



## Irvine Prevention Coalition General Meeting Thursday, January 15, 2015

2:45-4:30PM

Irvine City Hall (corner of Alton and Harvard)

### PEER SUPPORT IN TIMES OF LOSS

**Who should come: Parents, School Administrators, Counselors, Teachers, Community Members & all interested individuals & agencies.**

Please join us January 15<sup>th</sup> for a helpful look at ways to offer meaningful support to children and families facing loss. Guest speakers Neil O'Connor, Becky Lomaka and Noreen Carrington will demonstrate positive communication strategies to engage children and teens in processing their own experiences with loss.

Take this opportunity to network, catch up on prevention news and find out the latest trends affecting our youth.

### Positive Strategies to Support Youth



**Neil O'Conner, President & CEO, O'Connor Mortuary**, is the 4<sup>th</sup> generation of his family to serve in the funeral industry. His vision is to not only care for grieving families but also to provide outstanding educational experiences for the community. Neil's thorough and deep understanding of the funeral profession makes him an outstanding leader in the field. Neil serves on the Board of Directors for Selected Independent Funeral Homes, a worldwide professional association.

**Becky Lomaka, MA, Director of Community Development, O'Connor Mortuary**, holds a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology and is working towards her specialty certification in Thanatology (death education). She joined O'Connor in 2013 with a determined passion to bring education, encouragement, and validation to the professional and volunteer communities through workshops, seminars and in-service programs.



**Noreen Carrington, LMFT**, is a fellow in thanatology, who has worked in the fields of death and dying and grief and loss for the past 19 years. Her extensive experience includes creating and directing a comprehensive educational and clinical rotation for MFT graduates and post-graduates in the specialty of grief and loss, and directing Camp Erin youth camps for grieving children in San Diego and Orange County. She serves as the Regional Director for the Volunteer and Bereavement Programs for Health Essentials LLC and is a faculty member at the CSU Institute for

Palliative Care at California State University San Marcos

2:45-3:00 PM Networking  
3:00-3:20 PM Business Meeting  
3:20-4:10 PM Presentations  
4:10-4:30 PM Announcements

