

# Community News and Updates

## In Memoriam: Shanthi Veeramachaneni



My daughter, Shanthi Veeramachaneni, born March 26, 1995, lost her battle with OCD and trichotillomania in August. She was a proud member and advocate for the TLC organization and community. She attended a number of conferences and relayed

to me the greatness of this organization, as well as its members, many of whom became her friends in their shared struggle against Trichotillomania.

Shanthi was beautiful, intelligent, and cared about people and politics. She was a senior at the University of Michigan. She loved reading, hiking, discussing and analyzing current events and was a foodie and fashionista.

Her OCD and trichotillomania deterred her from doing what she loved most, reading and writing, and steadily chipped away at her ability to function over the last ten years. She was a huge JK Rowling fan, perhaps partly because her characters suffered from OCD.

She tried different medications and therapy over the years in her continuing struggle against these deadly disorders, but could not find the relief she needed to extinguish her pain. She was an advocate for all those suffering from mental illness and for eliminating the stigma associated with it. I, as

her mother, hope to continue to support these causes, including research for better treatment, and eventual cures for OCD and Trichotillomania.

*Geetha Nimmagadda*

*Proud Mother of Shanthi*

*While BFRBs by themselves are generally not fatal illnesses, coexisting conditions such as major depression can be. As a service to our community, we are sharing these important suicide prevention resources:*

<https://www.bfrb.org/resources-for-suicide-prevention>

## Shanthi Veeramachaneni

## Trichotillomania Memorial Fund

Geetha and TLC have established the Shanthi Veeramachaneni Trichotillomania Memorial Fund. Shanthi was passionate about TLC's mission to end the suffering caused by BFRBs, and funds will support research to find a cure and scholarships to allow people to attend conferences and webinars.

If you have questions about donating to the Shanthi Veeramachaneni Trichotillomania Memorial Fund, please contact Jennifer Straw at [jstraw@bfrb.org](mailto:jstraw@bfrb.org), 831-457-1004, ext 8.