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Dear Friends and supporters,

As this year winds down, please accept our heartfelt gratitude for the support and loyalty you have shown MindFreedom International in 2019. Your support helped us convert challenges into triumphs.

This year, we lost one of our most dedicated leaders, Board member Janet Foner, who died unexpectedly. Janet co-founded MindFreedom International with David Oaks over thirty years ago and fought passionately against psychiatric oppression for decades. Her leadership during the difficult transition period after David Oaks' sudden departure from MFI was invaluable and her legacy will continue to guide our organization for many years.

You may recall that David Oaks experienced a severe physical disability caused by an accident in 2013. Our dedicated board of directors, with a single part-time staff member, a handful of volunteers and about 150 supporters like you, kept our operations afloat for the last six years in David's absence.

In just three years we paid off over \$10,000 in debt, replaced our website, created a reserve fund, and hired two part-time employees as well as one full time employee, up from zero staff in 2015-16!

The hard work paid off when we were able to hire Ron Bassman to be MFI's new Executive Director. He is a psychiatric survivor who is deeply committed to helping individuals in their fight to protect themselves from psychiatric harm and oppression.

Ron and MFI are dedicated to supporting the individual's right to make choices from genuine alternatives. Ron wrote about his experience of recovery from multiple insulin comas and electric shocks in the book, [*A Fight to Be: A Psychologist's Experience from Both Sides of the Locked Door.*](#)

One of our goals in 2020, is to expand the Shield: increasing the number of people who are signed up to receive Shield alerts, as well the number of responses, and issue more Shield alerts. To accomplish this goal, we are creating a new position called Shield Coordinator. Your support will help us sustain this position. Your support in 2020 will also enable us to increase activism by helping us offer individualized mentorship to emerging leaders and new affiliates.

To read about our accomplishments in 2019 as well as our goals for 2020 in greater detail, you can read a letter [HERE](#)

Remember, we are one of the few INDEPENDENTLY funded survivor organizations. We don't receive money from drug companies or the government. Even if you have already renewed your membership, consider gifting a friend or family member with a membership to help us remain independent.

For a limited time, to celebrate how far we have come, we are offering a **premium** for individuals who make tax-deductible donations of **\$100 or more by December 31st**; a free, signed copy of Ron's highly acclaimed book, *A Fight to Be: A Psychologist's Experience From Both Sides of the Locked Door*. Checks received after December 31st still qualify if they are retroactively dated December 31st.

Thank you for supporting our mission, whether you can donate \$20 or \$1000, your donation will make a difference!

You can donate securely on our new website at:

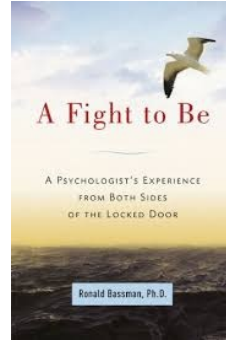
<https://mindfreedom.org/donate/>

If you prefer to contribute by mail, checks and money orders should be made out to **MindFreedom International** with "premium" in the memo and sent to:

MindFreedom International
PO Box 11284
Eugene, OR 97440-3484

Thank you for supporting a revolution in the mental health system today with your generous gift.

Sarah Smith



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