



# Speakers' Bureau

**EDUCATE – EXPERIENCE – EMPOWER**

CHARG Speakers' Bureau was created to **educate** people about mental illness and mental health related topics.

Our speakers offer firsthand **experience** with symptoms, treatment and coping strategies of mental illness.

We offer the tools necessary to **empower** individuals to take control of their symptoms and regain their lives.

**Colorado industry loses \$886 million a year due to untreated depression.**

(Based on 2004-2005 Colorado Department of Labor and Employment statistics run through a depression calculator)



**CHARG Speakers' Bureau 2009**

The mission of **CHARG Resource Center** is to advance a model of genuine partnership among individuals who live with mental illness, mental health professionals, and the larger community through respectful comprehensive services.

**The average cost to Colorado businesses in lost productivity and absenteeism due to an untreated mental health condition is \$200 - \$400 per month.**

**Other costs to the bottom line include: turnover, retraining expenses, and poor morale.**

(Mental Health America 2008)

## **"I am not my illness"**

Many of the mental health consumers you will encounter at CHARG Resource Center will tell you that, although it plays a major role in their lives, they do not want to be defined by their illness. However, the speakers will tell you of personal experiences surrounding their illnesses and how it affects their lives. They will tell you how they came to be who they are based on their interactions with others and life events, and will be able to relate these experiences to their diagnoses. We can also provide information on where to get started when an individual decides to seek treatment or for family members in need of support.

**The treatment success rate for depression is 80%.**

(National Institutes of Mental Health)

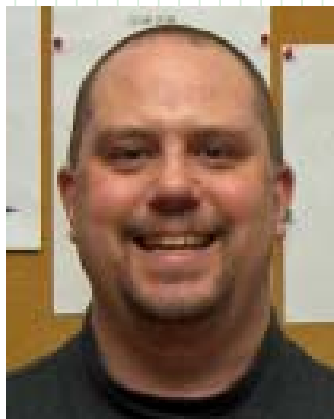
**41 cents is the cost per month, per policy holder, to provide mental health coverage in business insurance plans.**

(Government Accounting Office GAO)

## **We can arrange presentations on the following topics:**

- Affiliated Resources
- Anxiety Disorders
- Dissociative Identity Disorder
- Mood Disorders
- Personality Disorders
- PTSD
- Relationship Between Mental & Physical Health
- Risk factors and symptoms of Depression
- Substance Abuse
- Suicidality
- Thought Disorders
- Other topics related to mental health can be arranged upon request.

For more information or to schedule a workshop, please contact



Aron Williams - Speakers' Bureau Coordinator

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