



6th Annual Capitol Hill Press Event 04/12/2010 – 10:00AM-11:30 PM Cannon House Caucus Room

Blue October will perform a live acoustic set for 30 minutes-Press conference will be broadcast live

Speakers will include Congressman Kennedy, Postsecret Founder Frank Warren, To Write Love On Her Arms Founder Jamie Tworkowski, 1-800-SUICIDE Founder Reese Butler and Blue October lead singer and songwriter Justin Furstenfeld, Skip Simpson renowned attorney with a specialty in handling inpatient suicide cases and Carolyn Robinowitz, M.D. who is one of the most influential psychiatrists in the world, and past president of the American Psychiatric Association.

Speakers are calling on Congress to enact rules requiring hospital clinicians to be skilled at detecting patients likely to kill themselves and to abolish dangerous hospital observation levels for suicidal patients.

It is estimated that up to 1600 people kill themselves each year in US Hospitals. Studies show up to 95% of clinicians fail basic suicide risk assessment tests. If the mental health industry will not make hospitals safe for its patients on their own, the government will.

The NHN is the first suicide hotline network in the world. Prior to 1998 there was no national toll free hotline that connected to crisis centers that were certified. In 12 years the NHN has grown from 10 calls a day to over 1,000 calls a day. 1-800-SUICIDE has been featured on MTV, MTV2, VH1, Fox Family Channel, HBO, Lifetime TV, BET, Oprah, Americas Most Wanted, OC, Boston Public and Nickelodeon. KBHC founders of 1-800-SUICIDE have accomplished the following:

- Transition from almost 100% federal funding to 100% private donations and grants from the NGO sector
- 5 Annual Press Conferences on Capitol Hill calling for the full funding of the Garret Lee Smith Memorial Act (GLSMA) resulting in the largest funding appropriations for suicide prevention in history and passage of the landmark Mental Health Parity Bill.
- Garnered over 250,000 signatures to support the GLSMA and Mental Health Parity



PostSecret

