

Who is Anna Westin?

Anna Westin grew up living with her mom, dad and sisters in the small town of Chaska, Minnesota. Anna was an effervescent, intelligent and compassionate girl with a bright personality, and she made a positive impact on everyone around her. When Anna was 16, however, she developed anorexia and the formerly sparkling young woman became solemn and very unlike her usual self. Anna received outpatient treatment for her eating disorder, and she and her family thought her treatment was successful. Unfortunately, when Anna returned from college her sophomore year, her parents realized she had relapsed and was suffering from severe anorexia. Anna's family took her to the doctor, and Anna was told she needed to be hospitalized. When Anna went to be admitted to the hospital, her insurer refused to cover inpatient treatment. Shortly thereafter, on February 17, 2000, Anna committed suicide as a direct result of her battle with anorexia.



Looking to the Future

Anna Westin's family and supporters decided to turn their grief and sadness into something positive. In order to prevent tragedies such as Anna's from happening again, they along with the support of other organizations have made the following strides:

- The Anna Westin Foundation was founded in 2000
- The Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy & Action was founded in 2000
- The Anna Westin Foundation created the Anna Westin House in 2002
- The Anna Westin Act of 2015 was introduced in the House and Senate

"May your dreaming never end and your voice never die."

- Anna Westin

