



2003 Lifesavers Dinner Honors Senator Domenici, Drs. Farberow and Lönnqvist, Hartley and Goodstein Family

Record Attendance and Funds Raised at 15th Annual Gala

NEW YORK CITY, MAY 7 — In what has become the premier gala event for suicide prevention, the Foundation's annual Lifesavers Dinner set new precedent this year, breaking previous attendance records and raising a record \$600,000 for suicide prevention research and education.

"We are here tonight to help raise public awareness and much-needed funds for suicide prevention," actor **Gerald McRaney**, the evening's emcee, said to the 600 guests inside Cipriani 42nd Street. "This was the purpose of the first dinner 15 years ago and it is our purpose this evening — the only difference is that the event is larger, with



AFSP Survivor Award honorees Michele and Fred Goodstein with AFSP College Film participants Paul Franke and Kim Strouse

more and more supporters behind the Foundation."

Two of those supporters, **Fred and Michele Goodstein**, were honored with the AFSP Survivor Award for spearheading a new national campaign by AFSP to educate college students about depression and the risk for

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suicide. The Goodsteins lost their son, Jonathan, to suicide while he was attending college in 1999.

The campaign includes a documentary film featuring students who have lost a peer to suicide or have struggled with their own suicidal depression, and encourages students to seek help for themselves or a peer.

The film was showcased at the dinner and served as a poignant reminder as to the severity of college suicide and depression and why raising awareness remains so vital.

"Soon after Jonathan died, our family decided to be proactive," Michele Goodstein said during her acceptance. "With the help of our daughter and son-in-law, our close friends, our relatives and our entire community, we raised the funds to produce this film.

"Jonathan exhibited behaviors that were markedly different for him in the days before he took his life. His friends all saw these changes, but they didn't know what they were, and they didn't know what to do about it. It is our hope that this film will provide that important information to help others seek help for themselves or for a friend."

College film participants Kim Strouse, who lost her sister, Kristin, to suicide, and Paul Franke, who sought treatment for his depression, presented the Survivor Award to the Goodsteins.

Former U.S. Surgeon General and previous Lifesavers Dinner honoree **Dr. David Satcher** was on hand to present the AFSP Lifetime Achievement Award to **Dr. Norman L. Farberow**, a pioneer in suicide prevention research.

"Tonight, we honor a person whose work has heavily influenced the National Strategy