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Bangladeshi Film Wins First Annual Five Alive Suicide Prevention Film & PSA Competition

San Francisco, Calif. -- A young woman commits suicide after experiencing the rejection and betrayal of her boyfriend in an unforgiving world. That is the plot of *Bewilder*, an astonishing six-minute short film by director/writer Sajjad Mahmud of Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Bewilder was awarded the top prize in the shorts category of the first annual Five Alive (www.fivealive.us) Suicide Prevention Short Film and PSA Competition.

Bewilder sensitively explores feelings of suicide and shows us just how universal the emotions and circumstances surrounding suicide truly are," said Kathleen Adams, LCSW, Executive Director of Five Alive.

The winner of the public service announcement category goes to *TEEN LINE: More than a Hotline* created by Teen Line (www.teenlineonline.org) of Los Angeles, Calif. Teen Line created a teen-to-teen Hotline and Community Outreach Program to help prevent teen suicide.

Mahmud will receive a \$500 prize for *Bewilder* and Teen Line \$250 for *TEEN LINE: More than a Hotline*. "We received film submissions from the world over. The winning films will be showcased on our website and used at suicide prevention trainings and conferences globally," said Adams.

Suicide is the third largest killer of teens in the United States and the most preventable. Over 5000 young people take their own lives every year.

Five Alive, is a non-profit teen-to-teen suicide prevention organization dedicated to teaching teens and adults five simple life-saving suicide-prevention techniques:

1. Take it seriously
2. Know the warning signs
3. Make no deals of secrecy
4. Know where to turn
5. Act fast

"A teen who is contemplating suicide will most likely confide in a friend before talking to an adult," said Adams. "Five Alive is dedicated to providing teens and young adults with the information they need to help a friend in need."

For more information visit www.fivealive.us.

