The Jason Foundation, Inc. is dedicated to the prevention of the “Silent Epidemic” of youth suicide through educational and awareness programs that equip young people, educators/youth workers and parents with the tools and resources to help identify and assist at-risk youth.

### Mission Statement

The Jason Foundation, Inc. is dedicated to the prevention of the “Silent Epidemic” of youth suicide through educational and awareness programs that equip young people, educators/youth workers and parents with the tools and resources to help identify and assist at-risk youth.

### Statistics

- For middle and high school age youth (ages 12-18), suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death. (2013 CDC WISQARS)
- For college age youth (ages 18-22), suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death. (2013 CDC WISQARS)
- Overall, suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for our youth ages 10-24. (2013 CDC WISQARS)
- Approximately 100 youth are lost to suicide every week.

### 2013 – CDC Youth Risk Behavioral Survey:

- Over One out of Six of our nation’s youth (17%) seriously considered suicide in the previous twelve months.
- Almost One out of Seven young people (13.6%) actually made a plan to attempt suicide in the previous twelve months.
- Over One out of Every Thirteen young people (8%) reported attempting suicide one or more times in the past twelve months.
Working to Give Our Youth a Promise for Tomorrow

The Jason Foundation programs are based on the Triangle of Prevention model in order to reach all areas of a young person’s life: parents, educators/youth workers and the youth themselves. All programs are offered at no cost to participants with whom we contract. For a complete listing of The Jason Foundation’s programs visit www.jasonfoundation.com.

Jason’s Story

Jason, the younger brother of John Flatt and son of Clark and Connie Flatt, was an average 16-year-old student. He loved sports and played football for his high school. He was active in his church youth group and had a lot of friends. From all appearances, he loved life.

On July 16th, 1997, everything changed. Jason became a statistic of the "Silent Epidemic" of youth suicide. The Jason Foundation was founded to address this national health problem.

The Jason Foundation

The Jason Foundation, Inc. (JFI) is a nationally recognized leader in youth suicide awareness and prevention programs. JFI employs a “grass-roots” approach utilizing a network of Community Resource Centers to reach communities across the nation. Through the efforts of both the corporate office and the community resource centers, JFI’s suicide prevention programs are in use in all 50 states and several foreign countries.

“A Promise for Tomorrow”

“A Promise for Tomorrow” provides a three to five lesson unit for grades 7-12 in positive peer support for the awareness and prevention of youth suicide. The curriculum is evidence-based and regularly reviewed for clinical and educational soundness and is one of the most widely used youth suicide prevention programs in the United States.

B1 Project

B1 is a collaborative effort with Rascal Flatts. The theme, “Someone you know may need a friend – B1”, encourages young people to “Be Aware, Be Able, and Be Prepared” for their friends. Visit the B1 website at www.rascalflattsB1.com to learn more.

“A Youth Suicide Prevention Seminar for Parents and Communities”

A program complete with an instructional DVD, facilitator’s guide and marketing materials. This seminar packet is designed so that people from both inside and outside the mental health arena can deliver a quality, professional presentation on youth suicide prevention.

Faith-based Program

This program combines the clinical approach of suicide prevention with the concept of how faith can help in prevention.

Parent Resource Program (PRP)

A web-based program for schools, churches or community organizations which provides insight into awareness through statistics, discussion of warning signs/elevated risk factors and also for prevention by helping to build an action plan.

“Suicide Awareness and Prevention for the College Campus”

A program designed to be used on a college or university campus in a classroom or group setting which provides students with knowledge, skills and strategies that will enable them to help a friend (or themselves) who may be depressed or considering suicide.

“A Friend Asks” Student App

This program is a smart-phone app to help provide the information, tools, and resources to help a friend (or yourself) who may be struggling with thoughts of suicide. Download this FREE app from the Apple App Store or the Android Market. Go to Jason Foundation and look for “A Friend Asks”.

Staff Development Modules

JFI offers staff development modules via an online library on JFI’s website or by DVD. Each module is designed to meet a two hour training requirement. The modules are designed specifically for educators but are also useful for any type of youth worker. An average of over 100,000 educators are trained each year through JFI modules.

The Jason Flatt Act

Passed in over 25% of the states, The Jason Flatt Act is the most comprehensive suicide prevention law in the country requiring teachers to have training in youth suicide awareness and prevention. Educating teachers on recognizing signs of concern and elevated risk factors is a major step in saving young lives. The Jason Flatt Act works within a state’s current continuing education requirements in mandating youth suicide prevention training. Although The Jason Flatt Act does not require teachers to use specific programs, many states and school districts use JFI’s staff development modules to satisfy the requirement. In fact, JFI averages training a teacher every four minutes, twenty-four hours per day, seven days a week. Please refer to your local school district with questions regarding requirements for staff development programs.

The Jason Flatt Act can be passed without a fiscal note attached, and JFI plans to continue working to introduce this legislation across the nation.