## Mental Health Advocacy in the Community Joan Becker

06-01-2017

2017 MISSOURI DEPT OF MENTAL HEALTH - SPRING TRAINING INSTITUTE

#### TRAGEDY

#### **TRAGEDY**

trag·e·dy ˈtrajidē/

noun

noun: tragedy; plural noun: tragedies

1.1.

an event causing great suffering, destruction, and distress, such as a serious accident, crime, or natural catastrophe.

"a tragedy that killed 95 people"

synonyms:

disaster, calamity, catastrophe, cataclysm, misfortune, mishap, blow, trial, tribulation, affliction, adversity

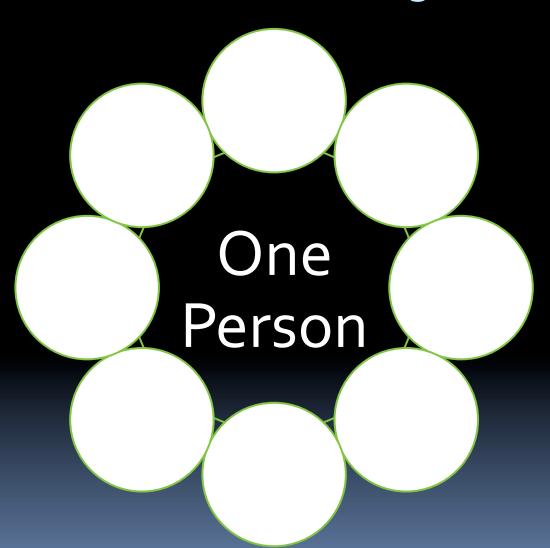
## Ed Thomas shot, killed inside school

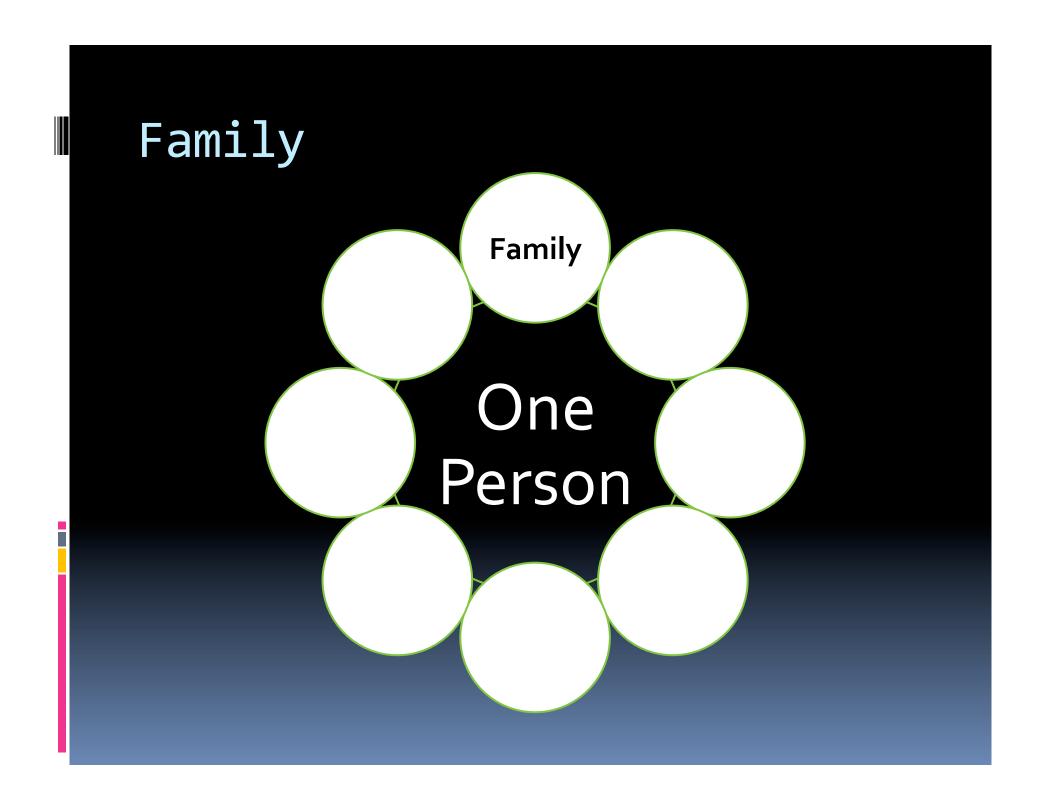
PARKERSBURG, Iowa -- Ed Thomas, who produced four NFL linemen as the football coach at tiny Aplington-Parkersburg High, was shot and killed Wednesday inside the school's weight room, authorities said.

The gunman, identified by authorities as 24-year-old Mark Becker, is a former student who played football for Thomas.

.... ESPN.com news services

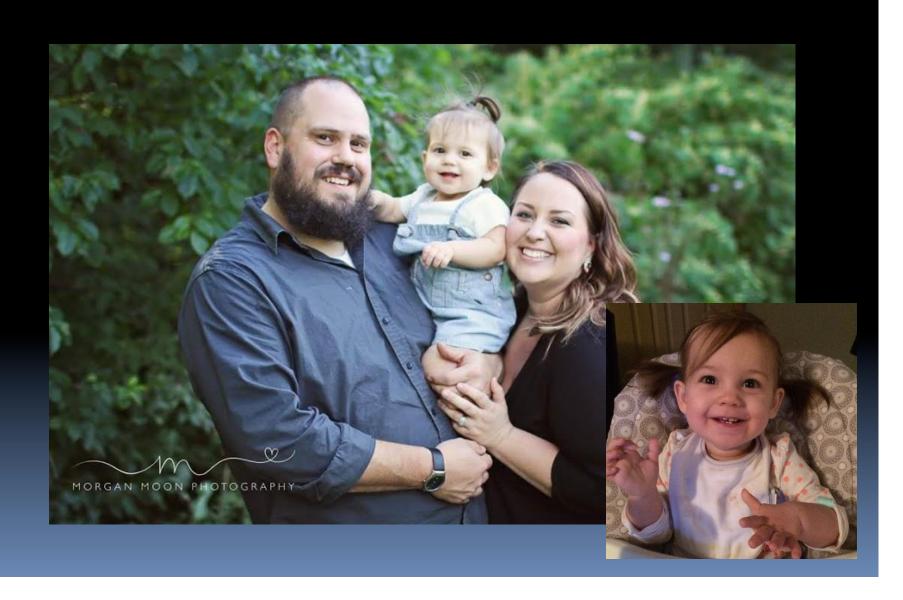
#### It all starts with just...







### Brad, Jackie & Vela



## Scott and Nikki



# Personal History **Family Personal** History One Person

#### Mark

 Growing up & Grade School-active, outgoing, energetic



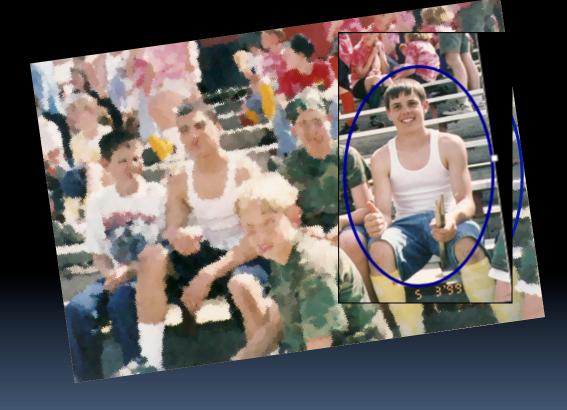


#### Mark

Middle School – sports, student council,

plays, music





## Spiritual/Faith Family **Personal** History One **Spiritual** /Faith Person

#### Faith & Family

- Sunday School
- Youth Group
- Church Camp
- Adult Small Group
- Mission Trips



#### Social Network



### High School

- Youth group
- Awanas at church
- Sports
- Worked

Grocery store

Baled hay

Detasseled corn

Volunteered in community



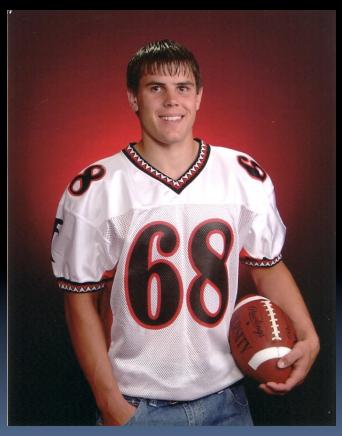


## 16 years old



## Senior Year





### Education & Employment



## August 2004 thru June 2008







### Physical & Mental Health



#### May 2008 – Tornado devastates Parkersburg



#### June 2008



Mark would say, "I'm okay, Mom, quit worrying about me. I can tell you are trying to get in my mind...but I'm okay."

## July 2008







## 1<sup>st</sup> Psychotic Episode-Sept 2008



### Local CPC/Service Providers



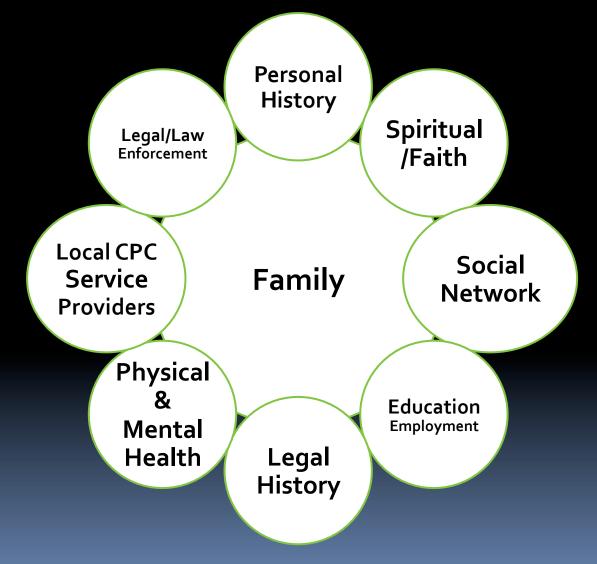
#### Sept 2008 to June 2009

- 8 severe psychotic episodes
- County Sheriff 4 times
- Hospital 4 times
- Agencies/counselors 15 times
- Mark better off dead at least 3 times

## Cautiously Hopeful...



## Legal/Law Enforcement

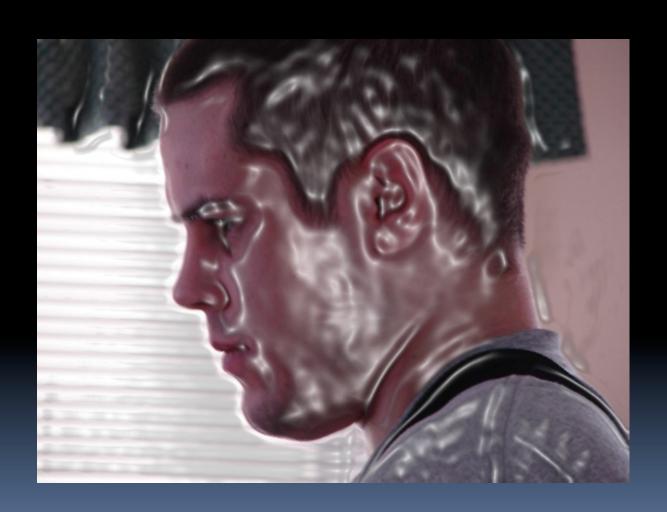


#### Legal/Law Enforcement

02323-51M03/9677 STATE OF TOWN VERBUCKER, MARK DE 02323 5119763384 STATE OF TOWA SSPECKER, MARKED STATE OF ROWA VS MARK DARYL PECKER. 02323 SMCR006939 01071 STC#1/90289 ST VERBICKER MARK DAKYN 03073CF5IMCR326324 CF VS MARK DARYD BECKBE OZOGIANASTWEEZEGZZES WAYPROY CELIPICKER, MARKIDARYI, STATE OF PROPER MARK D 02321 STN03/29867 ODOZE OWCREZNIZAZ \*STVS.MARK DARY, DECKDR. CEDAR FALLS OF PECKIDE MARK DARY. 0.1073CFSTCF35026K-03073. \$15045737 ST VS DECKTR MARK DARY). 01071 SRCR358049 \* ST VS MARK DARYT, 1810000R, \*909\* 00071 SRCR358933 ST VS MARK DARYE 34CKER\*909\* 03071. SMCR359007 ST VS MARK DARYD BECKER STATE OF JON'A VIORECUER, MARK DARM. OZTZT STAOOOTZTZ

3/5/2003 Traffic Violation-Turn Signal
10/17/2003 Traffic Violation-Speeding
6/16/2003 Possession of Drug Paraphematic
8/34/2003 Traffic Ticket
9/3/2004 Minor in Possession of Alcohol
9/2//2004 Traffic Ticket Pitting-lost license
12/23/2004 Traffic Ticket Pitting
1/10/2005 Criminal Complaint
9/12/2005 Traffic Ticket Pitting-Non Complaint
9/12/2007 Traffic Ticket Pitting
13/23/2004 Assault Causing Injury; 4 days serve
1/12/2009 Criminal Mischief
1/20/2009 Poss Drug Paraphematic
3/3/2009 Traffic Ticket Pitting

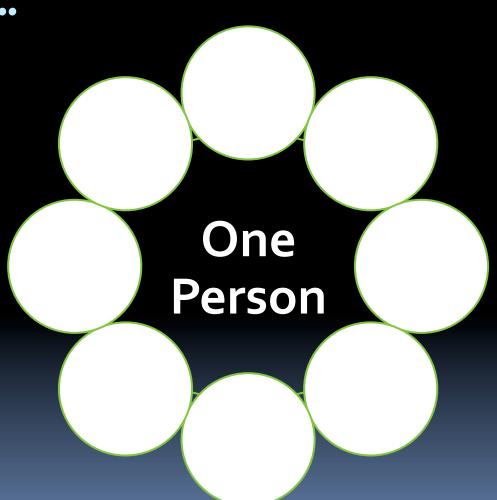
## The Unraveling...



## June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009



So many parts, yet All Alone...



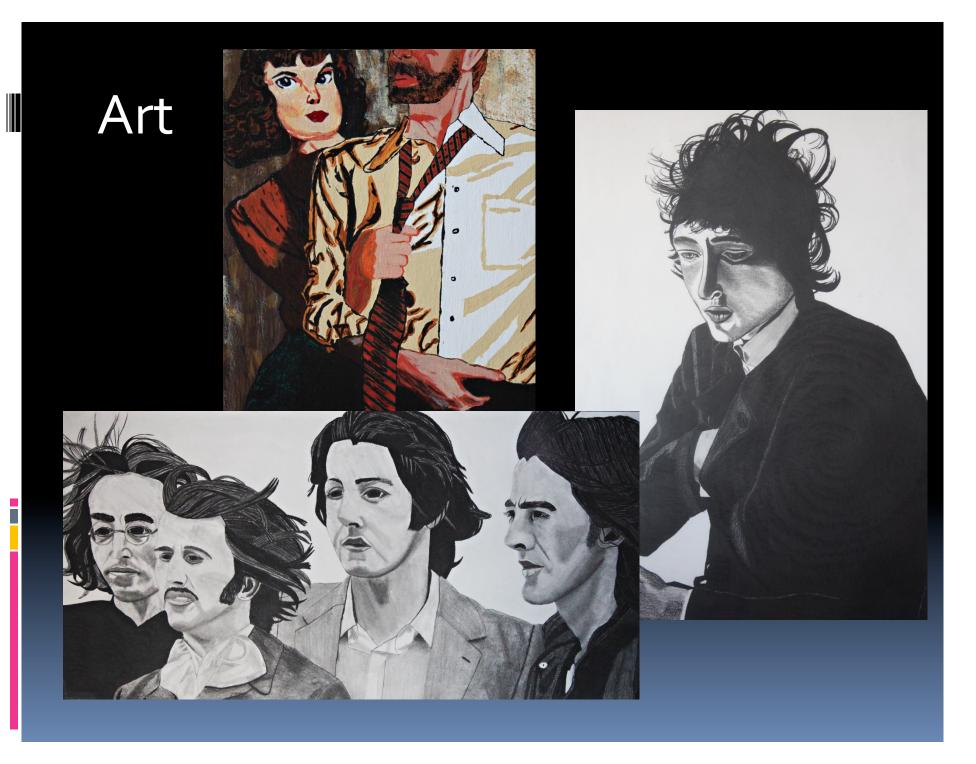
## Not just any person, this person is my son, *Mark Becker*



# Where is Mark today?

- IDOC
- Receiving treatment for Paranoid Schizophrenia

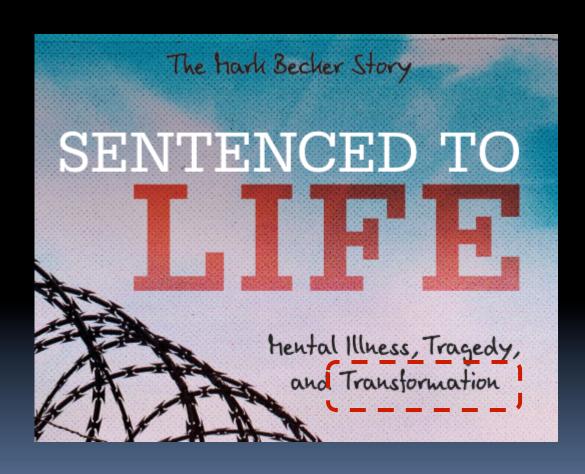




Playing Guitar Reading



#### Transformation



#### Let's talk Mental Illness

- Mental illness does not discriminate
- Self-medication will not fix mental illness
- Mental illness is just an illness
- It's okay to talk about illness in the brain
- Let families know they can participate in their loved one's treatment plan?
- Listen, communicate, use your voice!

How can I make a difference? How can **YOU** make a difference?

#### Training

- Mental Health First Aid Training www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org
- Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) www.citinternational.org
- Mental Health Court & Jail Diversion Program <u>www.ncsc.org</u>
- NAMI.org

### A note from Mark...

And look at us now, <u>nothing has</u> <u>changed.</u>



**Questions?** 

Helping Families in MH Crisis Reform Act of 2016

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