THANK YOU

We are proud to provide this presentation to the AG - Kansas Task Force addressing youth suicide.

- What has your organization been doing that works?
- What hurdles have you encountered
- Recommendations for Kansas?
I want to begin with a brief introduction to The Jason Foundation, Inc. – or JFI as our friends call us.
JFI... THE BEGINNING... JULY 16, 1997
As one of the oldest and largest youth suicide prevention non-profits in the nation – 21 years of service – JFI is proud to be recognized as a national leader in youth suicide awareness and prevention.
OUR MODEL

National Community Affiliates

FIVE STONES

ACADIA HEALTHCARE

HCA Hospital Corporation of America®

SIGNATURE HEALTHCARE SERVICES, LLC

SPRINGSTONE®

STRATEGIC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, LLC
OUR MODEL
National Awareness Affiliates
OUR FOOTPRINT

125 Affiliate Offices + JFI Corporate
Located in 33 states serving all 50
The CDC has suggested that any prevention effort / program for adolescents should utilize all interconnected sources who daily impact a young person’s life.

Triangle of Prevention

Youth

Educators / Youth Workers

Parents / Communities
School-Based Curriculum

“B1” JFI & Rascal Flatts

#iwontbesilent / #wewontbesilent
A school-based curriculum that provides a 3 to 5 lesson unit in positive peer support awareness and prevention of youth suicide. It stresses how to help a friend who may be thinking about suicide.
Rascal Flatts / Jason Foundation

Someone You Know May Need a Friend

Awareness and education are key to preventing youth suicide, the 2nd leading cause of death for young people ages 10-24.

LEARN how you can B1 for a friend
rascalflattsB1.com
#IWONTBESILENT

#WEWONTBESILENT

#IWONTBESILENT is the Jason Foundation's challenge to everyone to start a national conversation about the "Silent Epidemic" of youth suicide.
“A Friend Asks”
A smartphone application
Android or Apple

Free Download
JFI Website, Apple Store, or
Android Market

“Warning Signs – do’s and don’ts –
How to Help a Friend - Resources -
Instant Connectivity to National
Talkline / Crisis Line
Training for Educators to be better able to recognize and appropriately respond is critical in addressing Youth Suicide

The Jason Flatt Act
- 2007 / Tennessee -
Since that date, Louisiana, Mississippi, California, Illinois, Arkansas, West Virginia, Utah, South Carolina, Alaska, Ohio, North Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, Georgia, Texas, South Dakota, Alabama, Kansas and Idaho have passed and signed into Law The Jason Flatt Act – 20 states total.
THE JASON FLATT ACT

States That Have Passed The Jason Flatt Act
Raising Awareness and Providing the information, tools and resources to help better be able to recognize and appropriately respond to young people who may be struggling with thoughts of suicide.
PARENT / COMMUNITY SEMINAR

If parents are not aware of the danger of youth suicide, they do not look for, nor would they even recognize “signs of concern.” This program helps bring an awareness of the danger while providing practical tools and resources to help a parent identify possible “signs of concern” in their son or daughter. Possible resources for help are also identified and discussed.
When the Triangle of Prevention is fully implemented AND becomes a regular activity...
A community has built an effective suicide prevention initiative.
Hurdles??

1) Dealing with Myths
2) Reluctance of schools to implement (usually based on myths above)
3) Legislative Hurdles
4) Territorial Behavior – both from state and non-profits
KANSAS...

Full Implementation and Accountability Of The Jason Flatt Act

Student Awareness Involvement
B1 or #iwon'tbesilent
Type campaigns
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