

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## National Leader in Youth Suicide Prevention Sets New Record

(Hendersonville, TN – December 20, 2018) <u>The Jason Foundation, Inc.</u> (JFI) announced today that the organization has provided more than 225,000 educator trainings on youth suicide awareness and prevention in 2018. JFI is a nationally recognized leader in suicide awareness and prevention and active member of the National Council for Suicide Prevention. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death for youth ages 10 – 24 in the nation.

The <u>National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (2012)</u> details the importance that educators can play in the prevention of youth suicide. Four out of five people who attempt suicide exhibit clear warning signs prior to the attempt. An educator's role in suicide prevention is not found in counseling young people, but being better able to identify and assist students who may be struggling with thoughts of suicide.

The Jason Foundation provided this outstanding number of trainings through their <u>Professional</u> <u>Development Series</u>. This Library is comprised of educational modules that are suitable for school personnel, youth workers, first responders, parents and any adults who interact with young people. The trainings help teach the user to recognize a young person who may be struggling, how to approach that youth, and what resources are available for help.

This figure represents a record number of trainings for The Jason Foundation in a calendar year. The trainings are conducted online via JFI's Online Professional Development Library, through DVD, and live presentations from JFI Representatives. The Jason Foundation has never charged a school, educator, church, youth group, or community for the use of any of its programs or services. This is due in large part to their National Community Affiliates and generous donors across the country.

## About the Organization:

The Jason Foundation (JFI) is a non-profit organization dedicated to fighting the "silent epidemic" of youth suicide through educational programs for young people, educators, parents, and other community groups. JFI, headquartered in Hendersonville, TN, was founded in 1997 after the tragic death of Jason Flatt, the 16-year-old son of Clark Flatt. To find out more, visit The Jason Foundation's website.

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