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THE JASON FOUNDATION CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Long-Standing Youth Suicide Prevention Organization Reaches Milestone

(HENDERSONVILLE, Tenn., October 3, 2017) <u>The Jason Foundation, Inc</u>. (JFI), a national leader in youth suicide awareness and prevention, proudly celebrated their 20th Anniversary on October 1, 2017. JFI 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.

If you would like to know how to help, click here <u>www.jasonfoundation.com/get-involved/</u>.

The Jason Foundation started as a small non-profit organization formed around a kitchen table in Hendersonville, TN. Since being founded in 1997, JFI has never charged a school, organization, or community for use of any of their programs. Jason Foundation programs are in use in all 50 states and several foreign countries. The Jason Foundation has also championed legislation, <u>The Jason Flatt Act</u>, which has been passed in 19 states that requires training in youth suicide awareness and prevention for school personnel.

Clark Flatt, President of The Jason Foundation, spoke of the organization's milestone. "When The Jason Foundation began, there were not many organizations committed to fighting the tragedy of youth suicide. We are proud to be on the forefront of combating the 'silent epidemic' that is youth suicide in our nation. Our longevity is a direct result of the support and passion that we have received from the many individuals and organizations that believe in our mission."

The Jason Foundation believes that awareness and education are the first steps toward prevention. This is accomplished through a curriculum unit for students and informational seminars for teachers and parents. The materials are easy to use and are intended to provide educational information. There is no intent to diagnose or treat suicidal ideation. JFI's intention is to empower youth, educators and parents to help recognize when young people are in pain and know to get professional help involved as soon as possible.

Currently, suicide is the second leading cause of death for youth ages 10 - 24. It is also one of the leading causes of preventable death. Four out of five young people who attempt suicide exhibit clear warning signs. By knowing the <u>warning signs</u> associated with suicide and knowing how to help, you can save a life.

For more information on The Jason Foundation and their programs, visit their <u>website</u>.