

# Epilepsy News

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Welcome to Epilepsy News. We pride ourselves at sending you the most up-to-date information about epilepsy events, conferences, and issues that are important to you.

Please consult our website for further information: [www.efnj.com](http://www.efnj.com).



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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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## Thinking About Epilepsy

The Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey, partnering with the Anita Kaufmann Foundation, is teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade students all over the state about epilepsy through an educational program: *Thinking About Epilepsy*. This free, 40 minute presentation is intended to increase knowledge about epilepsy and seizure first aid in addition to reducing the stigma attached to epilepsy. The program has been presented in fifteen counties in New Jersey thus far and the total number of fifth graders that have been educated in the 2009-2010 school year is approximately 7,000. The students are able to feel more comfortable with the topic of epilepsy thanks to Thinking About Epilepsy!

"The fifth graders have learned so much from this epilepsy program. The students not only learned about three types of seizures, but they will also be ready to assist if a friend, family member, or stranger experienced a seizure. We cannot wait to have you present again next year!"

-Health Teacher at Birchwood School

If you are interested in finding out more about Thinking About Epilepsy please call Jenna Andolora at 800.336.5843 or email at [tae@efnj.com](mailto:tae@efnj.com).

## While Supplies Last!

This is your chance to take part in the annual EFNJ Golf Classic. The outing will take place on Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at Upper Montclair Country Club in Clifton, NJ. A select number of golfer slots are available at a discounted 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary special rate of \$150 each (Value \$550). The day will include: lunch, round of golf, cart, refreshments, dinner and goodie bag. To reserve your spot today please contact Heather Comstock at 609-392-4900 or via email at [hcomstock@efnj.com](mailto:hcomstock@efnj.com).

## Have you Registered Yet?

Join the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey and The Family Resource Network as we Walk for a Brighter Tomorrow. The central walk will take place on Sunday, October 10, 2010 in Roosevelt Park in Edison, NJ. Immediately following the walk, all registered walkers are invited to participate in a free Family Fun Day including entertainment, product samplings, activities and more. Register today online at [www.walkforabrightertomorrow.org/central](http://www.walkforabrightertomorrow.org/central) or call 609-392-4900 for more details.

## EFNJ's Youth Council Meets

The Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey Youth Council met on July 20<sup>th</sup> to set goals and plan for the upcoming year. Present at the meeting were members Jessica Hillwig from Jackson, Samantha Davis from Moorestown, Kevin Manning from Burlington, and Nicole Hartmann from Plainsboro. The primary goal of the Youth Council for the upcoming year is to hold an outing for youth with epilepsy, ages 15-20, where new connections and friendships can be made in a carefree, fun environment.

This event is tentatively scheduled for June of 2011. The New Jersey Youth Council will also assist EFNJ staff with the "Thinking About Epilepsy" program during Epilepsy Awareness Month in November. The New Jersey Youth Council is also dedicated to providing mentoring services to youth with epilepsy.

If you'd like to participate in any of the events, take advantage of any of the services, or would like to join Youth Council, please contact Andrea Racioppi at [aracioppi@efnj.com](mailto:aracioppi@efnj.com) or Youth Council member Nicole Hartmann at [nhefnj@aol.com](mailto:nhefnj@aol.com).

## Camp Counselors Wanted for Camp NOVA

The Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey's Camp NOVA is celebrating its 22nd year in operation. This year camp will be being held from August 15th-21st, with a mandatory training day for counselors on August 14th, at the Linwood MacDonald YMCA camp facility in Branchville, NJ. Camp NOVA is a wonderful opportunity for children and young adults living with epilepsy and other developmental disabilities to enjoy summer camp. Camp NOVA, which provides an exciting and independent camping experience in an environment filled with fun experiences and memories that last a lifetime, is a one-week overnight camp for young people ages 12-28. Camp activities include acting, arts and crafts, boating, fishing, karate, swimming and yoga.

We are currently seeking camp counselors for the week. If you are above the age of 18, have a background of working with individuals with Epilepsy or other developmental disabilities, and are looking to have fun, apply! All counselors are required to have a criminal background check and be certified in CPR and first aid. For an application, please call or email Jenna Andolora at 800.336.5843 or [jandolora@efnj.com](mailto:jandolora@efnj.com).

## 20th Anniversary of the ADA

Join us for a celebration and symposium on the 20th Anniversary  
of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act

Monday, July 26, 2010  
11:00am-1:30pm  
New Jersey Statehouse Annex  
Committee Meeting Room 4-5  
Trenton, NJ

This event is being hosted by The Family Support Center of NJ.  
Please contact Cheryl at 732-528-8080 for more information and to RSVP.

## Mighty Mike Simmel Basketball Camps

Bounce out the Stigma Summer Basketball Camp

Camp Dates and Locations:  
Session 1 - August 9-13, Chatham ECLC School  
Session 2 - August 16-20, HoHoKus Public School  
Session 3 - August 23-27, Bloomfield Middle School

To register for a basketball camp session and for more information, please visit [www.bounceoutthestigma.com](http://www.bounceoutthestigma.com) or call 973-244-0850 and speak to Pat Connelly.

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](mailto:aracioppi@efnj.com) or click the "Join Our Mailing List" button on the top right side of the newsletter.

Sincerely,

Andrea Racioppi  
Associate Director  
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