



The Difference is Action

July 11, 2014

Rep. Cunningham Introduces Suicide Prevention Resolution in the North Carolina House of Representatives

On July 02, 2014, HR1262 (Suicide Prevention Resolution) passed through the House, moving on to the Senate! The Sponsor of the bill, Representative Carla Cunningham from Mecklenburg County, spoke to the House about the challenges she and her son have faced over the years as he struggled with a mental illness. Her story commanded the attention of everyone in the House Chamber. She also credited and expressed her appreciation to MHA for support and encouragement of her efforts to move forward with this Resolution. MHA applauds Representative Cunningham's achievement to develop legislation that may ultimately lead to a reduction in the suicide rates in N.C., particularly among our Youth and Veterans.



We will provide you another legislative update soon. Please contact us for additional information or other particular bills and/or budget items you recommend that we research and relay to our MHA Advocates.



MHA Announces Staff Changes

First, it is with bittersweet sentiment that we announce the departure of long-time MHA advocate and educator, Kathryn Falbo-Woodson (left in picture). The MHA cannot express how grateful we are to Kathryn for her dedication, passion and commitment to the world of mental health and for all that she has accomplished in her eight-year tenure with the agency. She will be greatly missed here at the MHA but you can be assured that Kathryn will continue to be an active community advocate for mental health. We are sure you will hear more from her in the future! We all wish her well as she embarks on a new chapter in her life.

Second, we are excited to announce that Nancy Woodard (right in picture), Cabarrus Program Coordinator, is transitioning to a new role in the MHA Mecklenburg office. Nancy will be serving as the MHA's Education Coordinator. For anyone desiring to schedule QPR Suicide Prevention, Mental Health First Aid (Adult; Youth; or Public Safety, Corrections & Law Enforcement versions), De-escalation, Managing Money in Recovery, Advocacy 101/201, or other MHA trainings please contact Nancy at 704-365-3454.

The MHA Board will finalize a 3 year Strategic Plan in August and we remain focused on being a catalyst for positive change in North Carolina, promoting mental wellness through prevention and education, and advocating for effective and accessible mental health services.

Contact your policy makers:

<http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Representation/WhoRepresentsMe.aspx>

<http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

Inquire about MHA Training opportunities in your area. We offer Mental Health First Aid (Youth, Adult and Public Safety versions), QPR Suicide Prevention (Gatekeeper, Adapted for Refugees and Train the Trainer), Advocacy and Managing Money in Recovery.

Contact Nancy Woodard about MHA trainings at email:
nwoodard@mhacentralcarolinas.org
Or Phone 704-365-3454.

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MHA

Spreading Hope, Spurring Action, Supporting Families, Saving Lives! Contact us at 3701 Latrobe Drive, Ste 140, Charlotte, NC 28211. Visit www.mhacentralcarolinas.org or email at mha@mhacentralcarolinas.org or call us at 704.365.3454.

Our mission is to promote mental wellness through advocacy, prevention and education.



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