



STIGMA ENIGMA"
An awareness dinner supporting:
Maryvale Mental Health

Connie Martin
cmartin@maryvale.ca
519-258-0549 Ext 2137

August 23, 2014

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to you on behalf of a recently established group of ten outstanding local citizens and former basketball players in Southwestern Ontario, in particular Windsor. This committee is composed of Mike Brkovich, Dennis Byrne, Paul Carter, Pete Cusumano, Sante Salvador, Tom Smith, Chuck Smith, Cristina Meret, Julie Davis and me, Patrick X. Smith. Our dream is to improve awareness as well as provide funding to Windsor's Maryvale Mental Health Centre, ultimately helping young people and families in the Windsor-Essex area suffering from mental health issues.

We are coordinating an initial fund-raising dinner and silent auction on Saturday, November 8, 2014 at the Walkerville Brewery in Windsor Ontario. That evening will include guest speakers, Aisha Alfa – comedian and motivational speaker, Ted Ball – health policy consultant, and from London my nephew Jordan Smith. Two of Jordan's siblings – Sophie and Geoff both suffered from mental illness and as a result took their own lives. The goal of our dinner is to raise funds and awareness and reduce the stigma that inhibits most people with mental health issues from seeking help.

I am hoping you/your organization can help with this event. We will have a silent auction and a donation or financial contribution from you would help us raise much needed funds for young people in our community. Your gift could be in the form of products or gift certificates for products or services available at your business. By donating, your contribution will help to make life better for individuals in need, right here in our community. Any donations will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for considering our request. If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Patrick X. Smith