

Your Story Matters - Speakers



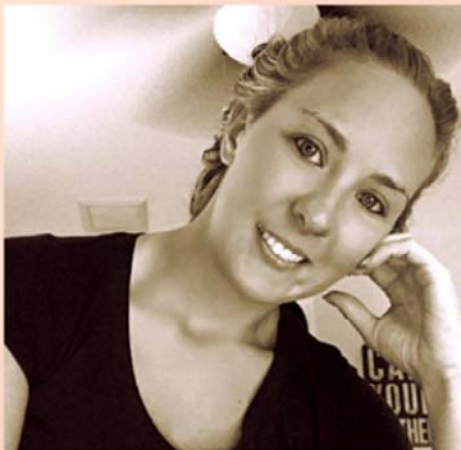
Emma Benoit is a suicide prevention advocate who uses her tragic experience to help others find hope. After a suicide attempt at age 16 left her paralyzed, Emma started the **Life Rejuvenated** website and blog to help other young people. She was recently featured on the show **Red Table Talk** and has a soon to be released documentary, **My Ascension**, which focuses on her story and the youth suicide epidemic.



Armando Grillo owns several businesses and has worked for over 15 years as a sales executive and mortgage broker. He grew up in Allentown, Pennsylvania, where his community and family were riddled with mental illness, drug abuse, poverty and violence. He has overcome many challenges in life and is committed to helping others do the same.



Melissa Hopely Rice shares her inspiring story of mental health recovery to audiences across the nation and is the author of the book, **The People You Meet in Real Life**. In partnership with the non-profit **Michael's Giving H.A.N.D.**, she works to reduce the stigma around mental illness and shift social attitudes through awareness programs and educational partnerships.



Marissa MacKeverican is the youth support coordinator for **Magellan Healthcare** serving Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Marissa utilizes her lived experience to promote the voices of youth and young adults. Her expertise includes public speaking, transition planning, peer support initiatives and team building to promote resiliency and recovery while creating positive outcomes for youth.



Gabriel Webster is an actor and mental health advocate who was adopted at a young age. He loves acting and making people laugh and has been featured in a variety of productions. Gabe credits his brother Teddy, who died by suicide, as the reason he is so committed to sharing his story to help others. He is grateful to Michael's Giving H.A.N.D for helping him share his story.



Melanie Marshall is a software technology professional who owns her own business. She was a founding member of **MY LIFE Pennsylvania** and represented MY LIFE nationally for several years. In her teens she spent time in residential treatment due to mental health issues, an eating disorder and suicide attempts. Melanie loves using her experience to help others.