



Southwestern
Pennsylvania

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For Immediate Release

INTERNATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION ADVOCATE TO VISIT PITTSBURGH
After Surviving a Jump from the Golden Gate Bridge, Kevin Hines Reaches Out to Young Adults at Regional Conference with a Message of Hope and Recovery

Pittsburgh, Pa.— In the year 2000, two years after being diagnosed with bipolar disorder, Kevin Hines tried to take his own life by jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge. He immediately regretted his decision and, remarkably, Kevin survived. Since then, he has dedicated his life to living and staying mentally well and inspiring young adults to change their lives for the better. In his keynote presentation at NAMI Southwestern Pennsylvania's **14th Annual Education Conference**, Kevin will discuss his experience as a 19-year old on the brink of despair and how parents, teachers and other role models can connect with and help young adults who are coping with mental illness. He will speak with gripping candor about surviving his suicide attempt and his journey through recovery.

- WHAT:** NAMI Southwestern Pennsylvania 14th Annual Education Conference
Young Adults and Mental Illness: Voices for Hope
- WHEN:** Saturday, April 12, 2014
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- WHERE:** Pittsburgh Airport Marriott, 777 Aten Drive, Coraopolis, PA 15108
- WHO:** [Kevin Hines](#), International Suicide Prevention Advocate
[Stacy Pershall](#), Author of *Loud Inside the House of Myself*
[Dana M. DeFonso](#), Clinician and Supervisor, SPS Behavioral Health
[Christine Michaels](#), MSHSA, Executive Director, NAMI Southwestern PA

“For the first time, with thanks to Project Transition, we are able to bring an international speaker, Kevin Hines, to our annual conference,” said Christine Michaels, executive director of NAMI Southwestern Pennsylvania. “A world famous presenter, Kevin is captivating and inspiring. He and our other speakers Stacy Pershall and Dana DeFonso are the voices of hope at our 14th Annual Education Conference.”

NAMI Southwestern Pennsylvania (an affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness through recovery focused support, education and advocacy. More information is available at www.namiswpa.org or by calling (412) 366-3788.

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