

# Bereaved Parent Educator Curriculum: A Trauma-Informed Onboarding Pilot

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## Abstract

**Introduction:** Local pediatric end-of-life care skills (PECS) simulation-based workshops incorporate the unique expertise of bereaved parent educators, who have experienced the death of a child.

**Objective:** To develop and implement a bereaved parent educator curriculum to allow us to expand PECS workshop offerings.

**Methods:** Our interprofessional PECS workshop advisory group developed a bereaved parent onboarding curriculum utilizing trauma-informed care (TIC) principles.

**Results:** The process was implemented over 5 months in 2023.

**Discussion:** Early analysis suggests participants were adequately prepared for workshop facilitation and found engagement meaningful, inspiring, and emotionally difficult.

## Introduction

**Goal:** To feasibly maintain and expand PECS workshop offerings

**Need:** Additional bereaved parent educators

**Objective:** To develop and implement a bereaved parent educator curriculum

## Methods

Table 1. Pediatric End of Life Care Skills (PECS) Workshop Bereaved Parent Educator Onboarding Process

Title of step	Description*	Participants + facilitators included	Inclusion
1. Information sessions	2 hour evening session about PECS workshops, bereaved parent role, and early relationship building. Offered twice with expectation that an individual attended once.	Prospective bereaved parent educators + both current bereaved parent educators and one faculty member.	14 parents
2. One-on-one meetings	1 hour meeting to build relationships, answer questions, and discuss prospective parent's grief resources.	Prospective bereaved parent educators + one current bereaved parent educator.	12 parents
3. Orientation	Half-day workshop held at simulation center covering concepts of general medical education and simulation training plus specific PECS workshop content.	Prospective bereaved parent educators + one current bereaved parent educator, 2 simulation educators, 2 faculty members, psychosocial support staff.	6 parents
4. PECS Workshop observation*	Structured observation of half-day simulation-based PECS workshop then 1 hour debrief.	Prospective bereaved parent educators + workshop facilitators, participants, and simulation staff. Structured debriefing with one current bereaved parent simulation educator facilitator, physician, and psychosocial support staff.	6 parents
5. PECS Workshop facilitation*	Facilitation of half-day simulation-based PECS workshop in the bereaved parent educator role then 1 hour debrief.	New bereaved parent educators + workshop facilitators, participants, and simulation staff. Structured debriefing with one current bereaved parent and simulation educator facilitator.	6 parents

\*Completion of each step was required to continue to the next step of onboarding.

\*Prospective/new bereaved parent educators were compensated for their time at this step.

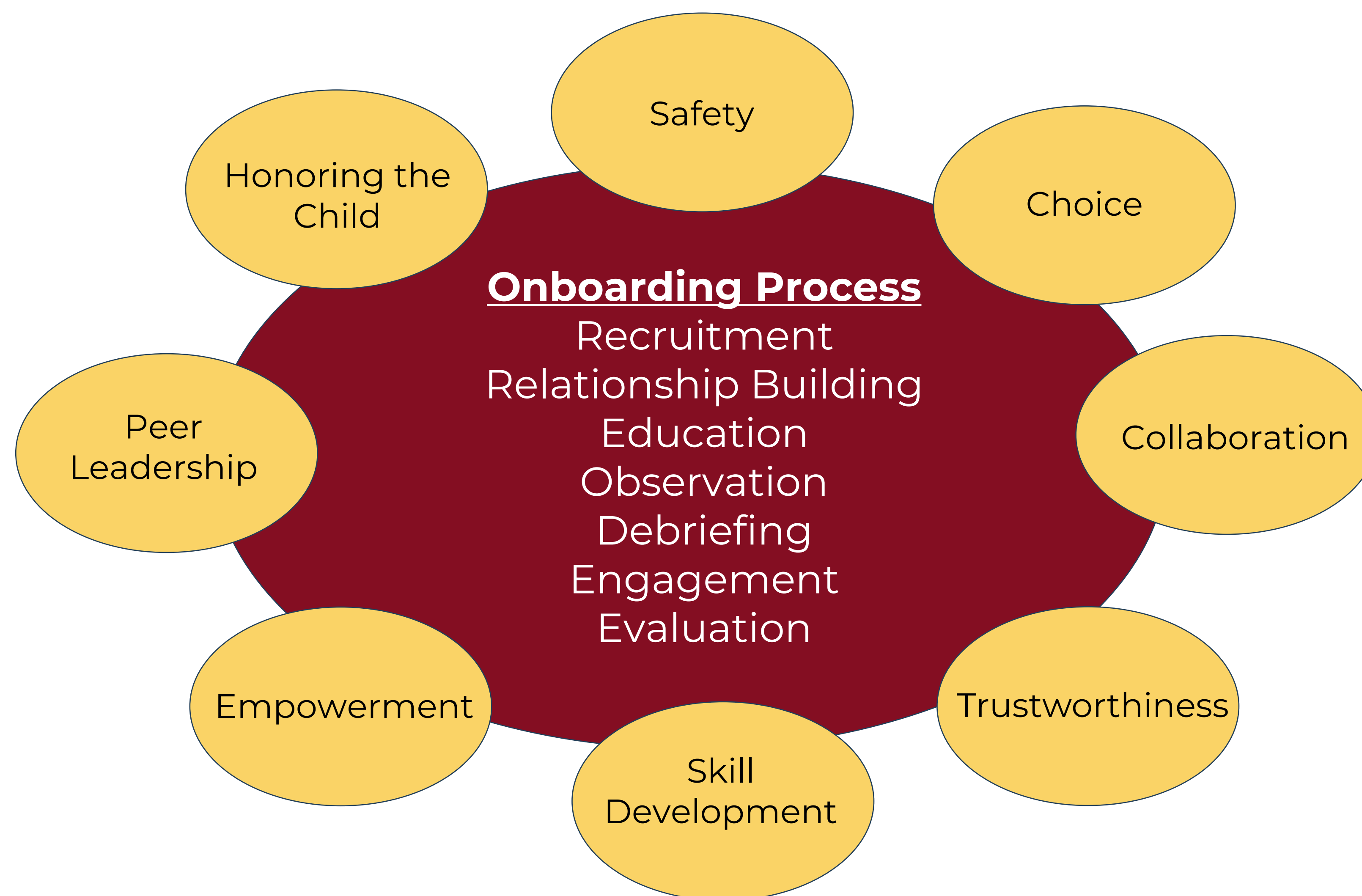


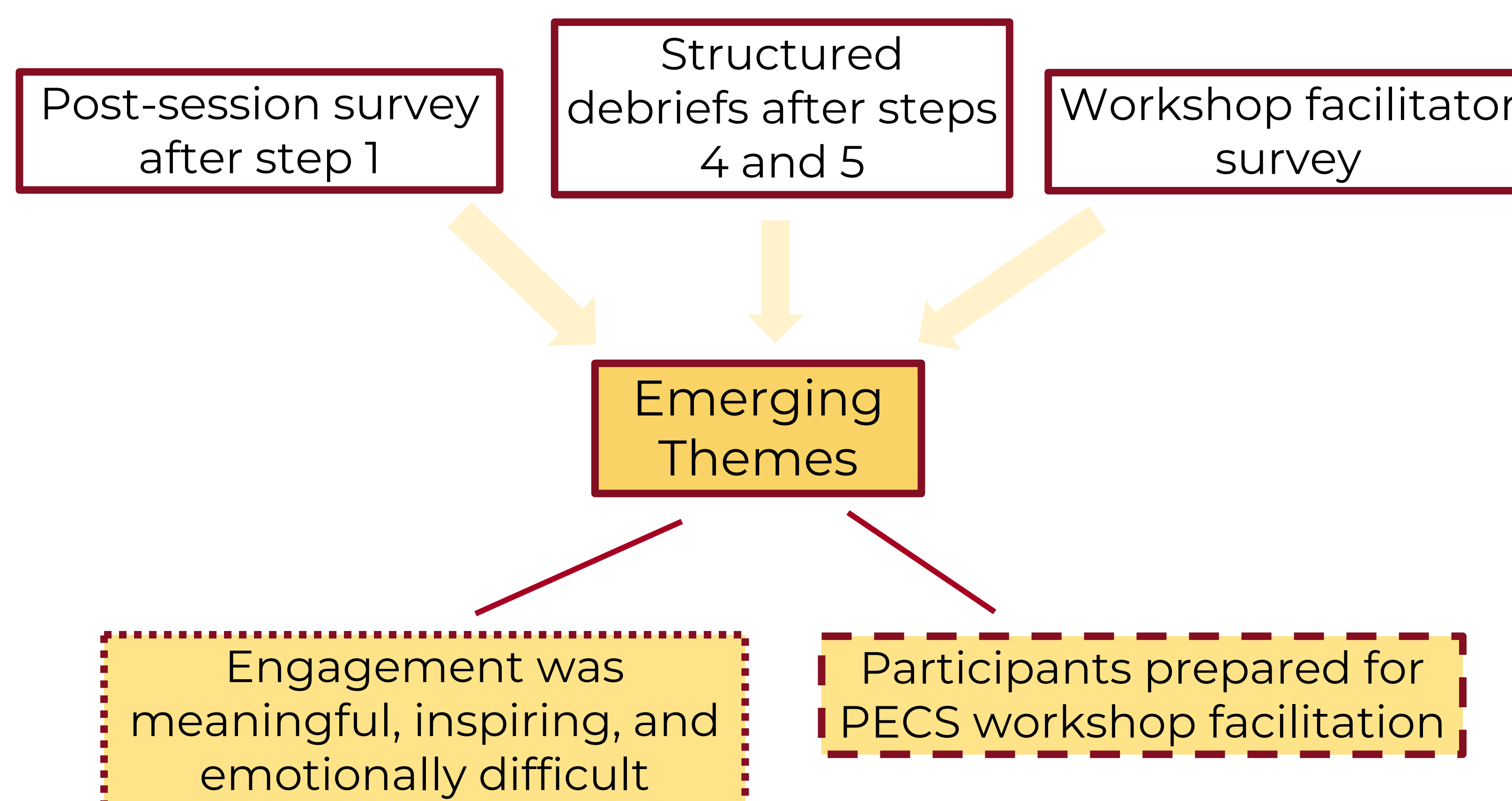
Figure 1. Depiction of Bereaved Parent Facilitator training steps (center) with trauma-informed care principles (outer circles) utilized throughout curriculum.

A 9-month follow-up survey is underway.

## Results

The process was implemented over 5 months in 2023.

Associated costs were approximately \$3,500.



## Discussion

The PECS bereaved parent educator onboarding curriculum was feasible locally for 6 new educators.

Next Step: Further analysis of 9-month follow-up survey

Scan for more information on PECS Workshop website.



## References

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