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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

From: BeingwellCA

**LOCAL ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH NON-PROFIT ANNOUNCES EXCITING NEW CAMPAIGN TO RAISE FUNDS TO ADDRESS MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS IN OUR SCHOOLS. NEW SB21 -MENTAL AWARENESS LICENSE PLATE BILL INTRODUCED TO PROVIDE FUNDS AND RESOURCES FOR WELLNESS CENTERS IN SCHOOLS?**

BeingwellCA was formed in June 2019 as a California 510(c)(3) surviving parents of adolescent suicide, Graham and Caroline Wiseman, whose son tragically died from suicide at the age of 15. Together with Gail Miller, President of BeingwellCA, developed the organization whose goals are to promote and maintain the fidelity of the On-campus Wellness Centers project as defined by the California Department of Education (CDE) by utilizing funds raised by the MHA Wellness Center Program and to launch and support the **California Mental Health Awareness License Plate (BEWELL), SB21.**

SB21, which was introduced by State Senator Steven Glazer in January, 2020 and if approved will authorize the DMV to issue a Special License Plate for Mental Health Awareness. The final design of the license plate will be based upon results of a statewide middle and high school art contest.

“Our goal in the passing of SB 21 is to aide our schools with the necessary funds to have the ability to reduce anxiety, depression & suicide in our youth. Through developed workshops and seminars created by BeingwellCA, we are able to provide our schools, parents, students & communities with workshops, strategies and guidance for Wellness Centers that provide immediate mental health support to our youth, in real time.” Said Graham Wiseman, CEO of BeingwellCA.

The trio, through the founding of BeingwellCA has taken up the challenge of addressing youth mental health in our communities, and starting from their local communities, the idea and scope of the BeingwellCA program has grown to a statewide campaign. BeingwellCA is designed to give the tools and training needed for students, parents and administrators to assist our youth with mental health issues. Since it’s beginning, BeingwellCA has created 40 wellness centers in their area, and because of the tremendous success of the centers, BeingwellCA has fully committed to the concept of providing centers across California to provide an equitable solution for all students. “When we lost our son Colin to suicide, we heard so many people share: ‘I can’t imagine.’ The fact is, we don’t want you to imagine. We would rather you devote

your thoughts to how to help other children and families stay off the path we are now on.” Said BeingwellCA Secretary Caroline Wiseman.

In order for SB21 to move forward, BeingwellCA needs to obtain 7,500 of signatures from the California public for the Department on Education to approve the bill to move forward and make it a reality. To sign up to show your support please go to [http://beingwellCA.org](#) to sign the pledge to support SB21, and show our state policy makers that we need to work to shed light on child mental health, and show our children that we care.

Visit our website at <http://beingwellCA.org>

Or Contact BeingwellCA at 925.209.6685 or by email to [graham@BeingwellCA.org](mailto:graham@BeingwellCA.org)



A CALIFORNIA 501(C)(3) CORPORATION - [INFO@BEINGWELLCA.ORG](mailto:INFO@BEINGWELLCA.ORG) · (925) 209-6685 · LAFAYETTE, CA