Who is invited to the retreat?

C.O.P.S. Parents Retreat is planned for the surviving parents of law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty, as determined by C.O.P.S. criteria. Couples, as well as single parents, are encouraged to attend. Other relatives and friends are not eligible to attend.

How will the retreat benefit me?

Losing a child can be the most devastating thing for a parent to experience, especially in a sudden, traumatic, and often violent death. After the loss of their officer, surviving parents must deal with their personal grief, as well as supporting other family members along their grief journey.

C.O.P.S. Parents Retreat will help you resolve your individual and family grief through attending counseling sessions with focus on grief and your specific needs. While at the retreat, you will also get the opportunity to participate in challenging and fun indoor and outdoor activities while receiving support from other parents who truly understand. It is our goal for you to leave the retreat feeling relaxed, with a continuing support system and a tremendous sense of personal growth and self-awareness for the future.

Where is the retreat located?

We will be staying at the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center in Little Rock, Arkansas.

How do I get to the retreat?

You should plan to arrive at Little Rock National Airport (LIT) between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 23. You will be met by a C.O.P.S. representative and transported by bus to the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center, a 30-minute ride from the airport.

You will be transported back to the Little Rock Airport by 10:00 a.m. on Monday, October 26. Be sure your flight is AFTER 11:30 a.m. to allow time for check-in. If you have questions regarding your flight times, please call the National Office.

It has become a ritual for some parents to arrive a day early. That is still possible. Those parents can arrive in Little Rock on Thursday, October 22, and stay at the Holiday Inn Airport Conference Center in Little Rock. If you would like to arrive a day early, be sure to make your reservation under the “C.O.P.S. room block” to receive the $96 room rate. Call 501-490-1000 for reservations. The room block will be held until October 8, 2020. The hotel has a complimentary airport shuttle service.
Testimonial:

Bob and Norie Haas say that the first few months were tough after Brian’s death, but luckily Charles Shinholser, a fellow surviving parent, took them under his wing and talked them into attending Parents Retreat. It was the last thing they wanted to do, but Charles wouldn’t take no for an answer. They found that the interaction with other parents who had experienced exactly what they were going through helped them tremendously.

By the end of the weekend, they knew they would be back the next year. Norie gives the advice of “attending Parents Retreat will be the best thing you can ever do for yourself.” Both Bob and Norie agree that grief is different even between themselves. Only another mother knows what a mother feels when she loses a child. Same goes for a father to another father. They say, “If you will just attend the retreat one time, you will never regret it.”

Bob and Norie are the surviving parents of Hendry County (FL) Deputy Sheriff Brian Haas, EOW 4/24/2004.

The hotel cost for Thursday, October 22, will not be paid nor reimbursed by C.O.P.S. and you are responsible for making your own reservation.

If you arrive in Little Rock a day early, all costs associated with early arrival will be the responsibility of the individual. Upon final arrangements, C.O.P.S. will provide information on how to meet the bus going to the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center. Let us know if you will be driving, and we will send you directions to the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center.

What is the cost of the retreat?

Your only expense is your travel to and from the Little Rock Airport (if flying) or to and from the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center (if driving). If you fail to cancel your attendance and you do not show up for the program, you could be subject to a participation fee for the following year’s program.

Code of Conduct: This program has a Code of Conduct. Breaking that code will cause immediate expulsion from the program. Cost of expulsion will be the responsibility of the affected participant. A copy of the C.O.P.S. Code of Conduct and Cancellation Policy will be sent to you after we receive your registration request. C.O.P.S. and the counselors working with C.O.P.S. reserve the right to pre-qualify applicants and excuse those who may not be suitable for the program. All decisions concerning the same shall be final.

Limited travel assistance may be available. Contact your local C.O.P.S. Chapter or the C.O.P.S. National Office for additional information.

This event is organized by National C.O.P.S. The sale of merchandise for any cause other than National C.O.P.S. is strictly prohibited. All merchandise sold or distributed at any Hands-On Program must be approved by National C.O.P.S. prior to the program. This project was supported by Cooperative Agreement No. 2016-PS-DX-K002 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance.
Registration Form (Please print or register online at www.concernsofpolicesurvivors.org)

First Name ________________________________ Last Name ________________________________

Date of Birth ___________________________________________________________________________

Spouse’s Name (if attending)  ______________________________________________________________

Date of Birth ___________________________________________________________________________

Address ________________________________________________________________________________

City ___________________________________ State ___________________________ Zip ____________

Home Phone ________________________________ Cell Phone(s)_______________________________

Email Address 1 _____________________________ Email Address 2 _____________________________

If you have a medical condition, mobility issue, or special dietary needs we should be aware of, please describe below:

_______________________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________________

Arrival flight information Friday, October 23:  □ I/We will arrive on Thursday, October 22

Airline ________________________________ Flight# ________________ Time ________________

Departure flight information Monday, October 26:

Airline ________________________________ Flight# ________________ Time ________________

□ I/We are staying at the Holiday Inn Airport on Thursday, October 22.
□ I/We are flying into Little Rock Airport on Friday, October 23.
□ I/We will be driving to C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center. Please send directions.

Officer’s Name ______________________________________ End of Watch ____________________

Cause of Death:  □ Accidental  □ Felonious  □ Natural Causes

Agency _________________________________________________ State ____________________________

Your Health Insurance ________________________________ Policy Number ____________________

In case of an emergency, notify:

Name ________________________________ Relationship ________________________________

Phone ________________________________

Detach this registration form and return to the C.O.P.S. National Office or register online at www.concernsofpolicesurvivors.org by September 23, 2020.

For more information, call the C.O.P.S. National Office - (573) 346-4911.

This program is planned for surviving parents who have been affected by the line-of-duty death of a fallen law enforcement officer according to C.O.P.S. criteria. C.O.P.S. is a 501(c)(3) corporation. Donations are tax deductible.