

Use this action plan to strengthen **YOUR** impact and elevate childhood bereavement as a critical priority.

Step One: Gather relevant CBEM data

Review the 2026 CBEM National, State, and Key Topic results via the CBEM Dashboard (cbem.judishouse.org).

Projected CBEM Prevalence: These results combine estimates of a) the number of children who are **already bereaved** and b) the number of children who **will experience** bereavement. Use Projected results to:

- Forecast service and systems demands
- Cultivate public awareness and engagement
- Engage in advocacy and policy efforts
- Evaluate best practices
- Build workforce capacity
- Secure financial support

Current CBEM Prevalence: These results reflect the number of youth who have **already experienced bereavement**. Use Current results to:

- Address service and systems demands
- Identify service gaps
- Implement best practices
- Share grief resources
- Explore bereavement trends
- Secure financial support

Snapshot CBEM Prevalence: These results use the Current model and examine one year of input data to provide the number of children **newly bereaved** in a specific year. Use Snapshot results to:

- Examine point-in-time prevalence
- Communicate the magnitude of childhood bereavement in a relatable way
- Compare year-over-year changes
- Secure financial support

Source of Bereavement: These results are available for youth populations up to ages 18 and 25.

- Death of a Parent, Death of a Sibling, and Death of a Parent or Sibling results are available at the national and state levels.

Step Two: Put the data in context

Use the Dashboard to search CBEM results specific to your location of interest and complete the following statements:

According to the 2026 Projected CBEM results in [STATE], X% of children will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18. This is approximately # or 1 in # children.

According to the 2026 Current CBEM results in [STATE], X% of children under age 18 have already experienced the death of a parent or sibling. This is approximately # or 1 in # children.

According to the 2026 Snapshot CBEM results in [STATE], # children under age 18 were newly bereaved due to the death of a parent or sibling in 2023. This is approximately # children per day.

According to the 2026 CBEM Rural-Urban results, #% of children in [state]'s [rural, urban/suburban, metro] counties will be bereaved by the death of a parent or sibling by age 18. This is # times the #% in the [rural, urban/suburban, metro] counties.

Reflect on how this information can help you increase awareness about childhood bereavement in your community.

Step Three: Create a plan

The questions below can help guide your planning and decision making to strengthen your impact and elevate childhood bereavement as a public priority in your community.

- How can you use state-specific CBEM results to help contextualize the issue?
- What issues impact childhood bereavement in your state?
- How can you use CBEM results to inform your strategic planning or service provision?
- How can you use CBEM results to support your fundraising or marketing efforts?
- Who will you share the CBEM results with to help enact change? (e.g., elected officials, school superintendents, health and mental health professionals, business leaders, etc.)
- Who are the key community partners you can collaborate with to raise awareness about childhood bereavement and take action for grieving children and families?
- Which individuals and organizations could you invite to coffee or lunch to have a conversation about the prevalence and impact of childhood bereavement?
- Identify which national or local organizations should also be made aware of CBEM results. What are ways to engage them as allies and champions?
- What action items(s) can you complete in the next three months?

If you are looking for additional localized data for your community, Judi's House/JAG Institute offers custom CBEM reports. Learn more at: judishouse.org/custom-cbem-reports