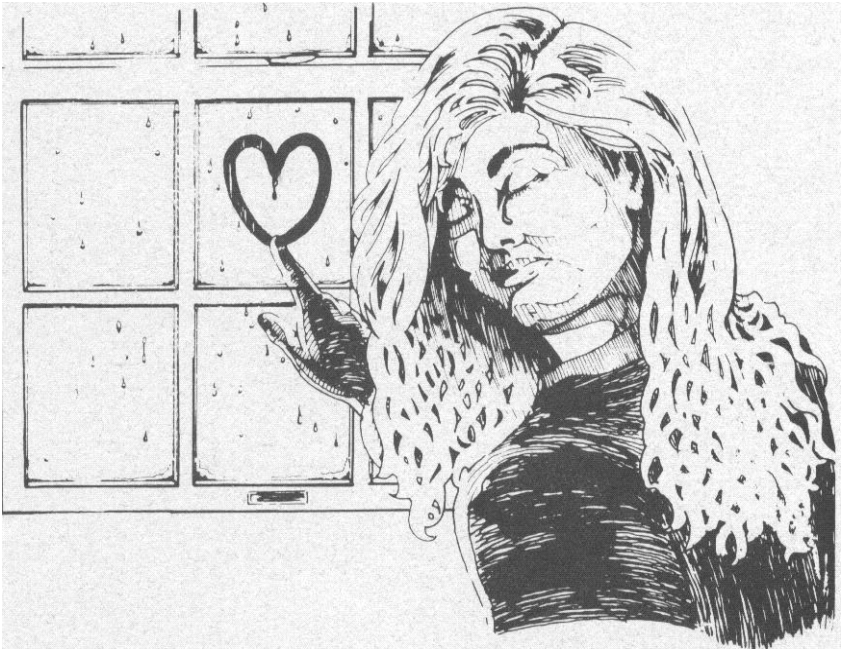


C.O.P.S. KIDS:



COUNSELING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Coping with the Effects of
Law Enforcement
Line-of-Duty Death

A Program of
Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc.
a 501(c)(S) non-profit corporation
Program Revised, April 1996

The Need for C.O.P.S. Kids

- * Between 140 and 160 law enforcement officers are killed in the line of duty each and every year.
- * Estimates indicate that each year between 200 and 300 dependent children will be affected by a police line-of-duty death.
- * Surveys show a significant number of these children and youth will need professional help to cope with their loss.
- * Health insurance coverage for mental health care varies greatly from plan to plan...from full coverage to minimal coverage with spending ceilings and time constraints.

On May 14, 1990, Ronald McDonald Children's Charities (RMCC) provided seed money for Concerns of Police Survivors Inc., to offer financial assistance to dependent-aged children who seek psychological counseling to help them cope with the trauma inflicted on them through the sudden, often violent, loss of their parent to the law enforcement profession. This program provides services to children whose parent was killed in the line of duty since January 1, 1990. Since 1991, the Southeast Police Motorcycle Rodeo Committee has provided over \$117,000 to keep this program alive and funded. This committee is comprised of motorcycle officers from South Florida.

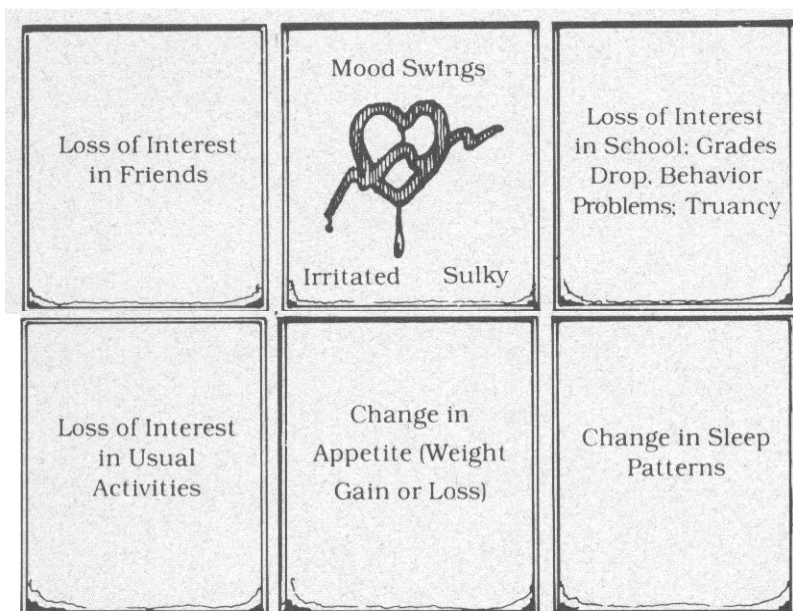
Eligibility

- (1) Any dependent child of a law enforcement officer killed since January 1, 1990, is eligible. Additionally, any child recommended for counseling through the annual May "C.O.P.S. Kids" counseling sessions is eligible for this reimbursement program regardless of the date of the line-of-duty death of the parent.
- (2) C.O.P.S. Kids provides financial assistance to dependent children age 18 years and younger. This eligibility ceases with the child's high school graduation or 19th birthday, whichever comes first.
- (3) The deceased parent must have been a law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty as determined by Federal Government criteria.

Prior to Filing a Claim

- (1) Families will be encouraged to use the services of their law enforcement agency's Psychological Services Unit, if available.
- (2) Should there be other private funding sources available for payment of counseling fees, families are expected to use those resources before filing for reimbursement to the C.O.P.S. Kids Programs.
- (3) Counseling bills should be forwarded to the family's health care carrier for payment. Any unpaid portion for this service should be paid by the family. The family should then bill COPS for out-of-pocket costs for the counseling.
- (4) If health care coverage does not cover psychological counseling, a direct billing procedure between the counselor and COPS can be established.

Warning Signs for Children in Need of Professional Counseling



Warning Signs of Depression in Children

At one time or another most adolescents exhibit any one of these signs. However, the prevalence of several of these warning signs persisting for a period of time is an indicator for parents to seek professional help for their children so it can be determined if there is a serious problem.

Filing a Claim

The child's birth certificate, copies of counseling bills, reimbursement forms from the health insurance provider, and a copy of the family's canceled check and receipt for services should be forwarded to the COPS National Office within one year of the actual counseling.

Reimbursement Limitations

C.O.P.S. Kids will reimburse up to \$2,000 per year per eligible child for three years of out-of-pocket counseling expense. Reimbursement checks will be drawn as expenses are submitted to the COPS National Office.

Reapplying for Additional Assistance

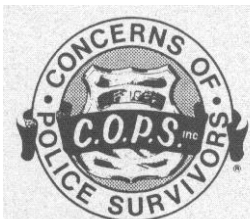
If a child becomes involved with extensive psychological counseling, the family may reapply to C.O.P.S. Kids for additional assistance. Additional financial assistance will be given consideration by the National Board on a case-by-case basis if surplus funds exist in the C.O.P.S. Kids Account.

Any and all information submitted to Concerns of Police Survivors in conjunction with the C.O.P.S. Kids program will be treated as confidential, privileged information. Family surnames and names of children will never be included in any printed report that leaves the C.O.P.S. National Office.

The "C.O.P.S. Kids" also funds two days of counseling and fun activities for the surviving children during National Police Week activities held each May in Washington, D.C. Children attend grief support sessions, build their peer-support group, tour Washington, and play with other surviving children while adults they traveled with attend their adult counseling sessions. Costs of our "C.O.P.S. Kids" May program average \$30,000 per year.

Summer Camp is also a new program that is funded through "C.O.P.S. Kids." Camp is a week-long family adventure where team, self-esteem and confidence-building activities teach families how to address their grief together as a team. COPS' grief camp in 1999 should cost approximately \$25,000.

**For additional information on C.O.P.S. Kids
or to contribute to this program, contact:**



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