Program Report: From Heartbreak to Hope

November 2022 – April 2023

AVVA's new program, "From Heartbreak to Hope" was developed under the direction of AVVA National President, Sharon Hobbs. The program is designed to train organizers to initiate and conduct local programs that help our members, and their families work through the loss of a loved one.

Along with providing participants with comfort, social connection and hope, the program addresses the emotional and practical issues associated with their loss. Emphasis is on creating support networks and providing information on community and survivor benefits resources.

Training for From Heartbreak to Hope is provided in two sessions. The first is a program overview. The second session provides trainees with the goals, structure and mechanics of a functional support group. Both sessions are delivered in an online format.

Since November, over 20 members have participated in both online training sessions. Plans are to expand the program to include quarterly organizer meetings. We expect these quarterly meetings to begin by July.

If you are interested in obtaining additional information on the "From Heartbreak to Hope" program, or would like to register for a training session, contact Nina Schloffel. Nina can be reached at 209-743-7422 or by email at <u>neenr@att.net</u>.

Nina Schloffel Program Chair, From Heartbreak to Hope