



Haven Bereavement Doulas

Scope of Practice

Last updated: 6/2025

A Haven Bereavement Doula provides clients who experience unintended pregnancy and infancy losses with

- Physical support,
- Emotional support,
- Informational support,
- Advocacy,
- Philosophical support,
- Spiritual support, and
- Social support and connections.

This support may occur before, during, or after a death, and before, during, or after a birth. It is not limited by time or geographic proximity.

The clients of a bereavement doula are primarily the parents of the little one, but the clients may also include loss siblings, loss grandparents, loss family members, or loss friends.

It is key to note that:

- A bereavement doula may not, in their role as a bereavement doula, make medical diagnoses or provide medical treatment.
 - Bereavement doulas often serve multiple roles. A bereavement doula who is also a certified CPR practitioner may perform CPR if appropriate based on their other role. A bereavement doula who is also a nurse may administer medication or make medical recommendations if appropriate based on their other role. However, these individuals are then acting as CPR practitioners and nurses rather than as bereavement doulas.
- A bereavement doula may not, in their role, provide mental health services that are described as mental health therapy, grief counseling, or coaching.
- For these and other roles which a bereavement doula does not fill, HCBD Haven Certified Bereavement Doulas will provide referrals.