# OUTLINE

# THE JOURNEY OF GRIEF

- Models for understanding grief Older, familiar models Current theories and approaches
- Grief expressions Emotional and cognitive Physical manifestations Behavioral
- Social behaviors and societal reactions
- Predictors and mediators of the experience Background: grief is highly individual Personality and other vulnerability factors Who died; guality of relationship
- Social, contextual and cultural influences
- Mode of death
- Other influences
- Non-death losses

## ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSIS OF GRIEF **RELATED SYMPTOMS**

- Differential diagnosis between depression, grief and PTSD
- · Persistent complex bereavement disorder
- Use of adjustment disorder diagnosis with grief clients
- Measurement/assessment of grief symptoms

# WHEN GRIEF BECOMES COMPLICATED

- Common trajectories for grief
- What is "complicated" grief and how do you recognize it?
- Treatment interventions for complicated grief

## **Target Audience:**

Psychologists • Psychiatrists • Counselors Marriage and Family Therapists • Social Workers Pastoral Counselors • Chaplains/Clergy Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners • Mental Health Nurses Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors

# **OBJECTIVES**

- 1. Articulate current models for conceptualizing grief and how these influence treatment planning.
- 2. Analyze and differentiate clinical symptoms to diagnose grief clients appropriately.
- 3. Implement functional interventions for grief counseling adaptable to use with any clients.
- 4. Demonstrate three new interventions to use with bereaved clients.
- 5. Determine when grief has become "complicated" and develop an appropriate treatment strategy.
- 6. Develop strategies of self-awareness and self-care for grief counselors as it relates to clinical practice.

# TREATMENT STRATEGIES AND **FUNCTIONAL INTERVENTIONS**

- Grief counseling
- How is it different from other types of counselina?
- Who often benefits (and who may not)? Components of a general approach The 3 Rogerian conditions
- Power of presence Being a companion/therapist for your
- grief clients Cross-cultural and other diversity considerations
- Dealing with emotional intensity
- Grief vs. trauma
- When clients' grief is disenfranchised
- Working with couples or families who have experienced the "same" loss
- Preparing for grief "spikes"
- Post-traumatic growth

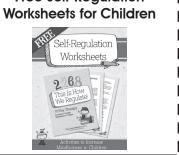
# **BEING A GRIEF COUNSELOR**

- The risks and joys of this work
- Self-awareness
- Self-care
- Training opportunities in this field LIMITATIONS OF THE RESEARCH AND
- POTENTIAL RISKS Disparity in results across studies for grief Risk factors for complicated grief

# Live Seminar Schedule

- 7:30 Registration/Morning Coffee & Tea 8:00 Program begins
- 11:50-1:00 Lunch (on your own) 4:00 Program ends
- There will be two 15-min breaks (mid-morning & mid-afternoon). Actual lunch and break start times are at the discretion of the speaker. A more detailed schedule is available upon request.

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- grief and non-death losses

- Discover recent research that upends everything we thought we knew about grief
- Differentiate between complicated grief, disenfranchised

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# COUNSELING GRIEF CLIENTS

FUNCTIONAL INTERVENTIONS FOR EVERYDAY USE



- Explore factors influencing grief severity
- Identify whether symptoms indicate grief, PTSD, depression, or persistent complex bereavement disorder
- Apply a counseling approach adaptable for use with any grief client

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# COUNSELING GRIEF CLIENTS:

FUNCTIONAL INTERVENTIONS FOR EVERYDAY USE

Clinicians often struggle to develop an effective approach to counseling grief clients due to the uniqueness of each individual's grief. The last 10-15 years have seen an explosion of new research in the field and many new studies have turned what we thought we knew on its head.

Explore this new research about appropriate diagnosis of grief clients, ideas for how to assess grief severity and related constructs, and clarification about what is meant by "complicated grief." Review the most commonly used current models for understanding grief and leave with tools, including 20 interventions, to more confidently assist clients in navigating the adaptive, yet confusing and difficult, grief process. The seminar will end with a focus on self-care, discussing how to appropriately manage and care for ourselves in this demanding, yet fulfilling, work.

# SPEAKER

JOY R. SAMUELS, D.MIN., LPC-MHSP, NCC, has over 25 years' experience as a licensed professional counselor, Fellow in Thanatology, chaplain, and ordained minister. She teaches in the graduate clinical mental health psychology department at Lipscomb University and at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in the United Methodist Church Course of Studies. She maintains a private counseling practice and supervises those seeking licensure as a LPC-MHSP.

Dr. Samuels holds D. MIN. and MDIV. degrees from Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC. Additionally, she holds an M.S. degree in counseling psychology from California State University, Northridge, CA, and a counseling certificate in substance abuse from the Northern Virginia Community College, Annadale, VA. Among her areas of expertise are individual, couples and family counseling, trauma and bereavement and post-masters supervision.

Speaker Disclosures

Financial: Joy Samuels is in private practice. She is an adjunct faculty at Lipscomb University. Dr. Samuels receives a speaking honorarium from PESI. Inc. Non-financial: Joy Samuels is a Fellow in Thanatology

"Dr. Samuels beautifully holds a balance between extensive knowledge and deep compassion. I grew as a professional and as a human being as a result of my work with her. She draws out the best."

Vanessa, LPC-MHSP

"Dr. Samuels' presentation and guidance during the class helped me navigate difficult ministry challenges with my grieving parishioners."

**Rev. Sandra** 

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If your profession is not listed, please contact your licensing board to determine your continuing education requirements and check for reciprocal approval. For other credit inquiries not specified below, or questions on home study credit availability, please contact cepesi@pesi.com or 800-844-8260 before the event. Materials that are included in this course may include interventions and modalities that are beyond the authorized practice of mental health professionals. As a licensed professional, you are responsible for reviewing the scope of practice, including activities that are defined in law as beyond the boundaries of practice in accordance with and in compliance with your profession's standards

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