Edward’s Trust

Supporting children and families who are facing loss and surviving bereavement.
Yvonne Gilligan
Chief Executive
Supporting People

Edward’s Trust support over 1500 people every year.

Most of the families we support have lost their loved one in sudden traumatic circumstances. Each person experiences grief differently and needs to be supported in a way that is relevant and meaningful to them.
• 2080 children are bereaved of a parent each year in the West Midlands alone

• 668 babies are stillborn or die before their 1st birthday each year in the West Midlands

• 260 children between the ages of 1-19 die each year in the West Midlands

• 1 in 29 school age children in the UK have been bereaved of a parent or sibling – that’s around one in every classroom
What we provide

• Support to parents bereaved, or about to be bereaved, of their son or daughter - whatever the age of their child or cause of death

• Support to anyone affected by the death of a child aged 18 years or under

• Support to children and young people of school age who are bereaved, or are about to be bereaved, of a parent, significant carer, sibling or friend

• Provide a ‘Wellbeing in Bereavement’ service including complementary therapies and respite bereavement care for bereaved parents and carers
Why are we Unique?

Our Holistic approach...
Supporting Children
Supporting Adults
Wellbeing in Bereavement

“Reflexology has given me the skills to relax properly. I was experiencing panic attacks frequently, more than once or twice a day; these are greatly reduced now to maybe a couple a month”

“These Complementary Therapy treatments have made a huge impact on my day to day life...I have strategies to deal with my panic attacks and anxiety. The relaxation techniques and breathing exercises are now a part of my daily life.”
“We share our grief and common experience of losing a beloved child and now have a bond so strong that I feel it will last a lifetime. Our paths, in different circumstances would never have crossed”

“It was so special and has helped me so much by meeting some other mums and being able to share some very precious, helpful time”

“We were treated like royalty and like NEW normal human beings. I will be eternally grateful to every person there”
Remembrance Services

“A lovely memorial service today. It gave me time to just take a moment to remember my daughter away from all the hustle and bustle of the run up to Christmas.”
Talking about the impact of death
Media Coverage

BBC Radio WM – Interview Feature

Global’s Make Some Noise

BBC Midlands Today – Feature

Heart FM – Interview Feature
Fundraising

Tree of Light Gathering
2nd December 2016

Through dance, music and silent auction we gathered together in remembrance.

Edward's Trust
Giving back

Encouraging Edward's Trust
Eight hundred and ninety pounds only.
Our Vision

To be recognised as a leading model of excellence in holistic bereavement care
The difference that WE make

IM HAPPY AGAIN
ILL NEVER FORGET...
NAN WITHOUT BEING SAD

I LEARNED THAT I COULD TALK ABOUT
MY NAN ALWAYS LISTENED. SHE INSPIRED ME.

I BECAME VERY SAD AND VERY CONFUSED. WHY?

WHEN MY NAN DIED I FELT EMPTINESS
When I was ten my father passed away after being in Critical care for 5 weeks.

Upset

Why me? Why my father?

Heartbroken

I was confused about how I felt.

Angry

I never talked about it

Lonely

My counsellor made me feel so safe and comfortable.

It was nice to be able to talk about my father without it ending in tears.

I find it much easier to tell people close to me when I’m down or just need to talk.

I understand my feelings, why I’m feeling them, that it’s ok to feel them.
I feel sad.
“It helps them to talk to the family and not hold in their emotions in fear that they will upset their parents or other family members.”

“My son can now express his loss better and I think he understands more about the different ways people express their grief – that there isn’t a right and a wrong way...He is also less scared about death.”

“My son lost his dad at the age of 6. He became a different person that we didn’t recognise but, having had counselling at Edward’s Trust, he is much more back to his old self. He is much happier and more confident.”

“Thank you Steve. As the only male adult figure in his life, he looks forward to his appointments!”
The difference that WE make
THANK YOU

Any questions?