

For more epilepsy information, call toll free:
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or contact our office in your area:

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(973) 244-0850

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Manasquan, NJ 08736
(800) 336-5843

Heads Up for Safety
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Building 11
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Liza Gundell Wins Staff Person of the Year at National Leadership Conference

This year the National Epilepsy Foundation's Annual Leadership Conference took place from September 18-20th in Dallas, Texas. Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey staff that attended took advantage of the great opportunities to share ideas with other affiliates from across the nation. In the session entitled, "Project Access - Developing Health Care Access Systems for Medically Underserved Children," Deputy Director, Liza Gundell co-presented and shared how the New Jersey affiliate worked with Jersey Shore University Medical Center and Parent Partners to create the "Spread the Word" toolkit.

At the Annual Awards dinner, EFNJ staff received a special surprise when Liza Gundell won the honor of Staff Person of the Year.

Congratulations Liza!



Andrea Racioppi, Patti Reale, & Leonor Madrigal celebrate with Liza Gundell after she wins her award

Congress Sends ADA Amendments Act to the White House

The Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey is excited to report a true milestone in restoring protections against discrimination for people with epilepsy, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (S. 3406) unanimously passed the House last week. After the Senate passed the Act unanimously, the House swiftly took this bill up under the leadership of Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (Maryland). Congress has delivered a unanimously supported, bipartisan bill to President Bush.

Please take this time to thank your Senators and Representatives for their support of legislation that will secure the rights of protections of people with Epilepsy in the workplace. President Bush has indicated his support for this legislation and is expected to sign this bill in September.

Reminder

Join us on **Sunday, October 12, 2008** as EFNJ and The Family Resource Network host a state-wide Walk-a-thon titled **Walk for a Brighter Tomorrow** at Roosevelt Park, in Edison, New Jersey. This will be a fun filled day for families and friends to walk in support of their loved ones. A casual 5k Walk, entertainment and refreshments will be just a few of the day's highlights.

So call your family, friends and co-workers and start a walk team today! You can find more information and register online at www.walkforabrightertomorrow.org or via phone **1-800-FRN-2345**. Please join us in our continuing efforts to provide low-cost quality services to New Jersey families living with developmental disabilities and chronic illness. You can make a difference!



The Connection Between Epilepsy and Autism to be Explored at Upcoming Seminar

The occurrence of Epilepsy in individuals with Autism has been reported as being as high as 30 percent. This statistic demonstrated the importance of education to both these populations. On October 13, 2008, a seminar will be held at the Autism Center of New Jersey Medical School. "The Autism and Epilepsy Connection" will consist of a morning session for clinical staff and an afternoon session for the Public. From 9:00am-11:30am, Dr. Mark Mintz will guide participants through an informative session exploring the connections between Autism and Epilepsy. From 1:30pm-4:00pm, Dr. Mintz will facilitate an experiential afternoon session, followed by a panel discussion, which will include Eric Joice, Executive Director of the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey and Family Resource Network and Judy Omidvaran, an advocate.

When: October 13, 2008

Where: 185 South Orange Avenue
Medical Sciences Building Gallene Room
Newark, NJ 07104

Register: Call 973.972.9422

2008 Season of Camp Nova a Great Success!

The 2008 season of Camp Nova took place from August 17th - 23rd. This year camp was held at a new location in Branchville, New Jersey. The location change proved to be a great way for the campers to experience new things. Climbing the rock wall, kayaking and swimming in the lake are just several ways the campers (and counselors!) were able to have fun. As always the event that everyone looked forward to was the dance. We were fortunate enough to have the Westernaires provide us with the music for the second year in row.

Camp Nova staff would like to thank PACE, UCB Pharma, AT&T Pioneers, Pam Bergland, Michael Hickey, the Westernaires, and those that provided full or partial scholarships for campers to attend. Your generosity helped to make this year a great success!



Kerrilyn successfully reaches the top of the climbing wall!

The Center for Neurological and Neurodevelopmental Health's Focus on Research

The Center for Neurological and Neurodevelopmental Health (CNNH), and their allied organization, Clinical Research Center of New Jersey (CRCNJ), are engaged in an array of clinical research projects that study experimental therapies and treatments for children/adults with epilepsy. Qualified participants are provided all study-related evaluations, procedures, and medications at no cost. CRCNJ is currently recruiting patients for the following epilepsy studies:

Epileptic Cluster Seizures

Are Cluster or Breakthrough Seizures also Known as Acute Repetitive Seizures

Affecting your Life?

Do these seizures happen quickly over a short period of time? If so you may be eligible to participate in this clinical

research study to evaluate a drug delivery system being studied for repetitive seizures. Adults and children (age 2 and up) with epilepsy may qualify. An adult caregiver is required for participation. Participants will receive study medication, study-related procedures and study visits at no cost. Caregivers will be trained on how to deliver the study medication.

Partial Seizures *Do You Suffer from Seizures?*

We are currently enrolling participants in a clinical research study to test the safety and effectiveness of an investigational seizure medication.

- Do you have a diagnosis of epilepsy with partial seizures?
- Do you currently take 1-2 medications to control your seizures?
- Are you willing to change your sei-

zure medication?

Are you between the ages of 16 – 70? If you answered YES to all of these questions, you may be eligible to participate in ALEX-MT. ALEX-MT will last approximately 30 weeks. Participants will come to the office for periodic check-ups and testing. Trial medication will be provided at no cost to participants. Compensation may be available for time and travel.

For information about enrolling in these studies, please call Cathy Smith, Research Coordinator at the Clinical Research Center of New Jersey. **Address:** 1001 Laurel Oak Road, Suite E2, Voorhees, NJ 08043. **Phone:** 856.346.1806 ext. 106. **Email:** csmith@thecnnh.org Please visit our **website** at: www.thecnnh.org