

MENTAL ILLNESS F.A.C.T.S.

A Partnership for Family And Consumer True Stories

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PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mental Illness F.A.C.T.S., a California-based partnership for Family And Consumer True Stories, will promote public awareness and understanding of the proposal by Rep. Tim Murphy—the first comprehensive plan to set priorities for treatment of mental illnesses and act upon established knowledge. Mental health systems across the country and the consumers and families seeking treatment are short-changed by a massive waste of resources on a side industry of studying, conferencing, and reporting on problems with known solutions. This bill can finally fund results.

We look forward to the introduction of Rep. Murphy's bill, which promises to finally focus on fulfilling known unmet needs, and supporting the most essential programs that contribute to relief from painful and debilitating symptoms of serious mental illnesses and progress toward genuine healing.

Rose King, a founding partner of Mental Illness FACTS, said "Rep. Tim Murphy's proposal is the first opportunity for families and consumers to organize support for federal action that will focus on realistic and known treatments that are widely neglected in mental health systems. As a wife, mother, and grandmother of individuals deprived of the most fundamental services, I celebrate the possibility of finally recognizing priorities for funding and national action.

Fully fund what we know! The essentials are not a mystery—the priorities of competent, knowledgeable physicians, a medication regimen developed with the most attentive and frequent contact needed with the consumer, individual therapies tailored and available as needed by the consumer, supportive housing to maximize independence, respect, and recognition of individual conditions, and productive development of skills desired by consumers. Research must continue to open doors, and answer more questions—progress must be constant—but I hope to see an end to the massive waste of scarce resources by a cottage industry of invented needs and useless investigations."