

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

(comedy show fundraiser)

Here at Mental Health America of Southeast Florida (MHA) our first priority is to those we serve, and the safety and security of our community is of utmost concern to us. It is because of this concern that we have decided to postpone the "Laughter is the Best Medicine" comedy show fundraiser scheduled for Saturday, March 21 at the Center for Spiritual Living. This decision does not come easily for the organization, not only because this event was expected to be a successful fundraising opportunity for us, but because this was to be the first time MHA has undertaken to organize a fundraising event of this type.

The producer of the show and the comedians were donating their time and talent, and the Center for Spiritual Living was donating the use of their facility to provide the venue for our fundraiser, in an effort to allow MHA to maximize its share of the proceeds from this event to help support MHA. We have already felt some minor financial impact to the organization as a result of the postponement of this event. MHA has incurred nominal expenses in terms of marketing and preparations for the event and will incur a like amount of expense once the event is rescheduled.

We are requesting that you hold on to your reservation(s)/electronic ticket(s) for the time being until we have rescheduling information. Once the new date is announced, if you cannot make the rescheduled event, in lieu of a refund, please consider donating the value of your ticket price back to MHA in support of our mission and we will send you a receipt for your tax deductible donation. For those who are able to attend the rescheduled event, we will honor your already purchased tickets for the future date.

Please allow us to time to navigate through the current public health crisis and develop a plan for moving forward with this event. Please watch your email and our Facebook page for announcements and plans for rescheduling this event and future MHA events. Additionally, please join us in thanking the talent—producer Fasil Malik and comedians Lalo Rodriguez, Stephanie Wood, Charly Esturilho, Joe Nay, and Brett Engle—and the venue, Center for Spiritual Living, for their willingness to work with us and give of themselves to help support our mission.

As a non-profit organization, the cost of this unfortunate epidemic to MHA is considerable since we will be unable to fully utilize our grants and other income to offset our expenses. We remain committed to our staff to continue to pay them despite the lack of funds. Any help you are able to offer in terms of donations will be very helpful.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this difficult time. Please stay safe and stay healthy.