

GSSI Newsletter: June

From the New York Life Foundation

Hello Grief-Sensitive Schools Initiative® network! As always, our team at the New York Life Foundation appreciates your continued commitment to providing a more Grief Sensitive environment for students in your community. Please see upcoming offerings and resources. With any questions, please email gssi@newyorklife.com.

Please note: In our last newsletter, we shared instructions on how to enroll in a Culturally Informed Responses to Grief and Loss course via SSWAA. Unfortunately, the course has not yet been opened due to technical issues. We are actively working on a solution and will follow up as soon as it is available.

Back to School Toolkit

- We are pleased to share our social media toolkit and guidance document: *Back to School: Remember That Transitions Can Be Tough for Grieving Students*. These resources were developed to help schools navigate the emotional challenges students face as they return to the classroom, ensuring that those grieving a loss feel supported during this significant transition.
- [Back to School: Remember That Transitions Can Be Tough for Grieving Students](#)
- [Social Media Tool Kit](#)

Teacher Training Module: Supporting Grieving Students in Schools

- Teachers, summer break is a great time to gain valuable skills in supporting grieving students with our free teacher training module, available for download [here](#).

Alliance for Young Artists & Writers/Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

- With support from the New York Life Foundation, the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers hosted a [five-week virtual workshop series](#) hosted by the Class of 2025 National Student Poets.
- Each poet hosted one session exploring grief, bereavement, and resilience through the medium of poetry and discussed how themes of grief inform

their own poetic practices, while introducing techniques and methods that participants can integrate into new work.

- Using materials from the workshops, the Alliance will update a classroom guide that will be free and available online. We look forward to sharing more details in the coming months.

First Book Reminder

- Don't miss the chance to redeem your free [First Book](#) Welcome Package with grief, loss, and healing titles for students and families.
- [Link to redemption form](#).

Best regards,

Ella Knibb

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