

# **FACTS ABOUT** MENTAL ILLNESS

Mental illnesses are biologically based brain disorders. Like a thyroid disorder and diabetes, they must be treated medically and have nothing to do with moral fortitude.

1 in 5 American families has a loved one with a serious brain disorder.

Family members suffer along with the individual who experiences the illness.

7.7 million U.S. youth aged 6-17 experienced a mental health disorder in 2016.

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 and 34, and the fourth leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 35 and 54.

Over 90% of all suicides are the result of untreated or improperly treated brain disorders.

Stigma surrounding mental illness prevents people from seeking treatment.

Recovery is possible with appropriate medications, counseling, and supportive services.



## **GET INVOLVED** WITH FACES

### ■ Support Groups

Family members gather in a confidential setting to encourage one another with shared experiences, knowledge and hope. All meetings are held at the FACES Center on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. We start promptly at 7:00 p.m. and end promptly at 8:30 p.m.

### ■ Community Education Meetings

Leaders in the mental health field speak on a variety of subjects ranging from mental health crisis, mental health legal issues, medications, medical research, treatment opportunities, housing & residential issues, insurance and financial issues, as well as many other relevant topics. Meetings are held at the FACES Center on the 4th Tuesday of most months. We start promptly at 7:00 p.m. and end promptly at 8:30 p.m.

#### Resources

FACES has an Executive Director available to answer questions and help connect families to needed resources. The FACES Center office includes a lending library of mental health materials. Check our website for information about upcoming events.

### Connect with FACES

Email: facesorg1@verizon.net Website: www.facesva.org Twitter: @FACESVA Like us on Facebook

### **FACES**

11601 Lucks Lane Midlothian, VA 23114 (804) 378-0035



FACES was founded in loving memory of Justin Myers who lost his life to bipolar disorder. AUGUST 17, 1983 - JUNE 24, 2004



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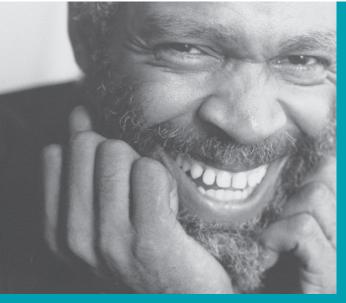






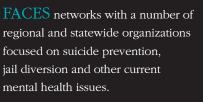
FACES is a non-profit corporation founded by families of loved ones with brain disorders such as bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, depression and schizoaffective disorder.

The mission of FACES is to serve and support families by helping to dissolve the stigma surrounding mental illness. Our goals are to educate the public, provide educational resources, and advocate for access to services.





FACES is currently the only entity in the mental health community with the sole purpose of assisting families of those affected by the devastating consequences of brain disorders. Our members represent a diversity of backgrounds and professions, brought together to fight the stigma of mental illness on behalf of our loved ones. We recognize that the permanent bond of family makes us knowledgeable and effective advocates for the best interests of and treatment decisions for our loved ones.





# MEETING THE NEEDS OF VIRGINIA'S FAMILIES WITH SERVICES AND SUPPORT

FACES is involved with a number of initiatives to support the families of those affected by serious brain disorders. We understand the importance of support and knowledge for family members of people living with a brain disorder. Without anywhere to turn, families can feel overwhelmed, confused, frustrated and develop their own stress-related symptoms. Please join our effort to accomplish the following objectives:

- End the stigma of mental illness by promoting the recognition of mental illness as a brain disorder and a health concern. There is no health without mental health.
- Serve as an educational resource base for families. Our Community Education Meetings and special events are free and open to the public.
- Support and participate in community based programs such as Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for Chesterfield Police. Serve as co-founder and host of the Chesterfield Suicide Awareness & Prevention Coalition.
- Advocate for better mental health services and access to the most effective treatments for all Virginians by attending Virginia General Assembly sessions, partnering with other mental health organizations and hosting special events with mental health professionals.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful. committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has".

Margaret Mead

### YOUR DONATION MATTERS

As our mission indicates, we support, educate, advocate and provide resources for our community. Your generous donations help us reach our goals.

- **\$25 Support:** Keeps vital Support Groups free and accessible for families in crisis.
- **\$50 Educate:** Continues Community Education programs that feature leaders in the mental health, medical, research, legal, financial, and other relevant fields.
- \$100 Advocate: Supports our participation in local programs such as Chesterfield County Police Department's Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), and the efforts of the Chesterfield Suicide Awareness and Prevention Coalition, including it's "Raise Your Voice" presentation about suicide awareness and prevention.
- **\$250 Resources:** One year of providing resource materials to families and community partners such as Richmond metro area police departments, Community Services Boards, and other mental health partners.

Other - All donations are greatly appreciated and make a difference.

Thank you for supporting FACES!

Name	
Address	
City/State	
Telephone	
Email	

Please return to: FACES 11601 Lucks Lane Midlothian, VA 23114 (804) 378-0035



FACES is a 501(c)(3) organization. All gifts are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to FACES. FEIN 75-3176653