

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: <insert contact person and contact information>

Touring Family Diversity Projects Exhibit, NOTHING TO HIDE: Mental Illness In The Family, visits <insert location>.

Jaime Campbell is a young woman who has schizophrenia. "When I first got sick," she says, "almost all of my friends gave up on me. One friend even called me a 'schizoid'. I had been there for them when they needed me, but when I needed them, they were gone. For me, losing my friends is the saddest example of the stigma of mental illness."

An exhibition of NOTHING TO HIDE: Mental Illness In The Family, a touring photo-text display created by the award-winning Family Diversity Projects of Amherst, Massachusetts is scheduled to be featured at <insert event information>.

NOTHING TO HIDE provides people coping with mental illness and their families an opportunity to come out of the shadows and into the public eye. The compelling stories of children, siblings, parents, grandparents and extended family members demonstrate strength, courage, integrity, and accomplishment in the face of adversity and stigma. Mike Campbell, Jaime's dad says, "Living with mental illness is a struggle and a real test of your faith, but getting through it provides that the human spirit can survive."

Created by Family Diversity Projects, Inc. a non-profit organization based in Amherst, Massachusetts, this powerful and moving exhibit travels nationwide to mental health centers, hospitals, high schools, colleges, universities, corporations, libraries and faith houses in an effort to help dispel harmful stereotypes, myths and misconceptions about mental illness. NOTHING TO HIDE consists of photographs by Gigi Kaeser and text from interviews conducted by Jean Beard and Peggy Gillespie with individuals and their families whose lives have been affected by schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, major depression, and other serious brain disorders.

Released in October 2002 by The New Press, NOTHING TO HIDE is also available as a book. "This wonderful book will touch the heart of anyone who has been close to mental illness", reports Lesley Stahl, co-editor of 60 Minutes. "It is a book that everyone should read." Showcasing 44 families who defy the stigma of mental illness by speaking candidly about their lives, the book version of NOTHING TO HIDE consists of photographs and first-person accounts from in-depth interviews with families in which one or more individual has been diagnosed with a psychiatric illness.

Internet browsers can view images, interviews, and other information about the NOTHING TO HIDE exhibit and book at www.familydiv.org.

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