



**Event:** Community Forum for Students, Youth Groups, Parents, Schools, Mental Health Providers, and All Concerned Community Members

**When:** September 24, 2015

**Where:** Haverhill High School Auditorium, 137 Monument Street, Haverhill

**Time:** 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

**RSVP:** Debbie at [dhelms@fsmv.org](mailto:dhelms@fsmv.org)—978-327-6671 or Larry at [lberkowitz@riversidecc.org](mailto:lberkowitz@riversidecc.org) by **September 16.**

**Guest Speaker:** *Kevin Breel, 21 year old author from Canada, stand up comic and activist for mental health*

In high school, Kevin was popular, on the honor roll, captain of the basketball team, fun to be around, and as a teenager, secretly depressed. One difficult night, Kevin made the choice to live instead of taking his life. We invite everyone to come and listen as he explains how he decided to live and why as well as the importance of opening up to each other, sharing each other's struggles, and asking for help.

At the forum, we will announce details of a contest for all schools in the northeast area. Students and youth groups will be encouraged to submit a proposal to our coalition to develop a suicide prevention initiative during the school year. This could be anything from new ways to encourage communication about mental health and suicide prevention, to developing a social media campaign, to ways to promote suicide prevention and resiliency, to developing a peer program for students. Several cash prizes will be awarded for innovative proposals to help implement the new initiative. Awardees will present their programs at next year's annual leadership breakfast.

Contest information and an application form will be available at the community forum on September 24 or by contacting [dhelms@fsmv.org](mailto:dhelms@fsmv.org). The event is free and open to everyone. Registration is required.

