# ONLINE SUPPORT GROUPS

JANUARY, 2025

Please find below a listing of the Free-of-cost support groups for the month, offered by The LightHouse Arabia. The timings indicated are Gulf Standard Time (GST).

# Grief & Loss

#### SHARED GRIEF FOR PALESTINE SUPPORT GROUP

As we share and bear witness to the pain and suffering, this group provides adults 18+ years with a space to process the shared trauma, grief and sorrow with empathy, respect, and mutual support.

\*An initial Grief Consultation is not needed prior to registering for this group.

Thursday, January 9th 6pm - 7pm; (Adults, 18 yrs+)

FACILITATED BY



#### TANYA DHARAMSHI, MScPsych (US)

Counselor (DHCC) & Counseling Psychologist Community Support Services and Raymee Grief Center, Lead

Thursday, January 23rd 5pm - 6pm; (Adults, 18 yrs+)

FACILITATED BY



#### TANYA DHARAMSHI, MScPsych (US)

Counselor (DHCC) & Counseling Psychologist Community Support Services and Raymee Grief Center, Lead

#### PARTNER LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

This is a safe and supportive space for individuals who have lost their partners (married or unmarried). The group aims to provide participants with a space to speak openly about their grief alongside others who have shared experiences.

Tuesday, January 14th 4pm -5.30pm; (Adults, 21 yrs+)



FACILITATED BY

DR. HOPOLANG MATEE, PhD. (South Africa)

Clinical Psychologist

#### MOTHERLESS DAUGHTERS SUPPORT GROUP

For women 21+ years who have lost their mother and come together and share experiences, feelings and offer support.

Wednesday, January 8th & 22nd 5.30pm -7pm; (Women, 21 yrs+)



FACILITATED BY

MADALINA OANA FILIP, MSc (Romania)

Psychologist

#### **ADULT GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

A small group open to men and women who are grieving the death of someone significant to them.

Monday, January 13th & 27th 5pm - 6.30pm; (Adults, 18 yrs+)

**FACILITATED BY** 



**FARAH DAHABI, LCSW (US)** 

Clinical Social Worker Trauma and Crisis Services, Director

#### LITTLE LIFETIMES SUPPORT GROUP

In partnership with **Love Through Loss**, we are honored to offer this group for parents, who are grieving the loss of a child or a pregnancy. You do not need to go through your grief alone.

Wednesday, January 15th 7pm - 8pm; (for Parents)

**FACILITATED BY** 



## TANYA DHARAMSHI, MScPsych (US) Counselor (DHCC) & Counseling Psychologist

Community Support Services and Raymee Grief Center, Lead





### Health:

#### **HEARTBREAK SUPPORT GROUP**

For men and women (21+ yrs), who have recently experienced the breakdown or end of a committed romantic relationship. This group aims to provide a safe space to share, connect, seek support and explore the challenges being faced.

Monday, January 6th 5pm – 6pm; (Adults, 21 yrs+)



**FACILITATED BY** 

**DR. LOUISE MCDONNELL, DCounsPsych (UK)**Counselling Psychologist (DHCC)

#### **IVF & FERTILITY SUPPORT GROUP**

In partnership with **IVF Support UAE**, this is an online group for women coming together, to support other women to understand the impact of IVF and infertility on personal wellbeing. The LightHouse Arabia is committed to reducing the stigma and shame around infertility. We seek to provide support, understanding and a non-judgmental environment for everyone.

Monday, January 13th 10am -11.30am; (Women)



FACILITATED BY

**DR. TARA WYNE, D.Clin.Psy (UK)**Clinical Psychologist & Clinical Director

#### LIFE AFTER DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP

Reclaim, rebuild and thrive. This is a safe space to share challenges faced when dealing with divorce, to learn evidence-based strategies in coping with stressors, and have experiences normalized through the power of sharing.

Tuesday, January 21st 6pm -7pm; (Adults, 21 yrs+)



FACILITATED BY

**DR. TARA WYNE, D.Clin.Psy (UK)**Clinical Psychologist & Clinical Director

### ADULTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD/ASPERGER'S) SUPPORT GROUP

This group provides a safe, confidential and relaxed setting online for adults with ASD/Asperger's to share their thoughts and feelings, and/or ask for feedback, information, and support from each other.

Wednesday, January 8th 8.30pm -9.30pm; (Adults, 18 yrs+)



**FACILITATED BY** 

ANNA WHITE, BSc. (Ireland)
Sr. Occupational Therapist
SI Practitioner & MHFA UAE Director

#### MEN'S MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUP

Adversity in life may be inevitable but suffering in silence does not have to be. This new support group aims to provide a safe space and a judgement-free environment for men to meet, open up, talk, and listen. We recognize that taking the first step is often the most difficult. Our group is designed to be free of pressure and there is no obligation to speak because, we believe, sometimes simply listening can help.

Monday, January 13th 6pm - 7pm; (Men, 18 yrs+) \*In-person at The LightHouse Arabia (Al Wasl Rd)



FACILITATED BY

**DR. SURESH WADHWANI, MD (UAE)**Consultant Psychiatrist

### Health cont'd:

### TRANSITIONING THROUGH MENOPAUSE SUPPORT GROUP

Approximately 50% of the world's population are women, and we spend one-third of our life in a space of menopause. The transition to menopause (called perimenopause), and the changes that occur are real and impact us all - in the body and the mind, with strong connections to hormones and how we think, feel and respond. This group provides a safe space to normalize and explore the physical and emotional changes you may be experiencing, and to help navigate the transition together, for what can also be an incredible time in a woman's life.

Friday, January 24th 10.30am - 11.30am; (Women in perimenopause or menopause)



**FACILITATED BY** 

TANYA DHARAMSHI, MScPsych (US)

Counselor (DHCC) & Counselling Psychologist Community Support Services and Raymee Grief Center, Lead

#### **EXPAT SOCIAL SUPPORT GROUP**

This monthly support group is open to all adult expats living in the UAE and is a safe space to meet others, connect, and feel more at home in the UAE from the comfort of your own home. Connect with fellow expats, share stories and exchange tips about life and experiences in the UAE, and learn how to navigate life's challenges with support, reaffirming that you are not alone.

Monday, January 27th 7.30pm -8.30pm; (Adults, 21 yrs+)



FACILITATED BY

MAROPENG RALENALA MA Clin. Psy. (South Africa) Clinical Psychologist

# Parenting:

#### SINGLE PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP

A support group designed to provide a safe space single parents to share the daily challenges they face in single-parenting, have personal experiences normalized through the power of sharing, be equipped with evidence-based strategies in dealing with their stressors, and feel a sense of containment and support with what they are experiencing at present, while meeting other single parents.

Tuesday, January 21st 6pm - 7pm; (Parents)



FACILITATED BY

CHRISTINE KRITZAS, M.A. (South Africa)
Psychologist & Director

#### CONSCIOUS PARENTING SUPPORT GROUP

This support group is a space for parents of children ages 6 - 11 years to discuss the challenges and stressors they face in raising their children. In a time where advice on how to manage challenges like screen time, sleep, friendships, and big emotions can be varied, parents will be able to share their dilemmas, as well as hear from other parents about things that have or haven't worked for them.

Wednesday, January 22nd 7pm - 8pm; (Parents)



FACILITATED BY

WESLEY KEW, MA (South Africa)

Clinical Psychologist

#### **AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS**

This group provides a safe, confidential and relaxed setting online for parents and caregivers of children with Autism (ages 5 - 18 years old). It is a space for parents to come together and share experiences, while offering support to one another.

Wednesday, January 22nd 6pm - 7pm; (Parents)



FACILITATED BY

PREETHA MADHAVAN, M.Psych. (Australia)

Clinical Psychologist

