



The National Grief Center
for Children & Families

2026 INTERNATIONAL SUMMER INSTITUTE



July 20 - 24, 2026
Portland, Oregon

Join Dougy Center's knowledgeable staff for an opportunity to learn the basics about The Dougy Center Model, a world-renowned peer grief support model for children, teens, and their families. You'll be joined by dynamic colleagues from across the United States and beyond who plan to implement The Dougy Center Model in their community.



LEARN HOW TO:

1. Implement The Dougy Center Model in your community, including an overview of philosophies, best practices, and procedures
2. Identify the core principles and tenets of grief-informed best practices
3. Develop self-awareness of personal beliefs, biases, and attitudes about loss and grief to effectively support children, teens, and families who are grieving
4. Gain an understanding about the needs of children, teens, and families who are grieving
5. Develop skills in reflection, awareness, communication, and group facilitation
6. Offer a peer grief support group based on The Dougy Center Model to meet the needs of children, teens, and families in your community who are grieving

WHO SHOULD ATTEND THIS TRAINING:

- Individuals/organizations who would like to start a peer grief support program for children, teens, and their families based on The Dougy Center Model
- New staff or current staff at existing programs utilizing The Dougy Center Model who would like a "refresher" course
- Individuals/organizations who are undecided, but wish to explore and learn more about The Dougy Center Model

The Dougy Center Model is founded on addressing the needs of youth who are grieving, based on research, 44 years of experience, and best practices. The 90-minute, biweekly, year-round support groups are facilitated by a minimum of three adult facilitators (staff and/or volunteers) who agree to meet for a one-hour pre-meeting and one-hour post-meeting, requiring a three-and-a-half-hour commitment per group. Please note that the training is geared to program delivery specifics, and does not cover administrative, financial, fundraising, or organizational policies or procedures of running a grief support program.

Dates:

July 20-24, 2026

Location:

Portland, Oregon

Times:

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily

Tuition:

\$1,850*

Continental breakfast, lunch, and snacks will be provided daily.

Information on lodging facilities, transportation, and "things to do" in Portland will be mailed with your letter of acceptance.

*Receive \$100 off regular tuition by paying in full prior to May 31, 2026, or receive a \$400 discount (\$200 off per participant) by registering two or more attendees from the same organization.

To register, visit

dougy.org/2026application.

For inquiries, please email Dougy Center's training team at training@dougy.org.