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Mathew Kleiner "Create Change: Health Leadership Award" 2015 Awardee

MATTHEW INDIMINE '18

Gannett Health Services is pleased to announce the 2015 recipient of the "Create Change: Health Leadership Award": Matthew Indimine. Matthew was honored for his campus leadership and his commitment to increasing awareness of mental health issues, normalizing help-seeing behaviors, and supporting the wellbeing of his fellow students.

The "Create Change" award was established to honor and carry forward the legacy of Mathew A. Kleiner '93. It is awarded to Cornell University students who demonstrate the courage and commitment to create change that will enhance the health of the Cornell community, as Matt Kleiner did as a student leader at Cornell. Mathew Indimine's leadership is a fitting tribute to both Matt Kleiner and his many family members and friends whose love and generosity created this award.

Mathew Indimine is a visible student leader at Cornell, and works in a variety of ways to help support mental health awareness and resources on campus. He is the Vice President of Finance for the Ivy Council, which fosters communication between Ivy League student governments. He has served as the undergraduate representative-elect on the University Assembly, and will be a liaison to the Student Assembly, while also serving on the Student Assembly Executive Board as Parliamentarian. Additionally, Matthew is an active member of the Student Assembly's Community Life Committee, serving as Director of its Health and Wellness Subcommittee. For the 2015-2016 academic year, he will serve as Co-Chair of the Student Assembly's new Health and Wellness Committee, which he helped to create.

It is through his work with the Health and Wellness Committee that Mathew became involved with organizing a series of events for "Mental Health Awareness Week" in October, to raise awareness of mental health concerns and to encourage students to seek help and support when they need it. The signature event of the week is a "Lift Your Spirts" celebration, modeled after a similar event held at Cornell in 2010. This fun, collaborative event is designed to promote positivity and connectedness among students, and will include yoga, zumba, slack-lining, tabling, and free food. Through the "Life Your Spirits" event, Matthew hopes to raise awareness for – and promote collaboration among – existing support services and resources available to students, including EARS, Minds Matter, CAPS, Gannett, LGBT+ Resource Center, Women's Resource Center, Office of Academic Diversity and Initiatives, and 626 Resource Center, among others.

Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University's heritage. We are a recognized employer and educator valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.

Mathew offered this tribute to Matt Kleiner:

"I hope to extend the impact and inspiration of Matthew Kleiner, who this award honors. I was diagnosed with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, and I realize that for many with ADHD, other struggles or mental health issues may arise. Additionally, I have seen family members and close friends lose their lives to "mental illness" or what started as mental health issues. This has been a main drive of my motivation and passion for improving mental health and serving my community. Just as Matthew Kleiner worked to dispel false conceptions of AIDS and HIV, I hope to remove the stigma associated with mental health illnesses and seeking help."

Mathew P. Kleiner "Create Change: Health Leadership Award"

The "Create Change: Health Leadership Award" was established to honor and carry forward the legacy of Mathew A. Kleiner, CU '93. It is awarded to Cornell University students who demonstrate the courage and commitment to create change that will enhance the health of the Cornell community. The award recognizes the personal investment of time, energy, dedication, and vision that effective leadership requires. Made possible by the generosity of Matt's family and friends, this award will be administered by Gannett Health Services, Matt's partners in creating change during his years at Cornell. For more information, visit: www.gannett.cornell.edu/campushealth/HealthLeadershipAward.html.

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