



FIRST RESPONDERS CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

Bereavement



We provide a financial lifeline during their greatest time of sorrow.





Our program provides stopgap emergency funds when tragedy strikes so families can pay their bills and begin to heal.

When a first responder dies or tragically takes their own life, it goes without saying that their children suffer immeasurable grief. The financial and emotional burden of laying their hero to rest weighs heavily on the surviving parent. Many don't realize that a first responder's benefits, in many instances, expire at midnight on the same day of their death. It often takes weeks—even months—for any assistance from first responder agencies to reach families.

<p>333 Line of Duty Deaths (LODD)*</p> <p><small>*2022 LODD reported</small></p>	<p>>185 first responder suicides*</p> <p><small>*2022 suicides officially reported</small></p>	<p>30+ days before family benefits are awarded following LODD</p> 
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FRCF's bereavement program helps fill this gap, providing a lifeline so first responder families can stay afloat financially while they wait for additional financial assistance. Program funds can be used as a temporary stopgap to pay for general expenses such as mortgage payments, utilities and groceries, as well as bereavement-related costs including funeral services. Easing this financial burden allows first responder families to focus on healing.

“I was beside myself, scared of how we were going to survive after my husband unexpectedly passed away at the age of 42—leaving me and my three young children. FRCF’s bereavement assistance meant I could be there for my children and allow myself to grieve, rather than being distracted by the bills that had stacked up.”

– Christine, wife of a FDNY firefighter

