

## A message from Michelle Wertz & Bob Reiff





As a benefits professional, you are regularly in the position to help an employee who has suffered the loss of a loved one – whether it be their friend, family member or coworker. Today, factors like delayed retirements, parents living longer and COVID-19 contribute to making a supportive strategy critical for employers.

During Life Insurance Awareness month, we're reminded grief is a fundamental human experience. As an employer, your response can have a profound impact on employee mental health, productivity and morale. If handled with care, it's a chance to demonstrate how you value your people, their well-being and strengthen the cohesion of the workplace as a whole.

## **How Can You Help?**

Managing your workforce through these experiences requires a thoughtful balance of helping an employee cope with grief, as well as addressing practical matters. Timely resources can provide comfort and guidance when the next steps aren't clear.

To support you, we're sharing the following new resources:

- Grief in the Workplace: What Every Employer Should Know whitepaper
- Navigating Loss in the Workplace best practices overview
- Grief and Bereavement in the Workplace podcast episode

We also invite you to review the materials we regularly share with employers and beneficiaries during life events:

Moving Forward: Addressing the Death of an Employee employer guide

• Taking the Next Step beneficiary guide

Thank you for the ongoing opportunity to serve you, and please continue to engage us through your Lincoln sales or service contact.

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