

Emilia's Wings

"There is no footprint so small that it does not leave an imprint on this world."

Website

www.emilias-wings.org

Our website includes different materials which we hope will provide support on your journey through grief and healing. We offer a variety of resources including eBooks, list of supporting organizations, reading material, music selections, and more.

Be sure to check out our BLOOM page to learn more about our monthly Pregnancy & Infant Loss support group meetings.

Facebook

facebook.com/EmiliasWings/

Stay up-to-date on projects, special events, and programs by liking us on Facebook!

Contact Us

info@emilias-wings.org

You need not walk alone. Together we can make it! Feel free to reach out by email.



May 2025 Newsletter

We welcome you all to Emilia's Wings. To all who are newly bereaved, we know how devastated you are. You are not alone in your grief. We have been in the depths of despair and we are here to help you with unconditional love and understanding. We hope this newsletter will help you while you navigate grief and provide additional resources on your journey. If you know someone who would find our resources helpful, please direct them to our website at www.emilias-wings.org and to our BLOOM monthly meetings.

April in Review

Last month BLOOM met at Lullaby of Hope for a day of giving back to the Pregnancy and Infant Loss community. Click on the photo to view our day and to learn more about Lullaby of Hope.



DATES & EVENTS

BLOOM

May 15th @ 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm
MOTHER'S DAY TEA

Kansas City Northland Support Group - Meetings are held every first Thursday of each month.

North Kansas City Public Library
2251 Howell St.
North Kansas City, MO 64116

Bereaved Mother's Day

May 4th

A day for moms who have lost their children. An opportunity to share or talk about what we have endured. Women grieving for children are mothers too – even if our babies are no longer with us.

Mother's Day

May 11th

OTHER

Donations

-Donations can be sent & made payable to Emilia's Wings at:
10637 N. Holmes St, Kansas City,
MO 64155 OR sent via Venmo.

Charmel Clough
@Charmel-Clough

Looking Toward May

After experiencing the loss of a child, Mother's Day can bring with it a sense of feeling misunderstood or unseen. Let us come together to celebrate motherhood - to say our babies names out loud at our Annual Mother's Day Tea.

We will have complimentary tea and dessert for everyone to enjoy. Our dessert selection will have a fun little twist, helping to tie in to this year's theme, Kintsugi.

We are very fortunate to have both mothers and fathers joining our monthly meetings. I don't want to discourage anyone from coming to this month's gathering. If you are a father who has or wants to attend this month's meeting, please do! We will be celebrating our mothers, but we have a sit for you at the table too!

そのまま (sonomama): "Come as you are"

If you wish, feel free to bring an item that is special and symbolic to your baby this could be photos, reading out loud a poem, a baby book, Molly Bear (or other stuffed animal), playing a significant song, artwork, etc... bring whatever is special to you. We will take turns sharing our items among the group, while sharing special stories about our babies.

Mother's Day Tea can sometimes feel discouraging as everyone is sharing their cherished items. Some of us with earlier losses may have little to no items that belonged or represent our babies. Please know there is no item that is too small or insignificant to share. Choose anything that is symbolic of your baby or your journey through grief. This may be the perfect opportunity to find or create something that is special between you and your baby. I cannot wait to see what you all bring!

A reminder that this year's tea date has been changed from the 1st Thursday of the month, to the 3rd Thursday. Please plan to join us on Thursday, May 15th from 7:00-8:15pm for this meeting.

If you plan to attend, PLEASE RSVP no later than **Wednesday, May 7th** so that I can make proper preparations. Please include any dietary restrictions with your RSVP. Thank You!

(The Day After) Mother's Day by Lori Ennis

“...the truth is that for many, Mother's Day is just one big mess of emotions—both happy and sad. I think what gets me more, though... is the day after. Because Mother's Day itself? I usually am prepared for. (Or so I tell myself)

...The day after is still filled with happy Facebook and Twitter posts I tried somewhat to stay away from the day before, and yet—something still screams at me.

It's not Mother's Day anymore, but...it still stings like it is.

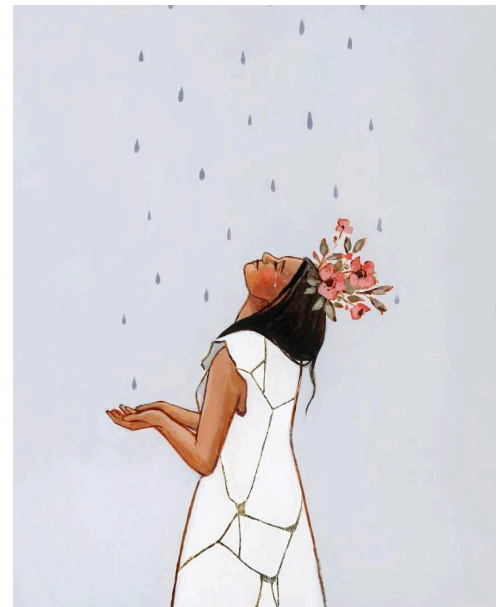
And that's the thing...

It still stings.”

Read the full article [here](#).

Additional Bereaved Mother's Day Events Across Kansas City

- ♦ My Angel Lives' Bereaved Mother's Day Brunch - Sunday, May 4th - Designed for Beloved moms who've experienced the loss of a child. This is an uplifting and heartfelt gathering where we share our stories, find comfort, and celebrate how far we've come in the incredibly unique journey of love and loss. Connecting with others who genuinely understand can provide significant support in ways that nothing else can. Let's come together to remember, heal, and cherish the precious memories of our loved ones. Click on the link above to view more details and to purchase your ticket. \$40 per ticket.
- ♦ You Made Me Mom's Bereaved Mother's Day Gathering - Sunday, May 4th - Come for an afternoon of worship through song, biblical teaching, hope and remembering your child/ren in heaven. Simply come as you are. Click on the link above to view more details and to register.
- ♦ KNOW OF ANY OTHER BEREAVED MOTHER'S DAY EVENTS? Let me know and I will make sure to share them with our BLOOM family.





Gratitude Corner

- ♦ Emilia's Wings and all of our BLOOM projects are run solely off of community donations. A tremendous thank you to those who help make our extra activities and events possible. We appreciate your support more than you know. The following are memorial donations, made in the past quarter, in honor of a few special babies we hold near:

Isabella Jimenez-Pettibon by her parents

Emilia Madeleine Rose Clough by her grandparents

- ♦ A huge thank you to **Samantha Gabriel (Thea's mom)** for organizing our recent community project with Lullaby of Hope. I am thankful for both the little and big acts made by people that help make BLOOM more than just a monthly support group, but a tribe. I wish our "tribe" was never needed, but I am so glad to have each of you here to lean on when we need one another the most.

We extend our most sincere sympathy to those who have recently lost a child.

Please know that we are thinking of you and share in your hurt and sorrow

This May we Remember...

Baby Mason - May 1987
Baby Finnell - May 1995
Baby Uthe - May 2002
Baby Gordon - May 2006
Baby Davis - May 2008
Baby Thurin #1 - May 3, 1984
Baby Uthe - May 3, 2004
Christopher Alexander - May 4, 2002

Tilly - May 7, 2008
Keely - May 8, 1992
Emily - May 10, 1989
Baby Sullivan - May 11, 2000
Dominic Alexander Rivera - May 14, 2013
Kenneth & Korinne - May 15, 2014
Joey - May 19, 1994
Tyler Gabriel - May 20, 2005
Abigail Nicole - May 25, 2001
Baby Thurin #4 - May 26, 1990
Rebecca - May 27, 2005
Caden Claire - May 31, 2002
Justin Scott - May 31, 2002

To have your baby's name added to our remembrance list, please fill out the Forget-Me-Not submission form on our website. This form can be found on our [Forget-Me-Not](#) page.



This Also Is Motherhood - Author Unknown

Mother's Day feels different after you experience child loss. You spend the day daydreaming of what life should look like. This is my third Mother's Day as a loss mom, and this year I've added two new angels to the mix.

I used to look forward to Mother's Day, but now the countdown fills me with sadness. It feels like a reminder that my body failed me, and that I'm missing such a huge piece of my heart.

Trying to plan my day around loving on my living child and sitting by my daughter's grave is exhausting. Am I doing what I should be? Should I focus less on her because she's not here? Is it silly to sit in a cemetery, crying for my baby on a day that I'm supposed to be celebrated?

I feel robbed of true motherhood. I had this idea of what it would look like, and I never pictured it this way.

Parenting a deceased child is hard. You defend their life; you try to protect their memory. When you go out in public, people see the children you're with; they don't see the ones you've lost. Every time a stranger says, "Happy Mothers Day," to me, I want to tell them about my daughter. I want to tell the entire world that I'm a mother to a beautiful little girl, who they can't see. Sometimes it feels like if I just wore a shirt that said, "I'm a loss mom," maybe then it would feel better.

I feel like less of a mother than a woman who has all of her children because all but one of mine died. I feel like I failed because my body couldn't keep them safe. I feel like I live in a society that judges the measure of a mother by the number of kids she has "successfully raised," but I can't raise 6 of mine. I feel like I'm always

fighting to be seen as a mother of more than one. It's like I want to scream to everyone I see that my son is not my only child.

I want to tattoo it on my skin, so I always have her with me, so that everyone can see her. I don't want my son growing up and being referred to as an "only child," and I don't want to have to explain myself.

Being a loss mom means I am constantly defending my title of "mother." I am continually reminding others that I am a mom to multiple children. I do this to family, to friends, to strangers.

This is not how I envisioned it. Mother's Day hurts after you lose a baby. You don't always feel celebrated, or more importantly, supported and seen.

Don't make us have to remind you to talk about our lost babies. Don't make us have to be the one to bring them up.

Talking about them doesn't have to be sad. It can be happy; it can be beautiful. I'm not a mess most days, and I won't crumble when they're mentioned. Ask me about them, talk about them. I see you getting uncomfortable when I mention them. I see you look down. I see your face change. I hear you change the subject.

I'm sorry. I'm sorry it makes you uncomfortable. I'm sorry that it isn't what you want to hear, but I need to talk. I need to mention them. I need you to remember them. I need you to know that I will never stop talking about them because it is all I have left. I need you to support me. I need you to let me be sad, even when I'm happy. I need you to hug me and tell me it's okay to feel like this. I need you to tell me you miss them too, and you love them also. I need you to realize that this is hard for me. I need you to remember that part of me is always sad.

Even when something great happens. Even when I'm happy. Even when I'm full of joy. I'm still sad. I'm always aware of what I'm missing. I'm always remembering what I lost and always wishing for what could be.

Every day I make sure I say my babies' names—every single day. I can't fall asleep until I do. Most days, I know that I'm the only one who's said them, and that's just fine because even when the rest of the world moves on, I'm still here.

I'm still remembering. I'm still talking. I'm still grieving. That's the best part about the loss community. You don't have to ask them to remember. They always include all of your babies, say their names, ask what you need – they are there. It's a group no one wants to join, but it's one you'll never be alone in because no matter how excluded the world makes you feel, I guarantee someone here will read your words and sigh with relief that someone out there feels the same as them.

Whether this is your first Mother's Day without your baby or your 10th, know you are loved, you are supported, and you are never alone here.

For every other mother who is missing her babies, every mother who is remembering those she lost, every other mother who is feeling the way I am... I'm with you. You're not alone. I will remember with you.

I will listen, I will talk, I will cry with you. It's okay to hurt; it's okay to feel broken. It's okay to continue grieving, even though everyone tells you it's been long enough.

Grief has no time limit, just like love.