



FIRST NSSS RESPONSIVENESS TO FAMILIES AWARD TO BE PRESENTED MAY 3

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2013

The North Shore Schizophrenia Society will present its first NSSS Responsiveness to Families Award at an award ceremony at **1 p.m. on Friday, May 3 at the NSSS Family Support Centre, Suite 205, 1865 Marine Drive in West Vancouver**. Refreshments will be served.

The NSSS Responsiveness to Families Award was created to honour the contribution of service providers who recognize the crucial role families play in ensuring people with serious mental illnesses receive the treatment and care they need.

Nominations for service providers including psychiatrists, occupational therapists, social workers and psychiatric nurses were received from family members across Greater Vancouver and the Sea to Sky.

Nominations for the NSSS Responsiveness to Families Award are accepted on an ongoing basis with an annual closing date of February 15. For nomination criteria and rules, see www.northshoreschizophrenia.org/nominations.htm.

NSSS has long advocated for the inclusion of families as an integral part of the treatment team. Family involvement produces better outcomes for people with serious mental illnesses, including higher functioning, improved family well-being, and lower rates of relapse and suicide. Healthcare professionals who communicate with families and work with them as members of the treatment team are helping their patient, the family, and the entire team, as well as following Best Practices.

About the North Shore Schizophrenia Society and its Family Support Centre

The Family Support Centre, operated by the North Shore Schizophrenia Society, serves families coping with all serious mental illnesses including depression, bipolar disorder, anxiety disorders, and borderline personality disorder, as well as schizophrenia. A full description of programs as well as information on illnesses, related issues and more is on our website at www.northshoreschizophrenia.org.

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