are specifically to be used for partnerships within the school system. They can be used to provide grief training, support groups in schools, provide one-on-one counseling, or other options. The applicant must provide documentation that demonstrates an intent and agree to partner with schools and/or school systems. An executed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or a similar agreement with the school districts plus submitted with your application.
3. Type of bereavement support. The type of bereavement support can vary based on the identified need, expertise, and partnership between the applicant and the school system. Examples of the type of support can include but are not limited to peer support, training, and professional development for staff and/or the school community at large, in-class lessons, school-wide assemblies, and more.
4. Participation and support of the New York Life Grief-Sensitive Schools Initiative as appropriate.

## Eligibility and Priorities

There are multiple grant amount opportunities included in this RFP. Each organization will only be eligible to apply to one of these grant opportunities, as explained below.

This competitive grant program is open to all nonprofit organizations serving children who have experienced a death and meet the requirements outlined below.

## Eligibility and Requirements

**Application that do not meet these standards will not be reviewed for funding, so please review carefully**

- ✦ U.S. based 501(c)3 for at least three consecutive years.
- ✦ Provide 990 tax returns for at least two of the past three years.
- ✦ Provide audited financials for the most recent full fiscal year.
- ✦ Must provide a budget detailing specifically how requested funds will be used.
- ✦ Must be the entity that will provide the children's bereavement services.
- ✦ Must have at least one paid staff person.
- ✦ Request amount must not be greater than 20% of the organization's most recent fiscal year actuals.
- ✦ The grant proposal must include cultural considerations of bereaved children based on the community you will be serving.
- ✦ Evaluation of proposed programming. All proposed programs must include an evaluation tool that meets the minimum requirements outlined in the grant agreement. Guidance on best practices will be given if you do not currently have an evaluation tool.



- ✦ If you are a part of a larger organization, for example, a hospice, hospital, university, etc., you will be required to submit your dedicated childhood bereavement program budget.

### Disqualifications:

Grants are made only to private, nonprofit organizations, which have tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, and which are not private foundations.

### Excluded organizations and areas:

- ✦ Individuals or government agencies.
- ✦ Organizations or activities whose services are limited to members of one religious or sectarian group.
- ✦ Fraternal, social, professional, athletic, or veterans' organizations.
- ✦ Seminars, conferences, trips, and memberships.
- ✦ Endowments, memorials, or capital campaigns.
- ✦ Fundraising events, telethons, races, or other benefits.
- ✦ Goodwill advertising.
- ✦ Basic or applied research.
- ✦ Organizations that discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, or national origin.
- ✦ Organizations that have a current grief reach grant, and the final report has not been submitted.

### Grief Reach Information and Q&A Sessions

We will hold two sessions for this cycle.

The first session will be an informational session held on November 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. E.T. To listen to the playback click [HERE](#).

The second session will be a Final Questions session and will be held on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. E.T. To register for this call, click [HERE](#).

### Reporting requirements:

- Grantees awarded any of these competitive grants are required to submit a progress report two times per year during each grant period plus a final report. The report will take the form of a narrative detailing progress on the proposed timeline of activities, achieved objectives, challenges in fulfilling grant deliverables, and a financial report documenting the allocation and expenditure of the grant funds and any interest earned thereon.



**NOTE: Grant recipients will be required to review and consent to NYL Foundation's terms and conditions prior to receiving their grant payments.**

*School Grief Reach Grants – One- and Two-Year Grants*

- ✦ **\$150,000 (two years only/\$75K annually):** Only organizations with the minimum annual organizational budget of \$375,000 will be eligible to apply for this grant level. This grant is reserved for organizations partnering with large or multiple school districts (more than thirty schools)
- ✦ **\$100,000 (two years only/\$50K annually):** Only organizations with minimum annual organizational budgets of \$250,000 will be eligible to apply for this grant level. This grant is reserved for organizations partnering with medium or multiple school districts (more than twenty schools)
- ✦ **\$50,000 (two years only/\$25K annually):** Only organizations with minimum annual organizational budgets of \$125,000 will be eligible to apply for this grant level. This grant is reserved for organizations partnering with at least ten schools.
- ✦ **\$20,000 (one year only):** Only organizations with minimum annual organizational budgets of \$100,000 will be eligible to apply for this grant level.

*Schools that can be included in the partner count are all schools from Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade.*

Reporting requirements:

Reporting Requirements	
July 15th, 2022	Progress Report Due for all grants
January 15th, 2023	Progress Report Due for all grants
July 15th, 2023	Final Report Due for one-year grants, progress report for two-year grants
January 15th, 2024	Progress Report Due for two-year grants.
July 15th, 2024	Final Report due for two-year grants



## FAQs

- **Which grant should I apply for?**  
*This depends on the size of your organization and the size of the school district(s) you plan to partner with. For example, if you have a budget of more than \$375 budget but only plan on partnering with ten schools, then you are only eligible for the \$50,000 grant (\$25,000 over two years)*
- **Can I apply for more than one grant and only receive one?**  
*You may only apply for one grant at a time.*
- **Can I still apply if my current grant is over, but my final report has not been completed?**  
*You must wait until your final report has been submitted to apply for a new grant.*
- **When is my application due?**  
*Monday, December 20th, 2021, at 8 p.m. E.T.*
- **We are an organization of volunteers. Can we apply?**  
*Your organization must have at least one paid employee to qualify for this grant.*
- **Can I partner with another organization for this grant?**  
*Yes! We love to see collaborations for these grants. (The nonprofit provider of the bereavement service will be the recipient of funds)*
- **What are examples of Partnerships?**  
*For this grant, in particular, we want to see you partner with your local school district. We do, however, welcome other partnerships in addition, including but not limited to after-school clubs, churches, or other community organizations.*
- **What are some examples of documentation from my partners that could support my application?**  
*Some examples could be letters of support, letters of intent, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), or other documentation showing that both parties approve the partnership.*
- **I don't currently have an evaluation tool. Can I still apply?**  
*Yes! We welcome your application, but if approved, we will work with you to ensure that an evaluation is put into place.*



- **Does location restrict these grants?**  
*Grief Reach grants are open to any nonprofit serving bereaved children within the U.S.*
- **My organization is not a nonprofit, but we are looking to partner with a nonprofit to provide bereavement services. Can we apply?**  
*Only nonprofits are eligible to apply. Your organization can partner with a nonprofit, but your nonprofit must be the applicant.*
- **If we've received one grief reach grant previously, are we allowed to apply again?**  
*Yes, as long as your grief reach grant is complete and your final report has been turned in.*