The Compassionate Friends

Core Services and Programs

TCF Chapters	The Compassionate Friends hosts over 400 chapters around the country with the help of over 2,000 volunteers. In small towns and large cities, bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents meet to talk, listen, share, and provide each other emotional support after the devastating death of a child, grandchild, or sibling. These chapters organize 5,000 support groups meetings annually serving nearly 40,000 TCF members.
TCF Sibs Program	The relationship between siblings is a special bond. When a child dies of any age, The Compassionate Friends recognizes the special grief siblings experience and the need for support and understanding. The Compassionate Friends offers connection, community, and friendship among bereaved siblings through the TCF Sibs Program.
Private Facebook Groups	The Compassionate Friends offers a variety of private Facebook Groups. These groups are moderated by bereaved parents, siblings, or grandparents, and may not be accessed unless a request to join is approved by a moderator. These special communities provide a "virtual chapter" for those who may not be able to access in-person support in their area, and for those who want to connect with others online. Currently, we have 45 groups serving over 160,000 TCF members.
TCF National Conference	Our national conference is a place for bereaved families to find community and hope, while learning and sharing with others. Lifelong friendships are made at the conference through interactions with others who truly understand the painful loss of a child or sibling. Over 1,000 bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents attend.
TCF Quarterly Magazine	The national magazine of The Compassionate Friends, *We Need Not Walk Alone*, has been described as "a support group in print," featuring articles by and for parents, siblings, and grandparents who have experienced the death of a child in their family.
Grief Resource Materials	A series of brochures available from The Compassionate Friends have been written to cover many aspects of the grief process experienced by the family and those who care about them. All brochures have been authored by bereaved parents, siblings, and/or grandparents and have gone through a thorough review process in conjunction with professionals in the field.
TCF Website	The TCF website is a robust tool for bereaved families as well as grief professionals and receives over 3.8 million visitors annually. CompassionateFriends.org
Annual Worldwide Candle Lighting	Held on the second Sunday in December, the TCF National Office organizes and offers a Worldwide Candle Lighting virtual event attended live online by over 1,700 individuals and watched on recorded replay by over 7,500 households. Over 140 TCF chapters also hold in-person local Candle Lighting events with over 11,000 attendees, annually.