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As COVID Deaths in America Soar, Bereavement Experts and Activists Push for Creation of First White House Office of Bereavement Care

Summit to Outline A Blueprint for How the U.S. Can Better Care for Those Who Have Lost Loved Ones

For Immediate Release

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Who: Award-winning actors join preeminent bereavement scholars and advocates from corporate America, health care, and government to outline this growing crisis
What: A virtual summit calling for the first White House Office of Bereavement Care
When: 2:00 p.m. ET, Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020
How: Register to receive the free YouTube link at bit.ly/4EVRMORE

OVERVIEW:

- **From Capitol Hill to Hollywood, issuing a call to the incoming Biden administration to establish the first White House Office of Bereavement Care**
- **Leading scholars outline research findings on detrimental social, economic, and health effects on the bereaved, their families, and communities**
- **Grief experts, corporate leaders, and activists outline a blueprint for a comprehensive vision to care for those who experience loss**

NOVEMBER 16, 2020 — With COVID deaths again spiking in the U.S.—coupled with gun violence, the opioid crisis, and the devastation caused by suicide—a national push is underway to establish the first White House Office of Bereavement Care.

Joyal Mulheron, founder of Evermore, the nonpartisan, non-profit advocacy group, believes this is the moment to address the mounting crisis: “Our country’s approach to responding and caring for the bereaved is fundamentally broken. Bereavement care is virtually absent in our

healthcare system. This new White House office will create momentum toward a more comprehensive public health strategy at a time of staggering loss.”

“Today, an estimated 2 million American youth have lost a parent,” says Mulheron. “There are 15 million bereaved spouses in the United States. And across their lifetimes, Black and Brown Americans are more likely to experience the death of children, spouses, siblings, and parents when compared to their white counterparts. This country is in crisis.”

To support this effort, the Evermore virtual summit will be broadcast Thursday, November 19, at 2:00pm ET. Available for free on YouTube, the event will feature remarks from bereavement care advocates such as **Ken Feinberg** (attorney and first special master of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund) and **Maya Rockey Moore Cummings**, PhD, political strategist, advocate and widow of former U.S. Representative Elijah Cummings. Academy Award-winning actress **Ellen Burstyn** and **Vanessa Kirby** (stars of the upcoming Netflix film “Pieces of a Woman,” executive produced by Martin Scorsese) and Academy Award-winning actor **Casey Affleck** will lend their voices as well.

The petition for a White House Office of Bereavement Care can be found [here](#).

The full lineup for the Thursday, November 19 virtual summit can be found [here](#).

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Evermore is a nonpartisan, non-profit 501(c)3 organization based in Washington, DC. It is an emerging movement of concerned citizens who believe that bereavement care in America is broken. Evermore is dedicated to making the world a more livable place for bereaved individuals and families. Learn more at live-evermore.org.