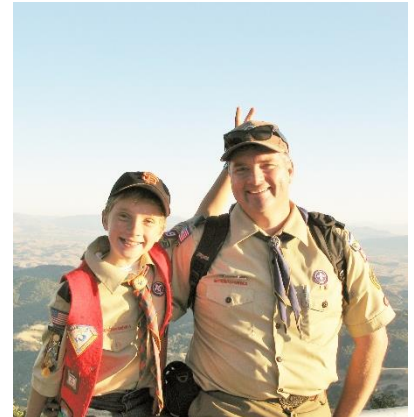


Dear Scout, Scouter or Scout family,

Like the path to Eagle, when we start life's journey, no one knows all that lay ahead. But no one ever expects to lose a child along that journey.

We lost our son Colin, Troop 200 Lafayette, CA, to suicide at age 15. He was a wonderful young man, son, brother and fierce friend who lost his battle with depression. He could calm a rambunctious Scout Troop with just his harmonica and cause hearts to soar with his French Horn. Colin is remembered for his kindness and hugs that took away all that was hurting. His humor and wisdom were beyond his years. We miss him so much. It is in his honor that **BeingwellCA** was formed to give other young people the resources they need when the world is just too much.



Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future.

John F. Kennedy

Winning design from statewide contest for high school students

Problem:

- 1 in 4 young people age 18 to 24 have seriously considered suicide in the past 30 days (1)
- California ranks **48th** in the nation for providing mental health support to kids 3-17 that need it (2)
- **75%** of mental health issues present themselves before a child leaves school
- Auditor for the State of California found that **NONE** of 1,034 School Districts employed the minimum recommended counselors, nurses social workers or psychologists (3)

Response: SB21 (Glazer)

SB21 will create the Mental Health Awareness License Plate. Monies raised go to the California Department of Education to fund mental health supports such as Wellness Centers and reduce stigma. Creating Wellness Centers is a proven concept to deliver immediate help to students when facing a mental health issue and make school a safe place.

A recent study by University of Michigan showed a **660% reduction in student deaths** by adding a caring adult to their lives. Wellness Centers are where we find those caring adults and so is Scouting. We have over 100 years experience in providing youth with caring adults to guide them. Now its time to provide them to all youth throughout our state.

Imagine having this impact in our state just by purchasing a license plate!

ACTIONS: To help pass this critical bill, just follow these three simple steps today to give our kids the help they need.

- 1) **REGISTER:** your interest in getting the Mental Health Awareness License Plate - <https://beingwellca.org/register-for-plate>
- 2) **FORWARD:** this email to everyone you know concerned about mental health
- 3) **SEND:** letters/emails to Senator Glazer and Superintendent Thurmond

Senator Steve Glazer

Attn: Caila Pedroncelli
Capitol Office, Senator Steve Glazer
State Capitol, Room 5108
Sacramento, CA 95814

EMAIL: Caila.Pedroncelli@sen.ca.gov
CC: info@beingwellca.org

Superintendent Tony Thurmond

Attn: Bryan Sapp, Legislative Representative
California Department of Education
1430 N Street
Sacramento CA 95814-5901

EMAIL: baspp@cde.ca.gov
CC: info@beingwellca.org



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 energy and thoughts to how to help other children and families stay off the path we are now on.

We have all seen the Yosemite or Whale Tail license plates. Like them, this plate can bring in bring millions of dollars for years to come, providing real help for students struggling with anxiety, depression and suicide ideation.

Please join us today as he honor our son and his life with SB21 (Glazer).

Graham Wiseman

CEO & Co-founder
925-209-6685



<http://www.beingwellca.org>

