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ISSUE

A HEARTWARMING BOOK DRIVE
Inspired by Emma Lily and her love for reading

BOARD LETTERBrought to you by Frances Gonzalez

COUNSELOR'S CORNER
Internships at the Center

▶ **HEARTS IN HARMONY**A heartfelt evening of inspiration, entertainment, and giving

VOLUNTEERING & DONATING *Making a significant impact*





Save THE Date

TOUR OF THE HEART

Join our staff for a tour of the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas at 11:00 am on the first Friday of every month.

Please register here:

give.cbcst.org/touroftheheart

PRIL 4, 2024
FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP
BRUNCH

9:30 am - 11:30 am RSVP for this event at **give.cbcst.org/beafriend**



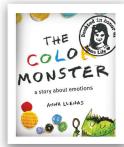
NOVEMBER 21
CHILDREN'S GRIEF
AWARENESS DAY

Wear blue to help raise awareness for children's grief.



AHeartwarming BOOK DRIVE

In the spirit of love and remembrance, Jennifer and Andrew, parents who have been deeply touched by the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas, embarked on a heartwarming journey to honor their daughter, Emma Lily. Since losing Emma, their vibrant and beloved daughter, the family has found solace and strength in celebrating her life in a meaningful way. Their special tradition is to hold an annual book drive in Emma's memory, coinciding with her birthday on October 10th. Emma's passion for reading and learning inspired her family to collect books to donate to children's organizations across our community, creating a legacy of compassion and kindness that continues to shine brightly. The Center was fortunate enough to be selected as the most recent beneficiary of the Guzman Family's kindness.



As Emma's sisters, Eliana and Sophia, grow older, the book drive serves as a touching reminder of the special bond they share with their sister, keeping her spirit alive through the joy of reading and giving back to others.

This beautiful initiative not only honors Emma's memory but also embodies the resilience and love that define the remarkable families we have the privilege to serve at the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas.



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Hearts in Harmony 2024



The **Hearts in Harmony Gala** is always more than just an event—
it is a testament to the incredible power of community and
compassion. On this special night, our community comes
together to make a difference in the lives of grieving
children and families we serve.

With hearts full of hope, guests enjoyed an evening of inspiration, entertainment, and giving. The generosity displayed was truly overwhelming, and we are deeply grateful to each and every person who contributed to the coess of our gala.

Thanks to your unwavering support, we can ensure that no child walks the painful journey of grief alone. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for making the Hearts in Harmony Gala an unforgettable night filled with love and hope for a brighter tomorrow for all those grieving the loss of a loved one. Together, we are making a real difference in the lives of those we serve.



Volunteering/Donating to The Center

Giving back to the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas through the gift of time is invaluable. Whether collecting items from our wishlist or serving as a potluck partner, every minute spent supporting our mission means so much to the families we serve. It's a tangible way to show these families that they are not alone in their grief journey. Your time and effort make a significant impact, providing comfort, support, and a sense of community during their darkest moments. Together, we can make a difference and ensure that no child or family ever has to face their grief alone.

Reach out to our Community Engagement Manager, Ben Sanchez, for more information about how you can get involved! Ben can be reached at 210-736-4847 x 249 or at bsanchez@cbcst.org.







Board Letter, FRANCES GONZALEZ

Dear Friends,

Spring is upon us! I'm excited to share some updates from the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas. This year, we are expanding our counseling programs to serve more children, enhancing outreach efforts across our communities, and strategically growing the Center's operations.

With each enhancement we continue to need your support—through the gift of your time and financial support. Your generosity fuels our mission to provide comfort, healing, and hope to grieving children and families. Our dedicated volunteers are the backbone to the Center's operations, and we need more of you to help whether it's the gift of a potluck dinner or camp and summer activities support.

Looking ahead to the rest of the year, we have several exciting projects and initiatives in the pipeline that will make The Center even more of a respite for our families. We remain grateful for the opportunity to provide a place of healing in our community and it's all thanks to you! With a lot of work ahead, we are ready to move forward with open arms, hearts, and grace so that the path for healing is realized.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication. Together, let's make 2024 a year of meaningful change and support for our community.

Warm Regards,

Frances Gonzalez



COUNSELOR'S CORNER: Internships at the Center

The Children's Bereavement Center offers a variety of services to foster hope and healing for grieving families. For the Center to provide caring support for all the families who request services, we require additional helping hearts. The Children's Bereavement Center offers internship opportunities to Master or Doctoral level students working towards becoming therapists or social workers in Texas. Students from many San Antonio campuses and other Universities will seek out our Center to support our mission. We often accept 10 students into our internship program who will

support our individual services, peer support groups, and therapeutic camps. These students grow and develop knowledge regarding grief and bereavement, all while establishing a foundation of counseling skills to utilize as they continue into their licensure.

With the help of our wonderful students and all they contribute to our Center, we can serve more children and their families. Each student can often support up to 8 clients in individual services and help facilitate our adult groups during peer support group nights. With their increased skill sets, students offer additional areas of growth for our Center. Additionally, our students can support our program staff and their peers, with some of our students offering training regarding the specialized skills they obtained throughout their schooling. We are deeply grateful for the students who have supported and continue supporting the Center's mission.

If you or anyone you know is interested in an internship with the Children's Bereavement Center, please visit our website to learn more about the hard work and care our students provide. We would love to have new students join our team and show the magic the Center brings to families.

Kayla Davis, LPC

Internship Coordinator | Program Therapist

GET YOUR Fiesta Medal!

Don't forget to grab your 2024 CBCST Fiesta Medals!

Party with a purpose and show your support for the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas by purchasing our exclusive fiesta medals. For a \$10 donation, you can snag this must-have Fiesta accessory and help fund our grief support programs.

Join us in spreading joy and compassion while making a difference in the lives of grieving children and families. Swing by the Center today to get your medals, and *Let's Fiesta!*



Lasting Legacy

AND SUPPORT A GRIEVING CHILD TODAY!

cbcstlegacy.org



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