

Randi Silverman is a brilliant producer, depicting the story of a family suffering from the effects of an untreated mental illness. Silverman is the co-Founder and President of The Youth Mental Health Project and an award-winning screenwriter and producer of the feature film, “No Letting Go.” In addition, she is a public speaker and presenter. “No Letting Go” has been awarded, recognized, and nominated with several awards at events including: Accolade Global Film Competition 201, Long Beach International Film Festival 201, NYC Mental Health Film Festival 2105, Palm Beach International Film Festival 2016, Reading Film FEST 2015 and many more. Receiving critical acclaim from film reviewers and mental health organizations alike, the film has won over 20 awards at independent film festivals worldwide.

Silverman utilized her real-life experiences as a mother of a child with a mental illness to produce “No Letting Go.” She wanted to start the process of “meaningful conversations,” discussing mental health in families, neighborhoods, and communities. Using her platform, which she has worked tirelessly to obtain, Silverman opens conversations concerning mental health, especially mental illnesses in children. This film accurately portrays the challenges faced by both families and individuals who suffer from mental illness or know a loved one.

In 2011, Randi co-founded a local community Parent-to-Parent Support Group, which has served over 1000 families in Westchester, NY. As a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Randi also uses her knowledge of the law to help parents advocate for the educational needs of their children who suffer from mental health challenges.

Silverman is also a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, and she utilizes her knowledge of law to assist parents in their journey of advocating for educational needs for their children who deal with mental health challenges. Silverman is also a member of the Board of directors for the International Bipolar Foundation.

Critically acclaimed, the film is described by Lloyd I. Sederer, MD as, “an alternative, a master class, to many fine books for parents, families and friends facing mental illness in a child and who need to appreciate how these conditions perplex, confound and cause pain. And its message of not letting go, never giving up, is one we all need to hear and see.”

### **Additional Information:**

“*No Letting Go*” is based on a true story and adapted from the award-winning short film, **ILLNESS**, is a feature drama that follows one family’s journey to understand and to cope with the erratic behavior and emotional instability of their middle son, Tim. The family’s world starts to unravel as they discover that their son’s increasing fragility is due to mental illness.

Tim’s painful, yet invisible, struggle takes its toll on his parents and the well-being of his two brothers. Anger, resentment, and conflict arise as Tim’s parents desperately search for answers. His family must play an integral role in finding the help he needs, but will it be too late? Will love, strength and courage prevail to reveal the resiliency of the human spirit?”

“No Letting Go is a dramatic, independent feature film adapted from the award-winning short film, **ILLNESS**, and based on the real-life story of producer and co-writer Randi Silverman and

her family. The film is a heartfelt look at one family's journey to understand and to cope with the erratic behavior and emotional instability of their middle son.

While writing the screenplay with the film's director, Jonathan Bucari, Randi used her own very personal experiences to create true to life characters, scenes, and dialogue that would honestly reflect the struggles her family faced as they discovered that their son's behavior was the result of a serious mental health disorder. Given that 1 in 5 children suffers from a diagnosable mental health condition, Randi was determined to give voice to the millions of families who suffer alone and in silence.

No Letting Go was made with the purpose of sharing the honest truth about the devastating impacts of childhood mental illness in an effort to create conversations, end the silence caused by blame and shame, create awareness and understanding, and help people know they are not alone. As a result, the producers of No Letting Go have partnered with The Youth Mental Health Project, a nonprofit organization, which seeks to promote awareness and understanding of the mental health of children, adolescents, and young adults in an effort to improve the lives of children and families and reduce the incidence and severity of mental illness.

The goal is to bring No Letting Go to as many communities as possible in an effort to create dialogue and open conversations that will lay the important foundation for early intervention and prevention strategies.”