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August 27, 2019

- **Paloma Place** – The Paloma Place team is also doing a great job! Their reputation in the community is positive and many new referrals are coming from past and present clients. As the two-year anniversary of the Sutherland Springs Baptist Church shooting approaches, some of the Sutherland Springs families most directly affected are just now seeking services at the Center. Ashley has been running an anxiety group for children, as there is still much stress and uncertainty in Wilson County that experienced the death of 26 citizens and injuries of dozens.

The biggest challenge appears to be space. With Children’s Bereavement Center having 3 full time staff, plus two Associate Counselors and doctoral students; and UTSA sharing the building with their 4 staff members and doctoral students. Current strategies include extending hours to early evening and Saturdays.

Paloma Place referral network has been expanded to include medical providers from several counties as well as the Lion’s Club, Floresville Chamber of Commerce, churches and funeral homes. {PS- for those new to the Board, Paloma Place is located at 140 Paloma Drive in Floresville, where we lease a building and share our space with UTSA Department of Counseling}



### Special Initiatives

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Grief Education Institute (GEI) Symposium is scheduled for March 6, 2020 with Dr. Ira Chasnoff as keynote speaker addressing “The Anxious Child: Risk and Promise”. The Symposium will be held at the Oblate School of Theology. All board members will be invited to attend as guests, either for entire day or if preferred for the lunch session, where the annual *Hope Award* will be presented.

The El Paso Children’s Grief Center is sincerely appreciative of the books of bilingual grief books, art supplies and snacks that CBC sent last week to support the children affected by the mass shooting. Our center was also able to refer potential corporate funders to that Center, which is a part of the national network of children’s grief centers. In addition, UTSA’s lead counselor from Paloma Place flew to El Paso to be onsite and assist with recovery efforts.