



**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated®, and The National Alliance of Mental Illness
Invites Youth to Develop a Mental Health-focused Public Service Announcement**

The District of Columbia graduate chapters of Alpha Kappa Sorority, Incorporated® and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, Alpha Omega Chapter in conjunction with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), DC Chapter, are excited to present our *Mental Health Awareness* event on **Saturday, April 8, 2017 from 2pm – 5pm** at the **Kingsbury Center 5000 14th St, NW Washington, DC 20011**.

We are asking that you register and bring students and youth ages 13 - 18 from your school/church/organization to this free event. In exchange for two community service hours, youth will develop a public service announcement (PSA) for their peers about bullying, stigma, and self-esteem. Youth can use spoken word, art, music, dance or storytelling to develop their PSA. PSAs may be recorded and compiled into a short film.

There will be adult facilitators to provide youth with ideas for their PSA, information on mental health, and printed resources available. Giveaways for the youth and refreshments will be provided at the conclusion of the program. Registration for each participant is required (see link below).

Did you know...

- Approximately 10% to 13% of youth are faced with the burden of mental illness and are often doubly burdened by bullying or fear of bullying because they are perceived by their peers as being “different.”
- In DC, there are about 13,000 young people with mild to severe mental health issues.
- The DC Department of Behavioral Health served approximately 4,000 young people and school based mental health services provided support to approximately 14,000 children in drop in centers in over 70 schools in 2015.

The media is replete with images depicting emotional disturbance in our youth. These images affect us all and we must address them. Success of our youth in school and the community is dependent upon their managing stressors and resources around them.

For more information, please contact programs@rhomuomega.org. Youth should go the following link to register and to download the video and photography release form to be signed by a parent or guardian: <https://lifeisworthliving.eventbrite.com>

In service to our youth and families on behalf of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated,

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