

Bereavement Services Summer/Early Fall 2025 Calendar

The David and June Pelkey Grief Education Series

Presentations designed to support people on their journey of grief

Registration is required • Workshops take place via Zoom •

Grief Journaling

Tuesdays • July 8, 15, 22, 29 6:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m. Debra Oryzysyn • 212-609-1929 Debra.Oryzysyn@vnshealth.org

Bereavement Creative Arts Support Group

Each meeting will focus on the grief journey of group members, as told through the creative arts. No artistic skills required and a list of art materials will be provided for each suggestion.

Thursdays • July 10, August 14, September 18, October 16, November 13, and December 11

11:00 a.m. — 12:15 p.m.

Rosanne Sonatore • 646-276-4399 Rosanne.Sonatore@vnshealth.org

Summer Labyrinth Walk

Wednesday • July 23

5:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.

Debra Oryzysyn • 212-609-1929

Debra.Oryzysyn@vnshealth.org



Saturday Matinee

A monthly film series to support you in the grieving process

Saturdays • Dates TBD

1:30 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Debra Oryzysyn • 212-609-1929

Debra.Oryzysyn@vnshealth.org



Book Club: We Were Made for These Times

Ten Lessons for Moving Through Change, Loss and Disruption

Wednesdays • September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29,

November 5, 12, 19

12:00 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.

Jean Metzker • 917-331-7819 • Text or email preferred

Jean.Metzker@vnshealth.org

Please register by Monday September 8th

Paths to Peace – A Healing Modality Series

Saturdays • October 11 – Self-Care and Rituals,

October 18 – Reiki and October 25 – Mindfulness

Meditation and Labyrinth Walk

10:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.

Debra Oryzysyn • 212-609-1929

Debra.Oryzysyn@vnshealth.org

Note: Dates may be subject to change

How Long Does Grief Last?

Thursday • October 2

6:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

Willis Partington • 718-715-5320

Willis.Partington@vnshealth.org

Fall Labyrinth Walk

Saturday • October 4

9:30 a.m.

Debra Oryzysyn • 212-609-1929

Debra.Oryzysyn@vnshealth.org



Mindfulness Based Grief Reduction: A full day silent retreat

Finding Peace • 16 Breathing Exercises

Sunday • November 9

1:30 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.

Jean Metzker • 917-331-7819 • Text or email preferred

Jean.Metzker@vnshealth.org

Learning to meditate and to find peace and calmness in the process often results in grieving that lets go of anxiety helping the grieving process have purpose.

Stress Management and Self-Care in Grief

Tuesday • December 16

6:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

Debra Oryzysyn • 212-609-1929

Debra.Oryzysyn@vnshealth.org

VNS Health Hospice Care
Willis.Partington@vnshealth.org

Bereavement Services Summer/Early Fall 2025 Calendar

Seasons of Life Support Groups

Registration is required • Groups take place via Zoom •

Weekly (Ongoing) Groups

Chinese-Language Bereavement Support

善別輔導小組

Tuesdays • 2:30 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.

Pamela Yew Schwartz • 347-831-1811

Pamela.Schwartz@vnshealth.org

For Adults Grieving the Death of a Loved One

Tuesdays • 6:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.Willis Partington • 718-715-5320
Willis.Partington@vnshealth.org

Bi-Weekly Groups

For Spouses and Partners in the First Year Who Are Grieving the Death of a Hospice Patient

This Zoom group is ongoing

Mondays • July 7, 21, August 11, 25, September 8, 22, and October 13, 27
11:00 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.
Gregory Smith 646-952-1123
Gregory.Smith@vnshealth.org

For Adults Grieving the Death of a Loved One More than One Year

Mondays • July 7, 21, August 4, 18, September 8, 15, and October 6, 20
12:00 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Dianna Sandiford • 646-430-4125
Dianna.Sandiford@vnshealth.org

Men Coping with Grief

Mondays • July 7, 21, August 4, 19, September 8, 29, and October 13, 27
6:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.
Willis Partington • 718-715-5320
Willis.Partington@vnshealth.org

Grupo de Soporte para Hispanos

"Construyendo un Puente hacia una Vida Nueva" (Spanish Bereavement Group)

Thursdays • September 11, 25, October 9, 23 1:30 p.m. — 3:00 p.m. Liz Santana • 917-608-7220 Elizabeth.Santana@vnshealth.org

Special Topic

Art as a Pathway to Healing

Thursdays • October 9, 16, 23, 30 and November 6, 13 2:00 p.m.—3:30 p.m.



This fall, The Museum of Modern Art, in Partnership with **VNS Health Hospice Care**, invites you to join regularly scheduled in-person programs at the Museum, Learn

about art and meet new people through interactive sessions that will explore different artists and themes in modern and contemporary art. No prior experience necessary! Space is limited and preregistration required. This program is open to individuals who have had loved ones in VNS Health Hospice Care, and participated in the bereavement program. First time participants will be given priority. For more information or to register, e-mail primetime@moma.org.

Bereavement Services Summer/Early Fall 2025 Calendar

Seasons of Life Support Groups

• Registration is required • Groups take place via Zoom •

Monthly Groups

For Adults Grieving the Death of a Brother or Sister Mondays • June 23, July 21, August 18, September 15, and October 20

6:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m. Alison Reynoso • 347-753-7687 Alison.Reynoso@vnshealth.org

Loss of an Adult Child

For Parents Grieving the Death of an Adult Child Wednesdays • July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8 1:00 p.m. — 2:30 p.m. Pamela Yew Schwartz • 347-831-1811 Pamela.Schwartz@vnshealth.org

Focused Groups

LGBTQ+ and Allies Bereavement Group Book Club – *Bearing the Unbearable*

Thursdays • July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, and August 7 4:30 p.m.—5:30 p.m. Jean Metzker • 917-331-7819 • Text or email preferred Jean.Metzker@vnshealth.org

For Adults Grieving the Death of a Spouse or Partner Tuesdays • September 16, 23, 30 and October 7, 14, 21 6:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

Debra Oryzysyn • 212-609-1929

Debra.Oryzysyn@vnshealth.org

For Adults Grieving the Death of a Parent
Tuesdays • November 4, 11, 18, 25 and December 2, 9
6:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.
Debra Oryzysyn • 212-609-1929
Debra.Oryzysyn@vnshealth.org



Group Testimonial

"When I was knocked out by grief the group got me back on my feet."

—E.G.



Group Testimonial

"The group gives me a safe place to tell my story and learn from others."

—W.B



Group Testimonial

"Throughout the week, I often find myself reflecting on what was said by others or what wasn't said by me."
—W.B.



Group Testimonial

"My journey through the grieving process is evolving with the help and support of our Men's Group."

—G.В.



Group Testimonial

"Being able to listen and share my deepest feelings with a group of peers was healing."

—J.S.