

## Resources

### Crisis Intervention of Houston

- **TeenLine**, 713-529-TEEN, is a 24-hour crisis hotline for teens to talk about their problems with other teens who are trained to help.
- **Teen Text**, text TEEN to 78247. Sometimes the pressures of being a teen can be overwhelming. Whether it's relationship problems, alcohol, drugs, peer-pressure, bullying, stress or other personal issues, getting help is now as easy as texting a friend.



*The artwork above includes the Hand of Fatimah or Hamsa drawn by Ashley signifying the Hand of God and protection. The helping hands, heart and light were added in this graphic to express the light, hope and caring which are pillars of the Ashley Jadine Foundation.*



[www.afsp.org](http://www.afsp.org)  
Toll Free: 1(888) 333-2377

## Contact Us

The Ashley Jadine Foundation is a 501(3)(c) non-profit organization that seeks to empower teens to overcome suicide and outreach provider.



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*"Talk More...Type Less"*



**Ashley Jadine  
Foundation**

*Dedicated to the Memory of Ashley Jadine  
Duncan and Teen Suicide Awareness &  
Prevention*

**Corinthians 4:6** For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ..

## Introduction

Ashley Jadine Duncan, died on January 30, 2012. She was a victim of suicide. Ashley was 17 years old when she died and a senior at Bellaire High School.

Through social media (Twitter, Tumblr, Facebook, etc.), Ashley kept many of her challenges and emotions hidden from her parents, brother and friends. Social media has become the vehicle through which most teens and young adults express themselves and communicate. An unfortunate result of this medium is decreased response time and effective intervention because face-to-face interaction has become nearly obsolete.

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***“Talk MORE. Text LESS.”***

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A post on Twitter can be lost on the information superhighway while a tragedy unfolds. Such was the case with Ashley; the week and final weekend before she died were filled with Tweets foretelling her tragic end. All the signs were there. Unfortunately, no one acted. Although she had been hospitalized, counseled and placed on medications; still the severity of sadness and depression were kept hidden from loved ones who were not connected with Ashley on social media.

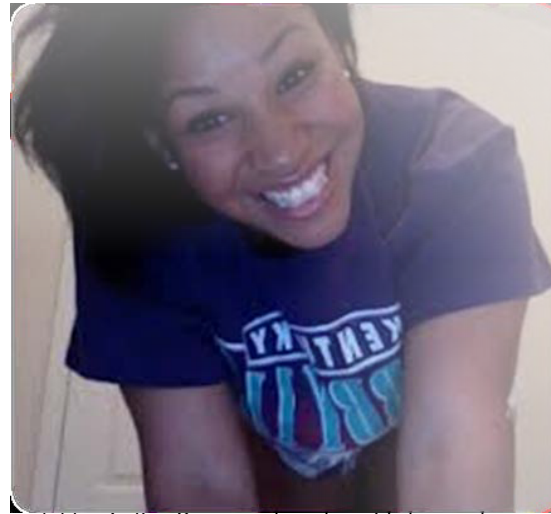
## The Statistics



One of the leading causes of death amongst teenagers is suicide. The Centers for Disease Control report that it is the third leading cause of death, behind accidents and homicide, of people aged 15 to 24.

Suicide is the fourth leading cause of death for children between the ages of 10 and 14. It is the second leading cause of death in college students.

## About Ashley



*Ashley Jadine Duncan when she said she was happy.*

Ashley was a beautiful, vibrant, 17-year old senior high school student in Houston, Texas. She performed well in school and won awards for volleyball, art and did well on the TAKS Test while attending Pershing Middle and Bellaire High School.

Her passion for art garnered her many awards and recognition throughout the community beginning while she attended Kolter Elementary School. She also enjoyed music, writing, computers, soccer, friends and family.

She especially loved playing volleyball with different volleyball clubs. Ashley was a member of Top Teens of America - Houston Chapter where she participated with her brother and friends. Ultimately, her journey was cut short ultimately by depression and other issues.

The Ashley Jadine Foundation is a testament to the positive light and compassion she brought into the lives of others. Her many friends include an extended following of nearly 4,000 on Twitter.

Wearing a mask of smiles, she struggled throughout her life until she succumbed to suicide. Ashley’s struggles gave rise to the purpose of this organization and its focus to address and prevent suicide in teens and young adults, with a special emphasis on the use of social media.

She believed in God and prayer to help her with her struggles and was a member of Brentwood Baptist Church where she participated in Sunday school, children’s choir and youth jam church. She was a teenager who strived for the best in life but did not always make the best decisions. Most of all, she believed in fairness and desired for people to get along.

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*Peace*  
It does not mean to be in a place where there is no trouble, noise, or hard work.  
It means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in *Your heart.* ♥  
— *Andy Co Co*

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Her parents tried to provide resources to help Ashley. Her brother tried to help and encourage her even though he was hundreds of miles away at college. However, they did not have access to the hundreds of posts she made on Twitter, Tumblr and Facebook about her depression and deep pain until after her passing.

Her death had a profound and lasting effect on the lives of many extending beyond her parents, brother and his friends and her friends to people she touched through social media around the globe.

Ashley was an avid writer. Many of her writings were about peace and love.

## The Foundation

**The Vision** of AJF is to reduce the incidence and rate of suicide among young people by shining a light of hope into the lives of those affected by depression and other issues.

**The Mission** of AJF is to prevent suicide among young people by increasing awareness in the community for teens, their families and their support network through education, scholarships and other support services.

Ashley Jadine Foundation will provide an array of support-related services to address suicide prevention in teens including:

- Family & Youth Education
- Support Group Referrals
- Social Media Awareness
- Financial Support for Counseling
- Legislative Lobbying
- Community Partnerships
- Scholarships
- Other support services

We will host events in Ashley’s memory each September for Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month.



Each year in November, we will continue to show our commitment toward greater suicide awareness culminating with the annual Greater Houston Area Out of the Darkness Walk for Suicide Prevention hosted by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention to raise funds and support the efforts of others with the same cause.