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**MHA-NYC Holds Open House for Newly Expanded Crisis Contact Center:  
Learn more about our 14 crisis hotlines and Leadership in Crisis  
Technology, Intervention and Youth Services**

NEW YORK, NY – May 3, 2013 – The Mental Health Association of New York City (MHA-NYC) is pleased to announce our first open house event showcasing the 14 crisis hotlines administered and answered 24/7/365 by our professional Crisis Counselors, as well as the many core competencies in crisis technology and intervention refined by staff. The event is to be held on **Wednesday, May 22, 2013 at 50 Broadway in Lower Manhattan.**

Since 1996, when MHA-NYC took over 800-LIFENET, the organization has greatly expanded our portfolio of crisis hotlines to include the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, the national Disaster Distress Helpline, the anti-bullying BRAVEline, the substance abuse and problem gambling OASAS HOPEline, and the NFL Life Line. Combined, we answer over *100,000 calls per year* from New Yorkers in distress and/or looking for community mental health resources.

The open house will allow members of the press, local elected officials, providers and others to better understand the array of multi-lingual, confidential and toll-free crisis hotlines we offer to people from all over the country. In addition, MHA-NYC will feature learning stations where people in attendance can learn more about the many core competencies in chat/text functions, crisis intervention and youth services that MHA has advanced in recent years. Previously featured as a cover story in *Metro New York*, MHA's crisis contact center is unique in both its scope of service and maintenance of the city's largest computerized database and website offering resources and referrals to mental health, substance abuse and social service providers.

"MHA-NYC's crisis contact center embodies our commitment to providing the people of New York City and State the best mental health counseling, information and referrals possible. From 9-11-01, to Hurricane Sandy and all manner of personal and city-wide crisis in between, our crisis counselors have been vital to helping tens of thousands of New York find a guiding light in their darkest hour." says Giselle Stolper, President and CEO of MHA-NYC.

The open house is **Wednesday, May 22, 2013 at 50 Broadway from 12p-4pm, with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 2:00pm.** To RSVP, please email [jwillinger@mhaofnyc.org](mailto:jwillinger@mhaofnyc.org).

Learn more about MHA-NYC's range of crisis hotlines at: [www.mha-nyc.org/service/crisis-hotline-services.aspx](http://www.mha-nyc.org/service/crisis-hotline-services.aspx).

*MHA-NYC is a non-profit organization that addresses mental health needs in New York City and across the nation. It is a local organization with national impact and has a three-part mission of services, advocacy and education. For over 40 years, MHA-NYC has identified unmet needs and worked to develop culturally sensitive services and programs to improve lives while promoting the importance of mental wellness. [www.mhaofnyc.org](http://www.mhaofnyc.org)*

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