

About "Connections"

Connections: *Dealing with Trauma and Loss* is a new specialized therapeutic service offered by Friendship House to help children, and their families overcome the long-term effects often associated with serious forms of trauma or grief and loss.

Trauma, or "post traumatic stress," can result from crime, physical or emotional abuse, natural disaster or accidental injury. Feelings of loss can be associated with the death of a loved one, divorce, chronic or terminal illness, separation from family, even the death of a beloved pet.

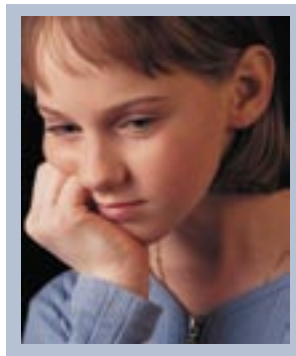
Connections helps children express their anger, fears, anxiety and confusion about life-changing challenges, whether from a traumatic event or living situation, or a loss which leaves them "grief-stricken."

Through counseling, young people can learn coping skills to help them feel more comfortable with expressing sad and devastating feelings. By expressing these feelings, they can regain a positive, healthy childhood.

Treatment Principles

Friendship House believes:

- Specialized therapy by certified staff immediately following trauma or serious loss has a positive impact on a child's future well-being
- Every child deserves the opportunity to recover in a supportive and understanding environment
- Grief is a natural reaction to trauma or loss
- Within each child is a natural capacity to heal
- The duration and intensity of trauma or loss are unique for each child
- Caring and acceptance assists the healing process



Treatment Therapies

Trauma and grief counseling includes individual, group, and family counseling, education and training, consultation and resources. As needed, these services are provided to children and families already involved in the Friendship House continuum of care, as well as those children referred from the community.

Children who may benefit from trauma and loss counseling

- Children who have experienced, witnessed, or have been confronted by an event involving actual or threatened death or serious injury
- Children who have distressing recall of a traumatic event including thoughts, dreams, or flashbacks
- Children who experience distress at exposure to cues relating to the event or loss
- Children who avoid people or places reminiscent of the traumatic event or loss
- Those who exhibit the following signs following a traumatic experience or serious loss:
 - depression
 - loneliness
 - loss of appetite
 - anxiety and fear
 - feelings of guilt
 - lack of interest in activities
 - difficulty sleeping
 - anger
 - inability to concentrate
 - problems at home or school

To Refer a Child for Trauma or Grief Counseling

For a detailed discussion of services, or for questions or concerns: please call

Jennifer Aglioloro, Program Manager,
at 570-342-8305, Ext. 1075

JAglioloro@FriendshipHousePA.org

To refer a child for Friendship House services call
Kim Fierro, Client Service Specialist
at 570-342-8305, Ext. 1047

KFierro@FriendshipHousePA.org

Medical Assistance/Access Card accepted.
Call for information on private insurance coverage.
Fees for services are based on income level.

Friendship House...Serving Children & Families Since 1871

Friendship House, a not-for-profit organization headquartered in Scranton, is one of Northeastern Pennsylvania's oldest and largest providers of children's behavioral healthcare. Founded in 1871, Friendship House offers a full continuum of mental health services for children from infancy to adolescence who face emotional challenges and behavioral problems. Services are provided in Scranton at the Frances Fuller Campus, and in Honesdale, as well as in the home, school and community, through day, after-school and evening programs and autism services. Scranton services also include residential and foster care and adoption.

Robert H. Angeloni, President



Connections: Dealing with Trauma & Loss

Your child may need help if he or she has experienced serious trauma or loss including:

- criminal assault
- physical or emotional abuse
- sexual abuse
- accidental injury
- natural disasters
- death of a loved-one
- death of a beloved pet
- divorce
- chronic or terminal illness
- separation from family members
- other serious life-changing event

Friendship House Scranton
1615 E. Elm Street, PO Box 3778
Scranton, PA 18505
570-342-8305

Friendship House Wayne County
190 Delaware St., P.O. Box 1008
Honesdale, PA 18431
570-253-6913

www.FriendshipHousePA.org

Friendship House
HELPING CHILDREN TODAY FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW
 P.O. Box 3778
 1615 E. Elm St.
 Scranton, PA 18505




Friendship House

Connections: Dealing with Trauma & Loss

Trauma & Grief Counseling for Children and Families

*A specialized therapeutic service
for children and families
who have experienced physical
or emotional trauma or personal loss*

In partnership with



**The Blue Ribbon Foundation
of BlueCross of Northeastern Pennsylvania**

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*THE ROBERT Y. MOFFAT FAMILY
CHARITABLE TRUST*

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Catalyst for Community