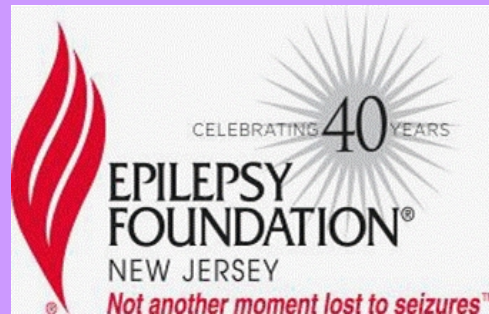


Epilepsy News

Welcome to Epilepsy News. As you may notice, our newsletter is a different shade of red this month. In fact, it's completely purple in order to commemorate "Purple Day". Purple Day was founded in 2008, by nine-year-old Cassidy Megan of Nova Scotia, Canada. Motivated by her own struggles with epilepsy, Cassidy started Purple Day in effort to get people talking about the disorder and inform those with seizures that they are not alone. She named the day Purple Day after the internationally recognized color for epilepsy, lavender. Purple Day is a grassroots effort dedicated to increasing awareness about epilepsy worldwide.



On March 26, people from around the globe are asked to wear purple and spread the word about epilepsy.

Getting involved is easy!

Wear purple - the international color for epilepsy
Host a Purple Day awareness event or fundraiser
Get the facts about epilepsy-visit www.purpleday.org

For more information about Purple Day, visit www.purpleday.org.

Please consult our website for further information: www.efnj.com.

Administrative Office

1 AAA Drive, Ste. 203
Trenton, NJ 08691
(800) 376-2345

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Quick Links

- Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey**
- The Family Support Center of New Jersey**
- The Family Resource Network**



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North Jersey Office

322 US Highway 46, Ste. 220
Parsippany, NJ 07054
(973) 244-0850

Central Jersey Office

2516 Highway 35
Manasquan, NJ 08736
(732) 528-8080

South Jersey Office

216 Haddon Avenue
Suite 329
Westmont, NJ 08108
(856) 858-5900

Heads Up for Safety

35 Beaverson Blvd.
Building 11
Brick, NJ 08723
(732) 262-8020

Buy Purple Earrings to Help Raise Money for EFNJ in Honor of Purple Day!

Caroline Magda, mother of a daughter with Epilepsy, has started an online jewelry business. The website launched in March 2009. There is an array of handcrafted jewelry. Ms. Magda has generously decided to donate 5% of her proceeds to the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey. In order to celebrate Purple Day, Ms. Magda's daughter will be designing purple jewelry. The total purchase price of that item will get donated to the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey.

You can visit her website at: <http://www.newhopebeading.etsy.com>, or become a fan [on facebook](#).

Calling all NJ Devils Fans!



If you're a Devils fan or just like hockey, come and join the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey on March 20, 2010 when the NJ Devils host the St. Louis Saints. The game starts at 7:00pm at the Prudential Center in Newark. As part of this special offer, tickets normally priced at \$56 are being offered for only \$49. Also included in the price is a \$10 food and non-alcoholic beverage card. Proceeds from these tickets benefit programs of the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey. [Click here to download an order form](#). Order deadline is March 18, 2010, so hurry!

Wrightslaw Special Education Law and Advocacy Training

Led by Peter Wright, Esq.

April 15, 2010

Registration & Breakfast 8:00am-9:00am

Event Ends at 4:30pm

Maggiano's Little Italy, Hackensack, NJ 07601

Registration until Monday April 12th: \$150.00

Each registrant will receive breakfast and lunch at Maggiano's, and two books, Wrightslaw: Special Education Law and Wrightslaw: From Emotions to Advocacy.

[Click here to register online today.](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Dana at (732) 262-8020
or DGoldberg@familyresourcenetwork.org.



Walk for a
Brighter
Tomorrow



BENEFITING THE FAMILY RESOURCE NETWORK

Walk for a Brighter Tomorrow
Shore Area Walk

When: Sunday, May 16, 2010

Where: Seaside Park, NJ

Registration 11am - Walk 12pm

Please join the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey for a 5k walk on the beautiful Seaside Boardwalk as we raise much needed funds & awareness for individuals & their families living with developmental disabilities & chronic illnesses.

For more information please visit www.walkforabrightertomorrow.org





EFNJ Call for College Scholarships!

The Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey is pleased to announce the existence of a scholarship program for New Jersey high school seniors who have epilepsy. We anticipate offering a least two \$1,000 scholarships.

New Jersey high school seniors with epilepsy who plan to attend a college, university or another post secondary education program are eligible. Academic achievement, participation in activities and financial need will be considered. The extent of a student's disability(s) will be taken into account as well, so that s/he need not be near the top of her/his class to qualify. Final awards will be made by the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey, which reserves the right not to make any awards.

Applications and supporting documents are due May 14, 2010. For an application [click here](#). Please call 800.336.5843 or email aracioppi@efnj.com for more information.

Block Out Epilepsy

Join Alan Faneca #66 of the New York Jet's, other Jets players (including Mark Sanchez and Nick Mangold), and Goryeb Children's Hospital along with many others to Block Out Epilepsy on Saturday, April 10th 2010 from 7-11pm at the Hanover Marriott at 1401 Route 10 East, Whippany NJ.

The event is essentially a huge party with a live and silent auction, open bar for four hours with food stations, d.j. and dance floor. Also included in the ticket price is a football for an autograph signing. You don't want to miss it. Please take advantage of the Marriott discount rate for an easy transition at the end of the night. Use the code: MMHMMHA

To purchase tickets: 800-247-9580, press 1 to bypass message
Or mail your check made out to MMHF (\$250/ticket)
Atlantic Health Class Registration
1000 American Rd
Box 905
Morris Plains, NJ 07950

40 Reasons to Support EFNJ

In this 40th year of the Epilepsy Foundation, we have started an online campaign highlighting 40 reasons to support EFNJ on our [Facebook Page](#). If you would like to share your reason why you support us, please send an email to Andrea Racioppi at aracioppi@efnj.com. We are looking for 2-3 sentences that highlight a service or event that has helped bring ease, joy or comfort to your lives.

National Youth Council

Nicole Hartmann, Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey Youth Council member, was chosen to serve on the National Epilepsy Youth Council. Hartmann, a Junior at Elmira College in New York, joined the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey team in 2008 as an intern. A former Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey scholarship winner and Camp Nova counselor, Nicole helped to form the New Jersey Youth Council. Congratulations Nicole!

FDA Approves Medtronic Deep Brain Stimulation Therapy

The U.S Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Neurological Devices Panel voted seven to five to recommend approval with conditions of Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) Therapy for Epilepsy from Medtronic, Inc. (NYSE: MDT) as adjunctive treatment for partial-onset seizures in adults with medically refractory epilepsy. If the FDA follows the recommendation of the panel, the therapy will be approved for the treatment of epilepsy in patients who have continued seizures with inadequate response to currently available epilepsy treatments.

"Today's FDA expert panel recommendation affirms that potential benefits outweigh risk for appropriate patients with refractory epilepsy," said Robert Fisher, M.D., Ph.D., professor of neurology and director of the Stanford Epilepsy Center in Palo Alto, Calif. "This new therapy would be a welcome addition to our treatment possibilities."

The panel recommended approval with conditions, including a post-approval study for long term follow up and labeling requirements. The FDA panel reviewed data from a U.S. clinical trial called SANTE® (Stimulation of the Anterior Nucleus of the Thalamus in Epilepsy) involving 110 patients from 17 U.S. trial centers who had severe epilepsy for an average of 22 years prior to study enrollment.

"We are pleased with the FDA panel's recommendation today and will work closely with the FDA to address the conditions of approval so that we are able to bring expanded DBS Therapy to market in the United States," said Tom Tefft, senior vice president of Medtronic, Inc., and president of the Neuromodulation business unit. "We're proud to partner with leading research centers and physicians to continue the pursuit of appropriate applications for DBS therapy for the benefit of patients."

Thank you for reading Epilepsy News! If you have any information you would like included in our e-zine, or know of anyone that would like to be added to our listserv, please email me at aracioppi@efnj.com or click the "Join Our Mailing List" button on the top right side of the newsletter.

Sincerely,

Andrea Racioppi
Associate Director
Epilepsy Foundation of NJ

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