**iMPACTFUL Shines the Light on Anxiety with Must-See Documentary,**

 **“*ANGST*: RAISING AWARENESS AROUND ANXIETY”**

***ANGST* WILL SCREEN LIVE ON**

**[DATE] AT [LOCATION / REGISTRATION LINK]**

[DATE] -- iMPACTFUL has sparked a global conversation about anxiety through screenings of its documentary, **“**[**Angst: Raising Awareness Around Anxiety**](http://angstmovie.com/)”. On [Date of Event], [Name of Local Host Organization] will hold a special screening of the documentary at [Location Name] to open up a dialogue between local families, community leaders and experts. The event will feature a viewing of the [43 / 56]-minute film, followed by an informative panel discussion, led by [Name and Credentials], with special guests [Names and Credentials of Guests, if applicable].

What is the difference between “being anxious” and having an anxiety disorder? What can we do about the 634% rise in use of Mental Health America’s online tool for anxiety since the start of Covid? Why is there still so much fear and stigma in just talking to others instead of hiding online? What can each of us do to make it better and best engage in a full and happy life?

Angst is on a mission: to start a global conversation and raise awareness around anxiety. This 56-minute documentary delves into all aspects of our society’s most common mental health challenge with:

* Candid interviews with kids and teens, who discuss their anxiety, its impacts on their lives and relationships, as well as how they’ve found solutions and hope
* Expert perspectives, (from institutions such as Stanford University, Child Mind Institute), who talk about the causes of anxiety and its sociological effects and resources to help
* Tips, tricks and strategies to help reset thinking patterns, push back against anxiety and support others
* Awareness that anyone can be touched by – and overcome - anxiety, via a unique and revealing interview with mental health advocate Michael Phelps, the most decorated athlete in Olympic history

Part of the beauty of this film is the openness of the children and young adults featured; for some of them, the “Angst” project marks the first time they are publicly sharing their experiences with anxiety. This has an effect on everyone who watches – from adults who realize for the first time that they or a family member has anxiety to students who are reassured to understand what their symptoms represent, or who reach out to their peers to check in. The film is also hopeful and optimistic; Noah, a teenager featured, describes it this way: “Anxiety doesn’t define me. It’s not just a curse; it also gives me strength.”

‘’We are humbled each time we hear directly from either a child or an adult that one of our films has saved their life,’’ said Scilla Andreen, CEO & Co-Founder of iMPACTFUL/Executive Producer of ***Angst***. “The popularity and acceptance of this film led to the creation of the next two installments to create the trilogy, focusing on the impact of social media, the effects of technology on the brain and cyberbullying. It was an organic process.”

iMPACTFUL ensures that its community screenings foster a connected and nurturing environment. Prior to the pandemic, these films were exclusively shown in auditoriums or community centers, followed by a moderated panel for Q&A’s. Working through Covid restrictions, iMPACTFUL re-created the ‘watching together’ experience through live online film events, followed by panel discussion and the ability to ask questions or check-out resources in real-time. One of the benefits of watching this way has been the confidentiality this provides; people can watch and ask questions as part of a community, but not feel in any way exposed.

***Angst,*** and its Mental Health Trilogy companions **LIKE** and **The Upstanders** are staples in social & emotional learning programs in schools and corporations all over the world. Knowing that successful change depends on continuing the conversation beyond the screening date, each film comes with discussion guides, tip sheets and further resources, with dedicated curricula for each film launching in 2021.

“Everybody needs to know that anxiety disorders are real, common and treatable instead of viewing them as a personal choice or something to be ashamed of,” said Dr. Jerry Bubrick, Senior Director of Anxiety Disorders Center, Child Mind Institute. “Getting help early is crucial in giving people the tools they need to feel better. We just need to start the conversation."

“The conversation surrounding mental health really hits home for me,” said Michael Phelps. “Many people don’t understand how debilitating mental illness truly can be, and even more than that, how common it is, yet people are afraid to have serious discussions about it. I welcomed the opportunity to be a part of ***Angs*t** to further the dialogue around mental health and to help people understand the impact anxiety has on our mental state and encourage people, especially kids, to ask for help.”

iNDIEFLIX Group Inc is a global education and streaming service that promotes and supports social impact films to create positive change in the world. iMPACTFUL, as a part of iNDIEFLIX, books online and offline community screenings in schools and corporations around the world, while iNDIEFLIX Streaming offers a monthly subscription-based service to access thousands of high-quality shorts, features, documentaries, and series from around the world. <https://www.indieflix.com> and <https://www.impactful.co>

**To book a screening of *ANGST* in your community, find a screening or learn more, visit www.impactful.co**

PRESS CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Insert name, phone, email)