

**New Member Form** 

Welcome to Pet Loss & Grief Education sessions are hosted by Brown Veterinary Services and Grief Educator, Angelina Bellebuono in Monroe, Ga. These events are to support current clients, fellow vet med professionals, and other community members seeking a safe space for support and healing. This is a space designed for community and connection with others that are navigating life with a chronically ill pet, ones that have recently lost a beloved furry family member, and anyone in the veterinary community struggling with emotional numbness and specific loss.

# **Primary Contact Info:**

Name:			
Address:			<u> </u>
City:		Zip:	
Primary #:	_ Secondary #:		<u> </u>
Email:			
How did you hear about us?			
<b>Emergency Contact:</b>			
Name:	Primary #:		
Relationship:		_	



# Waiver/ Release of Liability for Pet Loss & Grief Education

This Waiver/Release of Liability ("Agreement") is entered into on this \_\_\_\_\_\_(Date), by and between Brown Veterinary Services LLC and Angelina Bellebuono (hereinafter referred to as "Educator") with the undersigned participant ("Participant").

# 1. Purpose of the Group

The Educator is providing grief education services and support through community groups. These services are designed to assist individuals in processing grief, loss, and emotional distress through education, discussion, and support. The services are not a substitute for professional therapy or counseling.

# 2. Assumption of Risk

Participant acknowledges that engaging in grief support group sessions can evoke strong emotional reactions and may be emotionally challenging. By participating, the Participant voluntarily assumes all risks associated with these emotional reactions, including but not limited to distress, anxiety, or other emotional responses.

# 3. No Medical or Psychological Treatment

Participant acknowledges and agrees that the Educator is not providing any medical or psychological treatment or therapy. The group is intended solely as a peer support group and educational resource for individuals experiencing grief or loss. If Participant feels they require professional psychological, psychiatric, or medical support, it is their responsibility to seek such care from a licensed provider.

# 4. Confidentiality

Participants in the group are expected to respect each other's privacy and confidentiality in group sessions as well as outside of group sessions. However, the Educator cannot guarantee complete confidentiality as it is subject to legal exceptions such as risk of harm to self or others, or other mandated disclosures. By signing this agreement, the Participant agrees to maintain confidentiality regarding other participants and the content of the group, to the extent permissible by law.

#### 5. Release of Liability

To the fullest extent permitted by law, Participant hereby releases, waives, discharges, and agrees to hold harmless the Educator, their agents, employees, volunteers, or any other associated parties, from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions, or causes of action arising out of or related to the Participant's involvement in the grief support group. This includes any emotional distress, personal injury, or damage to property that may occur during participation, even if caused by the negligence of the Educator or others involved.

#### 6. Acknowledgment of Understanding

Participant acknowledges that they have read and fully understand the terms of this Waiver/Release of Liability. Participant understands that by signing this document, they are waiving certain legal rights, including the right to sue the Educator or associated parties.

#### 7. Governing Law

This Agreement will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the state or jurisdiction in which the group is held.

#### 8. Consent to Participate

By signing below, Participant confirms that they have voluntarily chosen to participate in the grief support group and agree to the terms and conditions outlined in this Agreement. By signing below, Participant also confirms that they are at least the age of 18 years or older to participate in the group activities.

# Participant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Name (Print):	Date:	
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# **Additional Resources**

Pet Loss & Grief Education with Brown Veterinary Services LLC is not an emergency service, but a supportive opportunity for individuals to seek local resources in their time of loss. Here's a list of resources for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis, including national and local options. These resources offer help in case of an emergency, or can connect people to mental health professionals and support networks:

# 1. National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (USA)

- **Phone**: 988 (Dial 988 for immediate support)
- Website: <u>988lifeline.org</u>
- Text: Text "HELLO" to 741741 for text support from a trained crisis counselor.

# 2. Local Emergency Services (USA)

- **Phone**: 911 (For emergencies and immediate assistance)
- Website: <u>911.gov</u>
- **Description**: For individuals in acute crisis requiring immediate attention or intervention.

# 3. Crisis Text Line

- **Phone**: Text "HELLO" to 741741 (available 24/7)
- Website: crisistextline.org

# 4. National Helpline for Mental Health (SAMHSA)

- **Phone**: 1-800-662-HELP (1-800-662-4357)
- Website: samhsa.gov
- **Description**: Provides free, confidential 24/7 support and treatment referral.

# 5. Mental Health America (MHA)

- Phone: 1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255) (Lifeline)
- Website: <u>mhanational.org</u>

• **Text**: Text "HELLO" to 741741 for text-based support.

# 6. NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

- **Phone**: 1-800-950-NAMI (1-800-950-6264)
- Website: <u>nami.org</u>
- Text: Text "NAMI" to 741741 for crisis support.

# 7. Online Therapy and Support Services

- BetterHelp: <u>betterhelp.com</u>
- Talkspace: <u>talkspace.com</u>
- 7 Cups: <u>7cups.com</u>

# **Key Points:**

- If someone is in immediate danger, dial 911 or your country's emergency number.
- **Confidential and accessible resources**: Text services and helplines are available for individuals who need support in a non-urgent, yet still crucial, time.
- **Therapists and professionals**: Many therapists offer virtual support, so seeking out help can be easier than ever.

Always remember that mental health support is available in a time of need, and reaching out is the first step toward getting help.