



AFSP

American Foundation
for Suicide Prevention

17 January 2005

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Beverly Bierman
Courion Corporation
1881 Worcester Road
Framingham, MA 01701

Dear Ms. Bierman & Courion Corporation Staff,

Thank you for your recent donation of the proceeds from your SnackCourier snack table. Your gift of \$100.00 helps the New England Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) to sustain our survivor and prevention programs, expand our outreach and educational activities as well as undertake new activities.

With the help of supporters like you, AFSP/NE continues to provide quality programs. We are delighted to share with you some of the accomplishments of 2004 and the upcoming activities for 2005.

- In Fall 2004, an intern from Smith College began working to bring the College Film Project to colleges and universities in Western MA. The program is an outgrowth of AFSP's commitment to support colleges and universities in implementing suicide prevention as an integral part of their ongoing campus activities and services. It will begin to be facilitated in select classrooms in Massachusetts in Spring of 2005.
- The daylong Spring Survivor Conference held each Spring will be held Saturday April 16th at Holy Cross College in Worcester and will include panel discussions and small group sessions.
- This Fall also brought the addition of our new national signature event – the **Out of the Darkness** Community Walk. Massachusetts was host to 2 of the more than two-dozen walks held across the country. Held in Boston and Springfield, over 700 walkers and volunteers helped us achieve a higher visibility and brought new survivors and supporters to AFSP.

We have already begun work on the 2nd Annual Out of the Darkness Walks:

- *Sunday September 25th, 2005 in Springfield*
- *Saturday October 15th, 2005 at Artesani Park in Brighton.*

We plan to double the number of participants at each site and have even greater media awareness about depression and suicide.

- The November 20th 2004 Survivors of Suicide Conference saw new sites in Massachusetts and New England. We were pleased to have West Springfield, MA and Providence RI participate in the telecast for the first time. Overall 6 sites in 5 New England states participated in the telecast.

We continue to reach out to new communities across New England to address groups about depression and suicide. Thank you again for your contribution enabling AFSP to increase awareness and build upon our prevention and survivor activities.

Sincerely,

Kimberly D. Gleason
Regional Director