



## **Tuesday's Children Receives \$1.2 Million Grant from the New York Life Foundation to Combat Unprecedented Magnitude of Parent and Caregiver Loss during Pandemic**

***The Grant Will Build Capacity for Communities to Address Childhood Bereavement from COVID-19.***

***1 in 450 Children in the U.S. Have Lost a Parent or Primary Caregiver in the Pandemic. Over 167,000 Children Nationwide, Nearly 13,000 Children in New York State with COVID-19 Losses, Four Times as Many as Those Who Lost Parents on 9/11.***

**Manhasset, NY – January 26, 2022** – The national non-profit [Tuesday's Children](#), which recently marked its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and was formed in the aftermath of Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> to help families impacted by terrorism, military conflict or mass violence, was awarded a three-year \$1.2 million grant by the [New York Life Foundation](#) to help build resilience, common bonds and long-term healing in communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In partnership with the New York Life Foundation and other national and local community partners, Tuesday's Children will use the grant to build the capacity of youth-serving community providers to support children in the U.S. who have lost a parent or primary caregiver in the pandemic. Thus far during the pandemic, more than 167,000 U.S. children lost a parent or caregiver, with children of color accounting for a disproportionate number of the children who suffered such a loss, according to a [report](#) by the COVID Collaborative.

The New York Life Foundation has also recently released their inaugural "[State of Grief](#)" Report, outlining that Americans want a more open dialogue around death and loss with nearly two-thirds of adults (64%) saying the pandemic has greatly underscored the nation's need for more bereavement support. The study also outlines that schools have a critical support role to play with 71% of parents saying schools should give more information and guidance on how to help kids through traumatic events.

"While the pandemic has amplified the conversations around mental health, death, grief and trauma, the need for strong support, especially for children, has always been critical. Now, as we confront our collective grief from COVID-19, the need to strengthen our systems of support by building the capacity of youth-serving community providers across the country is urgent," said **Maria Collins, Vice President, New York Life Foundation**. "Our continued partnership with Tuesday's Children will help service providers to obtain best practices and resources to support the overwhelming number of those that lost a parent or primary caregiver in the pandemic, in particular minority communities that have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19."

"We are honored to receive this grant from the New York Life Foundation which will help to continue our ongoing mission and provide long-term healing and resilience-building support to communities and individuals impacted by terrorism, military conflict, mass violence, and now to meet emerging needs in response to COVID-19. While the long-term impact of the pandemic is still undefined, the needs are significant. This is an unprecedented magnitude of loss, eclipsing the worst tragedies of recent generations, and it warrants a comparatively wide-scale comprehensive, long-term response effort to

build the capacity of service providers to address rising needs in communities across the U.S. and around the globe,” said **Terry Sears, Executive Director of Tuesday’s Children.**

In the United States, roughly 1 in 450 children, over 167,000, have lost a parent or primary caregiver due to COVID-19, states the COVID Collaborative report released in December 2021. **In New York State, nearly 13,000 children have lost a parent or primary caregiver, over four times as many as lost a parent on 9/11.** Seventy percent of the children who experienced caregiver loss nationwide are 13 or younger. The rates of caregiver loss are nearly 4 times higher among American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian ethnicities and 2.5 times higher among Black and Latino children than among White children. Half of all caregiver losses due to COVID-19 were in California, Florida, Georgia, New York, and Texas.

The grant activities will focus on New York and key communities throughout the U.S. that have experienced high concentrations of loss, expanding in scope over the course of the project to replicate the capacity building model nationwide.

In this multi-year project, Tuesday’s Children and the New York Life Foundation will convene community leaders from multiple sectors to close significant gaps in 1) knowledge relating to the long-term needs of those impacted by trauma and loss; 2) training of key service providers to address those needs; and 3) funding to ensure the sustainability of support services. The New York Life Foundation and Tuesday’s Children together will also leverage key relationships in nonprofit, academic, corporate, government and philanthropic circles, to contribute to the establishment of a framework for comprehensive bereavement support.

The New York Life Foundation and Tuesday’s Children have a longstanding partnership in supporting children, families and communities through wide-scale grief and loss. Both organizations have been steadfast resources over the last 20 years for thousands of families bereaved by the 9/11 tragedy. Previous funding from the New York Life Foundation has helped Tuesday’s Children establish the Resiliency Center of Newtown and provide long-term healing support to U.S. communities impacted by mass violence.

For more information on Tuesday’s Children, visit [www.tuesdayschildren.org](http://www.tuesdayschildren.org) or follow [@TuesdaysChildren](https://www.facebook.com/TuesdaysChildren) on Facebook and Twitter and Instagram [@TuesdaysChldrn](https://www.instagram.com/TuesdaysChldrn).

For more information on New York Life, including free bereavement resources, please visit [www.newyorklife.com/foundation](http://www.newyorklife.com/foundation).

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### **ABOUT TUESDAY’S CHILDREN**

Marking its 20<sup>th</sup> year of dedicated service in September 2021, Tuesday’s Children has provided support to over 45,000 individuals impacted by terrorism, military conflict, and mass violence, including supportive services to build resilience in 3,051 children who lost a parent on 9/11; thousands of 9/11 responder families; and 37,000+ families grieving the death of post-9/11 military service members; 6,000+ youth served through their [Career Resource Center](#); and 900+ young adults from 34 countries with Project COMMON BOND.

Tuesday’s Children provides a lifetime of healing for families who have been forever changed by terrorism, military conflict, or mass violence. Through a time-tested, long-term approach, Tuesday’s Children programming serves and supports our nation’s Military Families of the Fallen; builds resilience and common bonds in communities worldwide recovering from tragedies; and keeps the promise to support all those impacted by Tuesday, September 11th. For more information, please visit [www.tuesdayschildren.org](http://www.tuesdayschildren.org).

### **TUESDAY’S CHILDREN’S MEDIA CONTACTS**

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