

THE Rosalynn Carter Fellowships FOR MENTAL HEALTH JOURNALISM

2007-2008



THE CARTER CENTER
MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Waging Peace. Fighting Disease. Building Hope.



Rosalynn Carter's Role WITH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

“There is tremendous potential for journalists to improve the public’s understanding of mental health issues and to play a critical role in reducing stigma and discrimination against people with mental illnesses.”

—Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter



AnneMarie Poyo

Rosalynn Carter has been a visible, active leader in the mental health field for more than 30 years. During the Carter presidential administration, she served as honorary chair of the President’s Commission on Mental Health from 1977-1978. Upon returning to Georgia in 1981, Mrs. Carter collaborated with the Emory University Department of Psychiatry to pursue her ongoing interest in mental health. In 1985, they organized the Rosalynn Carter Symposium on Mental Health Policy. Each year, this event brings together national leaders in the mental health community to examine an issue of common concern.

With the inception of the Rosalynn Carter Fellowships for Mental Health Journalism in 1996, Mrs. Carter launched one of the most successful national programs to address the stigma associated with mental illnesses. Mrs. Carter also has been the driving force behind the Carter Center Mental Health Task Force, which provides continuity between the annual symposia and guides the activities of the Mental Health Program staff.



Left: Joshua Shenk, author of “Lincoln’s Melancholy” and 1998–1999 fellow, with Mrs. Carter

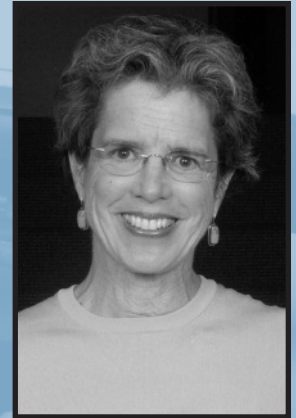
FIGHTING THE **Stigma** OF MENTAL ILLNESSES

Journalists in all forms of media play an increasingly important role in shaping public understanding and debate about health care issues. As part of a national effort to reduce stigma and discrimination, the Rosalynn Carter Fellowships for Mental Health Journalism provide stipends to journalists to study a selected topic regarding mental health or mental illnesses.

Mental illnesses constitute some of the most serious, unrecognized, under-reported health problems in the United States. Despite the current health care “revolution,” mental health issues often remain shrouded in myth or mystery, perpetuating stigma and discrimination against people with mental illnesses, their families, and the professionals who treat them. The overall aim of the program is to improve media portrayals of mental illnesses by emphasizing the importance of accurate depictions, including focusing on the whole person and not just the illness.

The fellowship program’s goals are to:

- Increase accurate reporting on mental health issues and decrease incorrect, stereotypical information;
- Help journalists produce high-quality work that reflects an understanding of mental health issues through exposure to well-established resources in the field; and
- Develop a cadre of better-informed print and electronic journalists who can report more accurate information through media outlets and influence their peers to do the same.



Michelle Trudeau
*2005–2006 Fellow
Contributing
Correspondent
National
Public Radio
Irvine, Calif.*

“One area that I became more aware of was stigma and how language can keep perpetuating stigma. I became more aware of what words I was using in my scripts and tried to remain respectful and not to continue the stigmatization. There is an incredible impact of having enlightened reporters, enlightened about mental illnesses and mental health, going into all these different news organizations around the United States. It is pretty extraordinary.”



WHAT THE Fellowships OFFER

Professional Development

Each fellow is matched with a Fellowship Advisory Board member who will serve as a mentor and provide technical assistance and information about complex mental health or journalism issues as well as share professional contacts within their fields of expertise. All fellows are required to contact their mentor three times within the first three months of the fellowship year. Fellows also must submit a mid-year summary of their progress that will be distributed to Mrs. Carter, the Fellowship Advisory Board, and program staff. Fellows are strongly encouraged to consult with their advisory board mentors throughout the fellowship year. In addition, fellows interact with each other and members of the Carter Center Mental Health Task Force.

When appropriate, the program requests that fellows conduct one training session related to mental health and journalism for their peers during the fellowship year. Training can be held in a variety of formats, including brown bag lunches, seminars, or panels.

***Kevin McCormack, 2004–2005 fellow, and
Advisory Board Member Ellen Mickiewicz***





Left: Jimmie Briggs, 2006–2007 fellow; Below: Advisory Board Member Bob Meyers



Stipends

Every year, six U.S. fellows are awarded stipends of \$10,000 each. International fellows will receive a comparable stipend in their own currency. Stipends cover an array of expenses during the fellowship project; expenses may include travel, materials, and other incidentals.

Flexibility

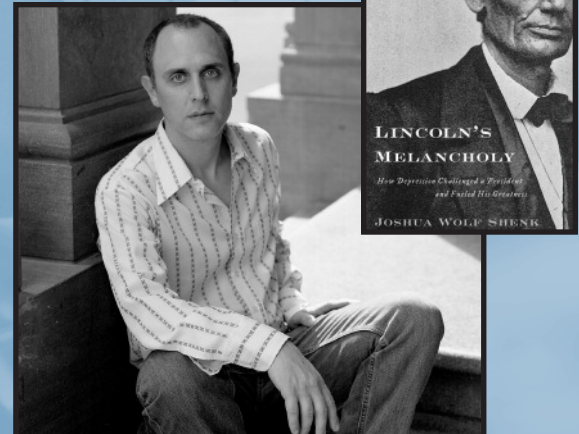
Fellows enjoy a great deal of flexibility in scheduling their project work throughout the year. Fellows make two expense-paid visits to The Carter Center in Atlanta, Ga. The first occurs in September at the beginning of the fellowship year when fellows meet with their advisers, Mrs. Carter, and other fellows to discuss their project plans. The second visit comes in September at the end of the fellowship year when fellows present their completed projects and discuss challenges and successes in mental health reporting. The fellowships do not require recipients to leave their places of employment.

Joshua Wolf Shenk

1998–1999 Fellow

*Author of “Lincoln’s Melancholy,”
Named One of the Best Books of 2005 by
The New York Times*

“The Carter Center fellowship made a fantastic difference in my career. It gave me the financial resources, the confidence, and the community support... and kept me connected to a top group of other professionals. The staff of the Carter Center Mental Health Program—and, crucially, Mrs. Carter herself—believed in my work and aided me in small ways and large.”



Marion Scher
2005–2006 Fellow
Freelance
Journalist
Johannesburg,
South Africa



“Having access to so many incredible sources through The Carter Center and this fellowship has opened a whole new world of writing for me, not just on mental health but on so many issues around this subject, all helping to break the stigma of these illnesses.”

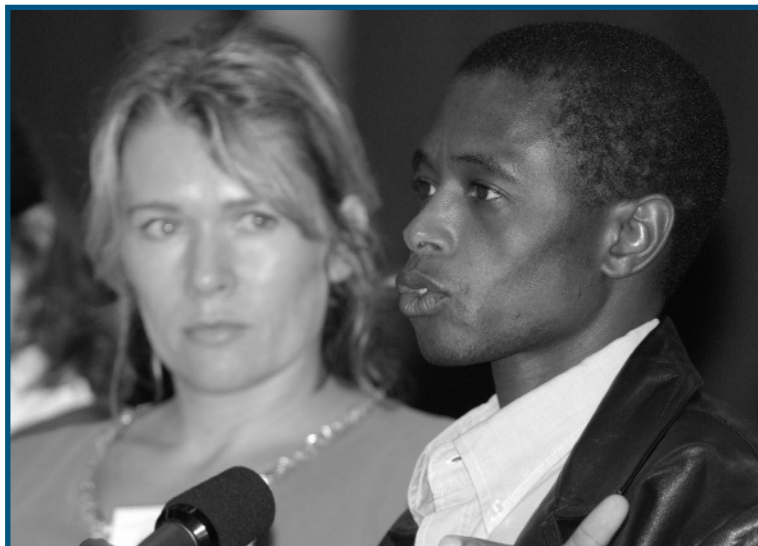
Creativity

Fellows are encouraged to select topics that are unique and creative. Projects may educate the public, raise awareness, or inform other journalists in the field. Subjects may range from a report on the use of telemedicine in mental health or a documentary on suicide prevention to a series of reports on the impact of managed care on the delivery of mental health services. The Carter Center Mental Health Program provides resources through its network of scientific, health care, education, consumer, family, provider, and government organizations and agencies.

Variety

Fellowships are tailored to suit the needs, interests, and experiences of each fellow; no two fellows will have the same experience.

Ingrid Leary and
Shandukani
Mathagu, 2005–
2006 fellows



THE FELLOWSHIP ADVISORY BOARD

Kathryn E. Cade

*The Carter Center Mental Health
Task Force Liaison*

Paul Jay Fink, M.D.

*Professor of Psychiatry,
Temple University School of Medicine
Consultant, Youth Violence
and Youth Murder
Past President, American
Psychiatric Association*

Larry Fricks

*Director, Appalachian Consulting Group
Former Director, Office of Consumer
Relations, Georgia Department of Human
Resources, Division of Mental Health*

John F. Head

*Fellow 1999–2000
Freelance Journalist*

Kay Redfield Jamison, Ph.D.

*Professor of Psychiatry, The Johns Hopkins
University School of Medicine*

Lawrence A. Kutner, Ph.D.

*Co-director, Harvard Medical School
Center for Mental Health and Media*

Bob Meyers

President, National Press Foundation

Ellen Mickiewicz, Ph.D.

*James R. Shepley Professor of
Public Studies, Duke University
Director, DeWitt Wallace Center for
Communications and Journalism
Duke University*

Otto Wahl, Ph.D.

*Director, The Graduate Institute
of Professional Psychology
University of Hartford*

International Advisers

Ioana Avadani

*Executive Director, Center
for Independent Journalism
Bucharest, Romania*

Anton Harber

*Caxton Professor of Journalism
and Media Studies, University of
the Witwatersrand, South Africa*

Julianne Hill

*2005–2006 Fellow
Freelance Writer/
Producer
Chicago, Ill.*



“As a freelance reporter and producer, the fellowship helped me attain access to the people about whom I wanted to tell stories—people suffering from a mental illness. It also reminded me that the most important story about mental health is the personal story, the story that touches a person who is suffering with mental health issues and their families and communities.”

2006–2007 Journalism Fellows



Andrea Ball
Reporter
Austin American-Statesman
Austin, Tex.

Write a feature-length article that chronicles the emotional and psychological burdens surrounding a family dealing with a premature birth



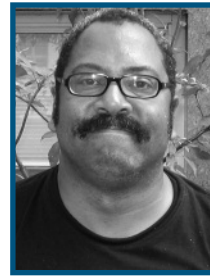
Tracy Breton
Reporter
The Providence Journal
Cranston, R.I.

Examine the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of elderly people with mental health issues in Rhode Island, particularly in how the state is meeting the needs of its elderly residents as compared to other states and countries



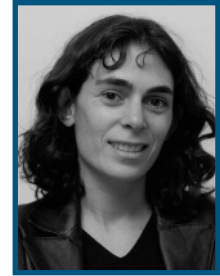
Jimmie Briggs
Freelance Journalist
New York, N.Y.

Explore the psychosocial impact of gender-based violence on female survivors of war living in the Democratic Republic of the Congo



David Dent
Freelance Journalist
New York, N.Y.

Write about the mental health challenges that many Hurricane Katrina survivors encountered while moving to and forging new lives in the western United States



Tamar Kahn
Science & Health
Editor/Correspondent
Business Day
Cape Town, South Africa

Explore the impact of trauma, shift work, and organizational changes on the mental health of South African police officers, and how their mental health problems affect their families, co-workers, and the citizens they are charged to protect

merit



Susan Kruglinski
Senior Associate Editor
Discover magazine
New York, N.Y.

Write four feature-length profile articles on each of the following topics: a person with a mental illness who has never received treatment, a person who has received long-term treatment but remains ill, a mental health worker, and a neuroscientist



Vida Li Sik
Features Writer
Drum magazine
Johannesburg,
South Africa

Write about households headed by children as a result of HIV/AIDS and the help available to them to cope with stress and depression



Karen Russo
Field Producer
ABC News, "Nightline"
New York, N.Y.

Produce a television piece on the state of mental health care in Ethiopia and the novel approaches that doctors are taking to care for patients with mental illnesses



Stephanie Smith
Medical News Producer
CNN
New York, N.Y.

Through a four-part documentary, examine the mental health of children living in Oregon who have been orphaned by their parents' methamphetamine use



Alix Spiegel
Freelance Reporter
National Public Radio
Washington, D.C.

Document the psycho-social impact of Hurricane Katrina on the residents of the Gulf Coast through several follow-up radio stories

all health

Previous Fellows

2005–2006 Fellows

Karen Brown

Reporter
WFCR-FM
Northampton, Mass.

Radio documentary on the effects of mental illnesses on siblings, from growing up with a sibling with a mental illness to forging relationships as an adult

Julianne Hill

Writer/Producer
Worldwide Skur, Inc.
Chicago, Ill.

Television news series on the work done in Chicago to reduce the stigma and challenges facing individuals with mental illnesses

Ingrid Leary

Freelance Reporter and
Producer
TV3 News
Auckland, New Zealand

Series of news features on living with mental illnesses in New Zealand and neighboring Pacific countries

Shandukani Mathagu

Freelance Journalist
Sibasa, South Africa

Series of radio interviews exploring the impact of the Tshivenda communicative expressions on mental illnesses in the Vhembe area of the Limpopo province of South Africa

Encarnacion Pyle

Reporter
The Columbus Dispatch
Columbus, Ohio

Articles on the differences in discrimination and stigma faced by two people in Central Ohio—one with Parkinson's disease and another with schizophrenia

Marion Scher

Freelance Journalist
Johannesburg, South Africa

Comparison of the stigma attached to mental illness in both rural and urban areas and black and white communities in South Africa

Phil Smith

Executive Producer
Spoken Features
Radio New Zealand
Wellington, New Zealand

Explore the popular belief that people with mental illnesses are dangerous, as well as investigate the treatment of mental illnesses by the New Zealand prison system

Michelle Trudeau

Contributing Correspondent
National Public Radio
Irvine, Calif.

Series of radio stories on the psychological development and well-being of immigrant children and adolescents

Rob Waters

Freelance Journalist
Berkeley, Calif.

Series of articles on the mental health needs and problems of children in foster care and the efforts made by leaders around the country to address them

Leigh Woosley

Reporter
Tulsa World
Tulsa, Okla.

Series of articles profiling adults who function within the workplace and social settings, despite living with anxiety disorders

To learn more about all previous fellows and their projects, including classes prior to 2000, visit www.cartercenter.org.
Media outlets listed were accurate at time of fellowship.

2004–2005 Fellows

Caroline Clauss-Ehlers

*Freelance Writer
New York, N.Y.*

Series of articles that explores the impact stigma has on access to mental health treatment, utilization of mental health services, and coping for Latino families

Tom Davis

*Columnist
The Record
Metuchen, N.J.*

Series of articles following the progress of a New Jersey program designed to divert people from the prison system and find alternative help for mentally ill inmates

Paul Diamond

*Producer
Radio New Zealand
Wellington, New Zealand*

Produce a series of radio features on Maori-based initiatives aimed at improving Maori mental health

Claire Keeton

*Reporter
Sunday Times
Johannesburg, South Africa*

Series of articles on the mental health of South Africans living with HIV/AIDS

Jim Marbrook

*Producer, Director,
and Writer
Auckland, New Zealand*

Video pieces that explore the role of Maori culture in healing and wellness

Kevin McCormack

*Producer
KRON-TV
San Francisco, Calif.*

Multipart series on how families cope with mental illness and the controversy surrounding involuntary commitment

Peggy Mears

*Producer
Brainchild Productions
Irvine, Calif.*

Series of radio pieces focusing on mental illnesses in adolescents and the challenge that developmental stages and dramatic transitions present in detection and treatment

Greg Miller

*Staff Writer and Online
News Editor
Science magazine
Blacksburg, Va.*

Series of articles exploring the looming mental health crisis in the developing countries

Michelle Roberts

*Reporter
The Oregonian
Portland, Ore.*

Series of articles about the resiliency of children, particularly how they overcome trauma, abuse, and other mental health crises

Kathryn Strachan

*Freelance Writer
Johannesburg, South Africa*
Series of in-depth magazine articles on deinstitutionalization programs in South Africa

2003–2004 Fellows

Sewell Chan

*Reporter
The Washington Post
Washington, D.C.*

Series of articles exploring D.C.'s efforts to build a stronger system of care for children with mental illnesses

Gail Fisher

*Senior Photo Editor
Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.*

A multimedia documentary that explores how a family copes with a loved one diagnosed with a mental illness

Kevin Heldman

*Freelance Journalist
Brooklyn, N.Y.*

The mental health concerns of the critically ill and their caretakers

Wray Herbert

Assistant Managing Editor

U.S. News &

World Report

Washington, D.C.

Mental illnesses and the Americans With Disabilities Act

Virginia Holman

Freelance Journalist

Carolina Beach, N.C.

Stories of children of parents diagnosed with schizophrenia and how they have fared as a result of living with and caring for a loved one with a mental illness

Peter Klein

Producer

CBS News, “60 Minutes”

Brooklyn, N.Y.

The effects of trauma, particularly in relation to the Holocaust

Noel O’Hare

Freelance Journalist

Wellington, New Zealand

Issues affecting the mental health of migrants in New Zealand

Alex Spence

Freelance Journalist

Auckland, New Zealand

The relationship between mental illnesses and poverty in New Zealand

2002–2003 Fellows**Jim Chipp**

Photojournalist

Capital Community

Newspapers, Ltd.

Lower Hutt, New Zealand

The difficulties and special skills needed to deliver mental health services to a multiethnic population

Lila Corn

Education Producer

WABC-TV

New York, N.Y.

A series of reports on school mental health services

Thomas Curwen

Deputy Editor

Los Angeles Times Book

Review

Los Angeles, Calif.

The roles impulsivity and mental illnesses play in contributing to suicides in the United States

Maura McDermott

Freelance Journalist

Bronx, N.Y.

The gaps in access to health care among young adults ages 18 to 21 with mental illnesses

Lauren McKenzie

Documentary Producer

Television New Zealand

Christchurch, New Zealand

A three-part documentary looking at the human face of workplace stress

Eugene Richards

Freelance Photographer,

Filmmaker, Writer,

and Teacher

Brooklyn, N.Y.

Photographic essays, educational videos, and oral histories that assess, document, and challenge the world’s discrimination against and abuse of people with mental illnesses

Edie Rubinowitz

Freelance Journalist

Cambridge, Mass.

An in-depth radio report on the mental health care system in Cuba

Shankar Vedantam

Reporter

The Washington Post

Washington, D.C.

Multiple articles, including a look at attention deficit disorder in children and what scientists have learned about the causes of schizophrenia

2001–2002 Fellows**Sandra Ackerman**

Freelance Writer and Editor

Durham, N.C.

Toward a Healthy Older Brain: The Science Behind the Headlines, co-authored with Allan Tobin, Ph.D.

John Francis

*Founder and Publisher
TEARAWAY Magazine
Wanganui, New Zealand*

Youth and mental health issues, a 12-part series in *TEARAWAY*

Mike Gourley

*Freelance Producer
National Radio and Long
White Cloud Productions
Wellington, New Zealand*

Relationships between media portrayal of mental illness issues and effects on public perception

Lawrence Hott

*Producer and Director
Florentine Films/Hott
Productions, Inc.
Haydenville, Mass.*

Imagining Robert, a documentary film that tells the story of two brothers, one of whom suffers from mental illness and the other who is his caretaker

Angela Mitchell

*Freelance Writer
and Author
Chicago, Ill.*

Recent medical breakthroughs and state-of-the-art treatments for adolescent mental illnesses

Tanya Ott

*Producer and Host
The Village,
WUFT/WJUF-FM
Gainesville, Fla.*

The state of mental health care in juvenile justice and foster care systems

William Skane

*Producer, "CBS Evening
News" and "CBS
Sunday Morning"
Washington, D.C.*

A three-part magazine series on how America's schools cope with children's escalating mental health needs

**Jodie Snyder and
Susie Steckner**

*Reporters
The Arizona Republic
Phoenix, Ariz.*

The challenges schools and workplaces face in accommodating people with mental illnesses

2000-2001 Fellows**Monica Brady-
Myerov**

*Reporter
WBUR-FM
Boston, Mass.*

Relationship between medication and mental illnesses, with a focus on children's mental health

Nell Casey

*Freelance Writer
New York, N.Y.*

Role of social support in depression and the experience of family caregiving

**Carl Ginsburg and
Helen Demeranville**

*Freelance Documentary
Producers
New York, N.Y.*

Children with mental illnesses who have been released from jail and parents raising and relinquishing a child with mental illness

Michael Isip

*Executive Producer
KVIE-TV
Sacramento, Calif.*

Hope on the Street, a documentary film about recovery in people who are homeless and have mental illnesses

Robert Landauer

*Editorial Columnist
The Oregonian
Portland, Ore.*

The way in which various states address the Supreme Court's directive in its *Olmstead vs. L.C.* decision and an analysis of why supported employment for people with mental illnesses is not given higher priority nationwide

George Wehrfritz

*Tokyo Bureau Chief
Newsweek
Tokyo, Japan*

The rising impact of depression in Japan associated with indicators suggesting that there is a mental health crisis brewing there

See www.cartercenter.org for a list of fellows prior to 2000.

Application INSTRUCTIONS

Eligibility

Eligible applicants must:

- Have at least three years of experience in print or electronic journalism (writing, reporting, editing, producing, filmmaking)
- Complete online profile of personal and professional information available on Carter Center Web site: www.cartercenter.org. The profile may be e-mailed to ccmhp@emory.edu, or a hard copy may be included with the application packet.
- Submit a complete application packet, including how the applicant heard about the fellowships
- Attend orientation and presentation meetings in September at the beginning and end of the fellowship year

Application Packet

No standard application form is used. The application packet must be mailed (no faxes or e-mails accepted) and must include the following:

- Resume: A list of representative publications; membership in professional organizations; major journalism prizes and/or awards and year awarded.
- Objectives for Fellowship and Project Description: In an informal essay not to exceed 1000 words, the following points must be addressed:
 - describe reasons for applying and how this fellowship could benefit the applicant's body of work;
 - clearly outline the proposed project and a plan for carrying it out;

Fellowship awards will be announced on the Carter Center Web site (www.cartercenter.org) Friday, July 13, 2007, 9 a.m. EDT. Inquiries regarding the fellowships are welcome throughout the year.

- discuss the significance and timeliness of the topic, and explain the feasibility of completing the project;
- detail the potential impact the chosen topic, and overall fellowship project, may have on reducing the stigma of mental illnesses; and
- describe the expected audience reach.
- **Samples of Professional Work:** Submit up to three examples of your work. At least one of the samples should be in the media form proposed. Printed materials should be in the format in which they were originally published, and electronic news reports should be airchecks. Do not submit an item that cannot be replaced, as materials will not be returned.
- **Letters of Recommendation*:** Provide letters from two people familiar with your work, commenting on your abilities and potential as a journalist. Letters must be originals: signed and printed on letterhead.
- **Letter of Support*:** One letter from your organization’s publisher, editor, producer, manager, or director, supporting the application. If self-employed, the third letter must come from an individual familiar with your work. Letters must be originals: signed and printed on letterhead.

** Letters may be included with the application packet or mailed directly to the Mental Health Program.*

Time Line

Application packets and letters of recommendation and support for 2007–2008 fellowships must be postmarked no later than Monday, April 23, 2007. Materials post-marked after the deadline will not be accepted. Due to the large number of applicants for the fellowship positions, individual feedback on applications will not be provided.

U.S. applicants should send all application materials to:

Rebecca G. Palpant, M.S.
Senior Program Associate
Mental Health Program
The Carter Center
One Copenhill
453 Freedom Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30307

Southern African applicants should send all application materials to:

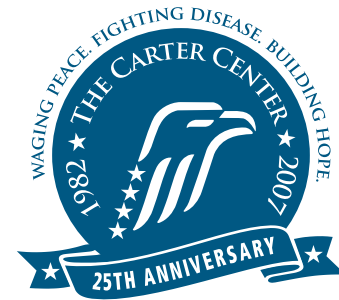
Anton Harber
Caxton Professor of
Journalism and
Media Studies
University of the
Witwatersrand
P Bag 3, Wits 2050
Johannesburg,
South Africa
717-4053
717-4081 Fax
anton@harber.co.za

Inquiries:
ccmhp@emory.edu
www.cartercenter.org
(404) 420-5165

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Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
Walter H. and Phyllis J. Shorenstein Foundation*

Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter founded the not-for-profit Carter Center in 1982 in partnership with Emory University. Guided by a fundamental commitment to human rights and the alleviation of human suffering, the Center brings people and resources together to wage peace, fight disease, and build hope worldwide.



THE CARTER CENTER MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM
One Copenhill
453 Freedom Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30307

ccmhp@emory.edu (404) 420-5165
www.cartercenter.org FAX (404) 420-5158

*To view projects completed under the auspices of the
Rosalynn Carter Fellowships for Mental Health Journalism,
visit www.cartercenter.org.*