

## Recent Successes

Within the last year the Families Voices Forum have made a number of positive progressions including:

- Secured represented on all local Strategy Implementation Groups
- Secured places on all regional Strategy Groups that oversee suicide policy, mental health policy and self-harm policy.
- Held a major (and successful) conference.
- Fed into the development of the new Public Information Campaign for Northern Ireland.
- Inputted to the re-development of the Minding Your Head website
- Ensured appropriate structures through the appointed of a Chair, Co-Chair and note-taker(s).

The Families Voice Forum is not a support group, however if you need to speak to someone about your own or others thoughts of suicide please contact LIFELINE on **0808 808 8000**.

For support with the loss of a loved one through suicide contact:

### Northern Trust

NHSCT Bereaved by Suicide Support Project  
028 2563 6607

Barnardo's Child Northern Area Children and Young People Bereaved by Suicide Support Project  
07796148549

### Belfast Trust

Family Liaison Officer  
028 95046856

### Southern Trust

Protect Life Coordinator  
028 37412882  
07825627133

### South Eastern Trust

Health Development Specialist (Suicide Prevention & Prison Health)  
028 91510182 / 028 91510181  
07525298971

### Western Trust

North West Bereaved by Suicide Group  
028 7131 3800

Fermanagh Bereaved by Suicide Group  
028 6632 5811

This document is available in larger print if required.



'The Snowdrop, a symbol of death, hope and new beginnings'



A voice for those bereaved by  
Suicide in Northern Ireland

## What is the Families Voices Forum?

A regional group led by bereaved individuals for bereaved individuals and families

A forum that aims to build the profile of those bereaved by suicide and give them the opportunity to get their voice heard by policy makers

Family Voices Forum will proactively address the issue of stigma which surrounds the area of suicide.

Through our collective voices, we can make change happen

We will hold government departments, agencies and organisations to account regarding their responsibilities for the implementation of Protect Life: the NI Suicide Strategy.

## Who can join Families Voices Forum?

Individuals who have been bereaved by suicide (family and friends).

## Why join Families Voices Forum?

- To Champion, Challenge, Improve and Lead Change within Suicide and Self Harm Policy and Services.
- To Nurture a legacy of hope and support
- To Champion the right of those bereaved by suicide to ensure access to professional levels of care and support.

## Contact

familiesvoicesforum@gmail.com

Bereaved by Suicide Coordination and Development Officer:  
028 7138 3386  
07807873489

## Supporting values of the Families Voices Forum:

- Families and individuals bereaved by suicide are the very heart of everything we do. We represent the voices of those on the ground that live with the reality of suicide everyday of their lives.
- We value life and everyone's right to have that life protected.
- Every member of Families Voices Forum shares responsibility for success of our work as a body. Success is underpinned by the active commitment of each and every member taking responsibility.
- We focus on those critical areas that will bring about the greatest improvement and change in services, support and hope for those bereaved by suicide.
- We will be creative and innovative and challenge accepted norms and ways of doing things.
- We will seek to be collaborative in everything we do with all the necessary agencies and organisations.
- Our work is driven by real merit rather than the will of any one individual or group.
- We shall actively nurture equality and respect for all members regardless of their personal background. We believe in strength of unity through commitment to shared common purpose.