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Patrick J. Kennedy to Keynote Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford “Embracing Possibility for Mental Health Awareness” May 17

West Hartford, C.T. / May 17, 2018 – Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford and Tara’s Closet will host the second annual event, “Embracing Possibility for Mental Health Awareness: *A Conversation with the Honorable Patrick J. Kennedy*” Thursday May 17, 2018 7 – 9 p.m. at the Kingswood Oxford School in West Hartford, Connecticut. Patrick J. Kennedy, former Rhode Island Congressman and international advocate for parity in mental health and substance use disorder treatment, will deliver the keynote address. Jenna Bush Hager, contributing correspondent for NBC’s TODAY show, author, and daughter of George W. Bush, will serve as moderator.

The event is sponsored by Tara’s Closet, a JFS program whose mission is to bring to light the stigma of mental illness and aims to tear down misconceptions surrounding mental illness and to end stigma.

For tickets or more information, please visit <http://jfshartford.org/>

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About Patrick J. Kennedy:

Former Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy (D-R.I.) is a lifelong mental health advocate and former member of the President’s Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis. He is the founder of The Kennedy Forum, a convening think tank tackling mental health and addiction issues and co-founder of One Mind, a global leader in open science collaboration for brain research. In 2015, he co-authored *A Common Struggle*, a New York Times best seller, which details his personal journey and provides a roadmap for the future of mental health policy. Mr. Kennedy is pushing for full enforcement of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008. He was the lead sponsor of this groundbreaking legislation, which requires health plans cover mental health, eating disorder, and addiction care health benefits the same way they cover physical health benefits. To learn about Mr. Kennedy’s efforts, please visit www.patrickjkennedy.net.