

**Bethany Yeiser** is president of the [CURESZ Foundation](#), which she established in 2016 with Dr. Henry Nasrallah.

Before her gradual descent into schizophrenia, Bethany was a promising university honors student. By her third year at the university, she had published three articles in biochemistry, and was working as a violinist. In 2002, following her junior year of college, she spent three months as a volunteer in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya and Lagos, Nigeria, living in poverty. After her return from Africa, she had her first psychotic break. Because of undiagnosed and untreated mental illness, she was no longer able to focus on her studies. The insidious emergence of schizophrenia led her on a path away from the university and into a life of delusion and isolation. In 2003, Bethany left college, only to become homeless for four years. Eventually, a series of events led her to reclaim her life. In 2008, she made a full recovery. Bethany finished her bachelor's degree in molecular biology with honor from the University of Cincinnati in 2011.

Today, Bethany is a sought-after motivational speaker with a passion to educate and inspire change in the way schizophrenia is perceived and treated, and in the stigma so negatively attached to this diagnosis. She has shared her story at numerous conferences and events for physicians and health care providers around the country. Her memoir [Mind Estranged: My Journey from Schizophrenia and Homelessness to Recovery](#) is her first book, published in the summer of 2014. Bethany's other interests include performing classical and popular music on violin, and studying ancient Hebrew and Mandarin Chinese.