

## Tools to Support Children After Traumatic Events like Buffalo & Uvalde

“Dear Friends,

In the wake of the recent shootings, we are heartbroken by the senseless loss of lives. We offer our grief and sympathy to the families and communities shattered by these tragic events. More than ever, we need to ensure young people feel connected to their peers and the adults in their lives. These times call for us to widen the reach of each community's embrace and pull back in those who seem to be slipping farther from our schools and our families. We need to find ways to encircle those showing signs of alienation and affirm them while helping them find language and solutions for the ways they struggle.

We at CRC redouble our commitment to make schools safer places where students want to be. Our aim is to support schools in becoming inclusive spaces of community and belonging, where everyone feels welcome. We will continue to work with educators and young people to co-create compassionate learning environments with an ethos of racial justice, where differences are embraced and understood as assets, where restorative practices enable growth, repair, and healing. We believe deeply in the possibility of change, if young people are given the right tools. With greater emphasis on social emotional learning, conflict resolution, bullying intervention and prevention, communication, mediation, we can build safer communities.

Here are some resources you might find useful:

[Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Parents and Teachers](#) by the National Association of School Psychologists

[How to Talk to Children About School Shootings](#) by Save the Children

The following resources are by the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development:

[Supporting Educators to Rise Stronger After a Traumatic Event](#): Administrators must be ready to reprioritize and address the effects of loss, grief, and change that educators experience.

[Guiding Students and Families Through Grief](#): How can school staff help students process deep emotional stress and send them on the path of restoration and healing?

[For School Leaders, a Time of Vigilance and Caring](#): A recent survey shows that gun violence has become one of principals' biggest concerns. But are we taking the right steps to ensure schools are safe?

[How Schools Should Really Talk About Safety](#): Moving beyond gut reactions to tragedies toward a more comprehensive approach for safeguarding students.

[Why Social Bonding Is a School-Safety Priority](#): In enhancing school security, school leaders should not overlook the importance of connection.

[Can SEL Reduce School Violence?](#): A researcher says teaching empathy, problem solving, and self-control could lead to safer schools.

[WEBINAR: Equipping Educators with Effective Violence Prevention and Crisis Response Strategies](#): School safety concerns have tragically been thrust to the forefront of a national discussion, but too much of the talk has been at schools and educators rather than with them.”

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