

WENDY LICHTENTHAL

Founding Director, Center for the Advancement of Bereavement Care



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Wendy G. Lichtenthal, PhD, FT, FAPOS is Founding Director of the Center for the Advancement of Bereavement Care at the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center and Associate Professor, Pending Rank, in the Department of Public Health Sciences' Division of Prevention Science and Community Health at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. She is a licensed clinical psychologist and has worked as a grief specialist for over 20 years.

Since 2005, she has been at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSK) in New York City, where she was Founding Director of the Bereavement Clinic and Associate Attending Psychologist, and where she now serves as Consultant Faculty.

She was a recipient of the 2012 International Psycho-Oncology Society Kawano New Investigator Award, the 2019 Association for Death Education and Counseling (ADEC) Research Recognition Award, and the 2023 American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS) Outstanding Clinical Care Award.

She is a Fellow in Thanatology and was elected to the ADEC Board of Directors in 2023. In 2024, she was elected as a Fellow of APOS. Her federally-funded research has been supported by the National Institute of Mental Health, National Cancer Institute, National Institute of Nursing Research, American Cancer Society, T.J. Martell Foundation, MSK's Cycle for Survival, and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and has focused on grief and bereavement, cancer survivorship, intervention development and evaluation, and finding meaning in the face of adversity.

She is an inventor of the Meaning-Centered Grief Therapy intervention manual used in her research, and in 2024, she and Constance Collins, JD were awarded a Partnerships in Health Equity grant to adapt Meaning-Centered Grief Therapy for women experiencing homelessness in order to address the often-unrecognized grief they commonly face.