## Who We Are CHRONIC PAIN PATIENTS

- We are mothers, fathers, grandmothers, grandfathers, wives, husbands, sisters, brothers, sons, daughters.
- We suffer of untreatable painful illnesses such as Crohn's Disease, Interstitial Cystitis, Endometriosis, Sickle Cell, Fibromyalgia, Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS), Chiari Malformation, Arachnoiditis, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Osteoarthritis, Degenerative Disc Disease, Degenerative Joint Disease, Cancer, High Impact Injuries, Botched Surgeries.
- We depend on regular pain medication to function. Additionally to be productive members of community. To be able to take our kids or grandkids to school, to cook meals, to fix a fence, mow a lawn, change oil in a car, go grocery shopping or sometimes just to be able to take a shower.
- We don't abuse our medication.
- Due to Inappropriate Use of CDC Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids, we are being forced to taper, or are denied medication completely. We are stigmatized and treated like criminals.
- We are forced to live in agony. As a result, we have been increasingly losing our lives due to catastrophic medical events, such as strokes, heart attacks, and suicides.
- We are asking for your understanding.