

# YELLOW RIBBON INTERNATIONAL®

## Biography



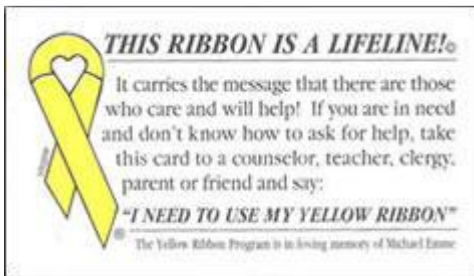
YellowRibbon.org

Many families may find a ray of hope because of the tragedy of one family and the foundation it created.

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The Light for Life Foundation International® began in September of 1994 after the suicide of 17 year-old Mike Emme. In the days following Mike's death, dozens of teenagers approached Mike's family asking what they could do. Mike's parents responded by saying, "Don't commit suicide. Reach out to someone and ask for help."

The teens took notes. "It's okay to ask for help," they wrote. As the teens shared their grief and their stories of friendship with Mike, they also discussed tragedy of teen suicide and ways in which it might be prevented.



"It's okay to ask 4 help" ® became the common theme and the yellow ribbon card was born. The cards feature a yellow ribbon and carry the message that there are people who care and who will listen to you when you need help. The other side of the card states that presenting the card is a cry for help. It features a suicide hotline and instructions on what to do to help in case a person gives you the card.

affiliated with respected mental health and suicide prevention experts. It offers youth and adult seminars, workshops and presentation that teach awareness and strategies to empower youth and adults.

The Yellow Ribbon Program is more than a card. The multifaceted program is



Having been featured in A Third Serving of Chicken Soup for the Soul, on the Oprah show and in People magazine, the Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program® reaches out to an international audience and that audience has responded. To date the program has been implemented by more than 2,000 schools, reaching over 150,000 youths. The program has received more than 30,000 letters from youth that have considered or attempted suicide. The letters contain similar messages, such as "I'm glad to know that you're there and help is available," and "Just having the card makes me feel safer." To date the Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program® has saved an estimated 2500 lives worldwide.

The Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program® is not funded by federal dollars or large corporations, donations come from supporters in communities and go directly to program efforts. Yellow Ribbon International® invites everyone to join with others and help save lives!

**LFLF Int'l / YRSPP is a IRS registered not-for-profit 501 (C) (3) organization #84-1304474**

*Donations in U.S. funds can be mailed to:*

Yellow Ribbon International, P.O. Box 644, Westminster, CO 80036-0644

Office: 303.429.3530 Fax: 303.426.4496

Checks Should Be Made Payable To **YELLOW RIBBON INTERNATIONAL.**

Please Mark Your Donation "New Jersey," the chapter associated with the L.I.V.E - Rock For Life concert.

[www.YellowRibbon.org](http://www.YellowRibbon.org)