



EPILEPSY NEWS

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NOVEMBER IS EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH

National Epilepsy Awareness Month (NEAM) is a tremendous opportunity for you to highlight the many ways that you **EDUCATE** your community about epilepsy, **EMPOWER** those living with the condition to better manage their care, and **ENCOURAGE** lawmakers and researchers to make positive strides towards the bright future of those living with epilepsy.

In order to highlight the growing need for awareness about epilepsy, November has been designated as National Epilepsy Awareness Month. This gives the Epilepsy Foundation and others a special opportunity to inform the public about epilepsy and concerns within the epilepsy communities.

It is the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey's continued endeavor to help dispel myths about epilepsy, teach proper seizure first aid and improve the quality of life for all individuals, families, and friends with epilepsy.

What is Epilepsy?

Epilepsy is a neurological condition that from time to time produces brief disturbances in the normal electrical functions of the brain. Normal brain function is made possible by millions of tiny electrical charges passing between nerve cells in the brain and to all parts of the body. When someone has epilepsy, this normal pattern may be interrupted by intermittent bursts of electrical energy that are much more intense than usual. They may affect a person's consciousness, bodily movements or sensations for a short time.

Epilepsy Awareness Month Happenings

- November 10th-14th** The Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey will be exhibiting at the New Jersey Capitol to help spread the word about Epilepsy to New Jersey Government Representatives, Trenton, NJ. The display will be staffed on the 13th, a day when both houses of the legislature are in session.
- November 14th** Notes of Inspiration - Friday, November 14th, 2008 - 8:00 pm - Benjamin Franklin Middle School Auditorium, Ridgewood, NJ. For more information or to purchase tickets click [here](#).
- November 20th** H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People with Epilepsy) Mentor training, Vineland, NJ
- November 28th** Launch of the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey Youth Council

Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey exhibits at NJEA Conference in Atlantic City

EFNJ exhibited at the New Jersey Teacher's Convention in Atlantic City on November 5th and 6th. Teachers, nurses and other professionals were able to stop and talk with staff about epilepsy and the various programs we have to offer. Many signed our petition and joined our mailing list. School Personnel also had the opportunity to learn about our 5th grade education program and take part in a drawing for an ipod.

"Notes of Inspiration" concert to be held

"Notes of Inspiration," a concert to raise awareness of Epilepsy will take place on Friday, November 14th, 2008 at 8:00 pm at Benjamin Franklin Middle School Auditorium in Ridgewood, NJ. The concert, featuring Clancy Newman and guest speaker founder and immediate past chair of the National Epilepsy Foundation's Youth Council, Elizabeth Goldberg, will benefit the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey. For more information or to purchase tickets click [here](#). Thank you to Dr. James Charles for organizing this event.

THE EPILEPSY COMMUNITY STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!

There are only two more months to reach our goal of 100,000 signatures.

We need your help to reach this important goal! Here's what you can do:

- (1) **Sign Online**- We have created an online petition at www.epilepsypetition.com. Please add your name to our list and encourage your friends, family coworkers and neighbors to sign. In fact, why not send an email to everyone on your contact list?
- (2) **Use a Sticker** - Download and post [our sticker](#) on your Facebook, MySpace or webpage and drive people to our online petition. It's a great way to spread the word.. Start with your friends and family, then move on to your church, club and other groups.

Nationally we hope to obtain the goal of 100,000 signatures by December 31, 2008. So far New Jersey is fourth in the Nation for numbers of signatures. Thank you for your continual support and work surrounding this important petition.

WALK UPDATE

The Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey would like to thank the following teams for designating their donations to go toward Epilepsy programs and services.

Epilepsy Teams:

Camp Nova
Dream Team
Gabe Train
Jack Rocks!
Lena's lil Helpers
Samantha's Supporters
Team ABS
Team Christianson
Team Gongora
Team Meehan
The A Team
The Animal
The Epilepsy Phenome Genome Project
Walk for Olivia
Will Power

We look forward to seeing everyone at next year's Walk for a Brighter Tomorrow.



Team Will Power



Team Camp Nova



The LoCarno family and friends