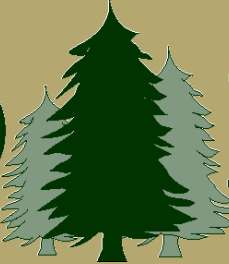


The **CEDAR**  **R** *Review*  
 Associates

*Eating disorders, general psychotherapy, medication management, nutrition and recovery*

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**News & Announcements:**

[CEDAR to Sponsor  
2nd EDF Conference](#)

*Etiologies of Eating Disorders:  
A Deeper Understanding*

**Groups at CEDAR:**

**FREE MONTHLY SUPPORT GROUP  
FOR**

family members, friends and  
partners of eating disorder sufferers

**Next Meeting: Jan 19, 2008**

[Support Group Info & Meeting Dates](#)

**Quote of the Month:**

“Courage to start and  
willingness to keep  
everlasting at it are the  
requisites for success.”  
- Alonzo Newton Benn

*Review, Reflection and Renew*

By: Judy Scheel, Ph.D., LCSW

Much has happened in the field of eating disorders in 2007. New York State saw the passage of the Medical and Mental Health Parity Bill, (Timothy’s Law) signed by then Gov. George Pataki in late December 2006. What is Timothy’s Law? In 2001, Timothy O’Clair hanged himself at the age of 12. His parents spent several years seeking services for their son but due to limits on their mental health coverage they were denied services. This bill will make it easier for people with mental health conditions not to be denied coverage by their insurance company. “The enactment of Timothy’s Law ends the discriminatory practice of providing unequal insurance coverage based on diagnosis, help curb the stigma associated with mental illness, and will allow children like Timothy to receive the services and treatment they need to live full and productive lives.” ([www.TimothysLaw.org](http://www.TimothysLaw.org))

The law essentially puts mental health diagnoses on par with medical diagnoses. What does this mean for someone with an eating disorder? It prevents an insurance company from denying coverage or imposing strong limitations for coverage for an eating disorder, a mental health condition. Insurance companies routinely denied or limited coverage to persons with eating disorders despite the fact that Anorexia and Bulimia can have

accompanying medical conditions caused by the symptoms of the disorders.

And, August 30, 2007) - Gov. Eliot Spitzer signed into law one bill that will help in early identification and prevention of eating disorders in child actors and models and another bill to improve the quality of care in residential treatment centers. A board has been established (Child Performers Advisory Board) to oversee the “development of guidelines to ensure that child actors suffering from or at risk for eating disorders are identified and have access to treatment. Appointed by the Commissioner of Labor, along with the Commissioners of Health and Mental Health, board members will also develop educational materials to generate awareness and inform actors and models about eating disorders.” (National Eating Disorders Association – NEDA)

To top this – Medical and Mental Health Parity on the national level continues to be sought in Congress. In March 2007, two bills were re-introduced to promote mental health parity.

Please click [here](#) to read more of this letter from Judy on our web site.

2007 Highlights in  
the Field of Eating Disorders



**New Laws Passed &  
Board Established:**

*Timothy’s Law*

*Child Actors & Model  
Early ID and Prevention*

*Residential Treatment  
Center Care Improvement*



**National Level Medical and  
Mental Health Parity pursuit  
continued in Congress:**

*Re-introduction of two bills to  
promote mental health parity*