

# WORKING TOGETHER TO GIVE OUR YOUTH A PROMISE FOR TOMORROW

FOR THE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION OF YOUTH SUICIDE

## THE JASON FOUNDATION STORY

Jason Flatt was an average 16 year-old student. He loved sports and played football for his high school. He was active in his youth group at church and had a lot of friends. He had no drug or alcohol problems. He had an older brother, John, and two loving parents, Clark and Connie. It seemed that he loved life and "had everything to live for." However, on July 16, 1997, everything changed and Jason became a victim of the "Silent Epidemic" of youth suicide.

From this tragedy, The Jason Foundation, Inc. (JFI, as our friends call us) was created by Jason's family and friends. JFI set out to provide information, tools, and resources that could help friends, family, and educators better identify at-risk behavior and know how to help when someone turns to them hurting, considering suicide. Ultimately, JFI wanted to prevent the tragedy that took Jason far too soon from his family and friends.

Please see our website for a detailed listing of the programs and services that we offer. **www.jasonfoundation.com** 



#### AMBASSADORS



**Phillip Fulmer**, former Head Football Coach (HOF) and current Athletic Director of The University Tennessee, has served as JFI's National Spokesperson since May 1998. Coach Fulmer's efforts continue to help JFI bring national attention to the tragedy of youth suicide, as well as the resources available for prevention

efforts. Coach Fulmer also leads JFI's efforts with the American Football Coaches Association and is co-host of JFI's largest annual fundraiser, The Phillip Fulmer & Charlie Daniels Golf Classic. www.phillipfulmer.com



In 2003, legendary entertainer **Charlie Daniels** became a celebrity spokesperson for JFI. In addition to being co-host for The Phillip Fulmer & Charlie Daniels Golf Classic, Charlie lends his passion and support in many ways. Through interviews, public service announcements, and other

media, Charlie helps keep the mission of The Jason Foundation in the forefront of his many fans and the nation. **www.charliedaniels.com** 



Rascal Flatts – Gary LeVox, Jay DeMarcus and Joe Don Rooney - became Ambassadors for JFI in June 2010. In addition to their roles in public service announcements, public

awareness programs and fundraising, Rascal Flatts also lead the B1 Project. www.rascalflatts.com

In 2004, the National Association of Attorneys General passed a resolution encouraging members to become involved in educating the public about youth suicide. The State Attorneys General, who work with JFI as Ambassadors, are instrumental in helping JFI build relationships in their states for youth suicide prevention.

# **STATISTICS**

- For middle and high school age youth (ages 12-18), suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death. (CDC WISQARS)
- For college age youth (ages 18-22), suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death. (CDC WISQARS)
- Overall, suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for our youth ages 10-24. (CDC WISQARS)
- On average, we lose more than 130 youth to suicide every week.

# CDC YOUTH RISK BEHAVIORAL SURVEY:

- Over one out of every six of our nation's youth (17.2%) seriously considered suicide in the previous twelve months.
- Almost one out of every seven young people (13.6%) actually made a plan to attempt suicide in the previous twelve months.
- Over one out of every fourteen young people (7.4%) reported attempting suicide one or more times in the past twelve months.

# NATIONAL COMMUNITY AFFILIATES







#### SPRINGSTONE



# NATIONAL AWARENESS AFFILIATES







For a listing of our dynamic partners and affiliates, please visit our website at www.jasonfoundation.com/about-us/our-support/ affiliates/

## **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, regularly reviewed for clinical and educational soundness, and is one of the most widely used youth suicide prevention programs in the United States.





## 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.





#### "A FRIEND ASKS" 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 Google Play, or go to jasonfoundation.com and look for "A Friend Asks."

## PARENT RESOURCE PROGRAM (PRP)

A web-based program for schools, churches, or community organizations that provides insight into awareness and prevention. Statistics, warning signs, and elevated risk factors are discussed.



elevated risk factors are discussed. Also, information is provided to help build an action plan for prevention.

#### #IWONTBESILENT

#IWONTBESILENT is an ongoing, awareness campaign from The Jason Foundation that encourages the community to raise the national conversation of youth suicide prevention. The campaign encourages and offers suggestions to conduct awareness events in schools, businesses, churches, and other organizations.





#### **BI 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. Learn more at www.rascalflattsb1.com.

#### **JEANS 4 JASON**

At your place of business, school, or office, your participants, who are normally required to wear business attire or uniform, can make a donation and in return, wear jeans for a day, week,



or however long you designate. To download a kit, or to get more information, please visit www.jeans4jason.com.

# STAFF DEVELOPMENT MODULES

JFI offers staff development modules via an online library on JFI's website or by DVD. The modules are designed specifically for educators but are also useful for any type of youth worker. On average, more than 100,000 teacher trainings are completed each year through JFI modules. For a detailed description of each of the trainings, visit our Online Professional Development Library at learn.jasonfoundation.com.



#### THE JASON FLATT ACT

Passed in over a third of the states, The Jason Flatt Act is the most comprehensive suicide prevention law in the country requiring educators to have training in youth suicide awareness and prevention. Visit our website for the complete list of participating states. 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 by 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. Please refer to your local school district with questions regarding requirements for staff development programs. The states highlighted in teal are our JFA states.



# ABOUT THE JASON FOUNDATION, INC.

The Jason Foundation, Inc. (JFI) was founded in 1997, after the tragic suicide of JFI's President Clark Flatt's youngest son Jason. JFI has never charged a school, educator, church, youth group, or community for the use of any of our programs or services. This assures that "lack of funding" is never the sole deciding factor of who can receive these life-changing/life-saving programs and resources. From a kitchen table start-up, JFI is now considered to be a national leader in youth suicide awareness and prevention. JFI's suicide prevention programs are in use in all 50 states and several foreign countries. To learn more visit **www.jasonfoundation.com.** 

# **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

