

# CURE

Citizens United for Research in

# EPILEPSY

CURE Newsletter  
YEAR IN REVIEW '11, VOL 15

[www.CUREepilepsy.org](http://www.CUREepilepsy.org)

## IN THIS ISSUE

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR 2

BOARD NEWS 3-5

RESEARCH NEWS 6-10

SPREADING THE WORD 12-13

EVENTS 11, 14-18



*Nancy, Andrew, and Angelo Stevens  
with their seizure dog Alaya*  
STORY PAGE 12

# CURE

## Honorary Board of Advisors:

U.S. Senator Herb Kohl, Chair  
*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

Jim Abrahams  
*Santa Monica, California*

Richard Jasculca  
*Chicago, Illinois*

Martin D. Penry  
*Winston-Salem, North Carolina*

## Board of Directors:

Susan Axelrod, Chair  
*Chicago, Illinois*

Craig Albert  
*Chicago, Illinois*

LeeAnn Brigido  
*Lincoln, Rhode Island*

Jeanne H. Donalty  
*Utica, New York*

Thomas F. Hynes  
*Chicago, Illinois*

Barbara Kelly  
*Oak Brook, Illinois*

Gardiner Lapham, MPH  
*Washington, D.C.*

Greg Lewis  
*Ann Arbor, Michigan*

Connie Milstein  
*Washington, D.C.*

Evelyn Nussenbaum  
*Berkeley, California*

Randolph Siegel  
*New York, New York*

## Investment Committee:

Thomas F. Hynes, Chair  
*Chicago, Illinois*

Craig Albert  
*Chicago, Illinois*

Patrick Nash  
*Chicago, Illinois*

Claude Ohanesian  
*Lake Forest, Illinois*

Paul Toback  
*Bannockburn, Illinois*

## Research Review Board:

Barbara Kelly, Chair  
*Oak Brook, Illinois*

Valerie Davis, MD, Facilitator  
*River Forest, Illinois*

Tracy Dixon-Salazar, PhD  
*San Diego, California*

Jill S. Fischer, PhD  
*Winnetka, Illinois*

Stacey Pigott  
*Wilmette, Illinois*

James Schneider, MD  
*Northbrook, Illinois*

Vicky Whittemore, PhD  
*Crofton, Maryland*

## 2012 Scientific Advisory Board:

Douglas Coulter, PhD  
*University of Pennsylvania*

Howard Goodkin, MD, PhD  
*University of Virginia Medical Center*

David Prince, MD  
*Stanford University School of Medicine*

Louis Ptacek, MD  
*University of California, San Francisco*

Ivan Soltesz, PhD  
*University of California, Irvine*

## Senior Research Advisor:

H. Steve White, PhD

## Scientific Consultant:

Julie Milder, PhD

## Staff:

Chief Executive Officer:  
Carmita P. Vaughan

Director of Finance & Administration:  
Bogdan Ewendt

Director of Development:  
Sucha Sastry Brown

Program Officer:  
Danielle Davis

Events Manager:  
Kris Delas Armas

Program Assistant:  
Bridget May

Office Manager:  
Jaclyn Bivins

*Thank you to Jasculca/Terman and Associates' VisCom department, and in particular Kelsey Krzmarzick, for newsletter design and production.*



## Message from the Chair

Dear friends,

We hope you'll enjoy this year-end review of a remarkable 2011, and share our enthusiasm for the progress and momentum in this field—bold new epilepsy research initiatives at the NIH, innovative new CURE-funded research projects around the world, events and meetings from coast to coast, and expansion of our board and internal team.

As more and more of you join this movement, we welcome and appreciate what each of you has to contribute. We are keenly aware that to be enjoying growth in such challenging times speaks volumes about your loyalty and dedication, and serves to affirm and strengthen our commitment to this mission.

We are looking forward, with great excitement, to next year's release of the Institute of Medicine Report, "The Public Health Dimensions of the Epilepsies," which will shed more light on the enormous need for better therapies and cures, and will help to drive our more focused and aggressive research agenda in 2012, as well as new awareness and fundraising campaigns needed to support that critical science.

This has been a busy and transformative year, and some of you have noted receiving fewer print communications from us. In order to keep you up to date in a more timely fashion, save both trees and precious research dollars, our goal is to become increasingly electronic, including e-newsletters. To that end, we hope that you will update your contact information, including your email address, by filling out the postcard included in this newsletter, or by going online to [www.CUREepilepsy.org/gogreen](http://www.CUREepilepsy.org/gogreen).

We are grateful for all of your support and encouragement this past year, and hope you will continue to stand with us in this fight against seizures and epilepsy. With your help, in 2012 we will enjoy even more momentum and progress in the search for a cure.

On behalf of all of us at CURE, I send our most sincere wishes for a peaceful and healthy holiday season and new year.

Susan Axelrod

## CURE Board Grows in 2011

CURE is pleased to welcome three new members to its Board of Directors—Craig Albert, Greg Lewis, and Evelyn Nussenbaum.

As a partner and portfolio manager at Chicago-based Sheffield Asset Management, LLC, Craig oversees the firm's long/short equity investing operations. He has experienced first-hand the damaging effects epilepsy can have on families. His brother, Gregory, has suffered from epilepsy since birth. His business acumen and personal connection to our cause uniquely position him to be a valuable asset to CURE during this phase of strategic growth.

Craig is a graduate of Lehigh University and New York University Law School. An avid Boston Celtics fan, he resides in Chicago with his wife and their four children.

Greg, a management consultant at McKinsey & Company, specializes in the healthcare sector and worked with the CURE Board to develop a strategic plan for growth and accelerating progress toward a cure.

Greg has a long-standing interest in science and research dating back to his undergraduate studies in the history of science and technology. He was drawn to CURE because of the relentless emphasis on making real and material progress toward the goal of no seizures, no side effects.

Greg received a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Michigan after earning a Bachelors in History and Science from Harvard University. He lives in Ann Arbor with his wife Toby and their two sons Casey and Ian.

Evelyn chaired CURE's first-ever San Francisco benefit in 2011. The event was a huge success, with over 350 guests including former San Francisco Mayors Gavin Newsom and Willie Brown. She is inspired to work for a cure by her ten-year-old twin children Beatrice and Sam, both of whom have epilepsy.

Evelyn is a journalist who has written and edited for CNN, the New York Times, Wired, and Fortune. She received a Bachelors degree from Pomona College. She lives with her family in Berkeley, California.



**IN-KIND  
KINDNESS**

## A Tribute to Tammy Haddad

Few people have the passion and commitment of Tammy Haddad. Even fewer have the roll-up-your-sleeves attitude, and sheer will to drive our cause forward, bring people together, and push us closer to a cure through awareness and advocacy.

Tammy has spearheaded numerous efforts in the name of CURE. With her firm, Haddad Media, she has produced touching films including personal interviews and CURE event footage. Additionally, she and her staff have always lent a hand in any way they could—providing amazing photography, securing press before and after events, and creating and donating CURE paraphernalia—including our first iPhone case design!

She has hosted incredible events, including three White House Correspondents Brunches, where she chose to feature CURE. Because of Tammy, over 600 influential guests from politics and entertainment learned about CURE, epilepsy, and what we're doing to eradicate this terrible disease.

When it comes to messaging, we turn to none other than Tammy. With her and friend Joe Manes's help, we launched our extraordinarily successful Mother's & Father's Day campaign, which funded three young investigators—the future of epilepsy research. She was also instrumental in launching CURE's social media and web presence. Her savvy resulted in the redesign of our website, and the creation of "Chair's Corner," Susan Axelrod's blog.

What Tammy has done to raise the profile of this cause is nothing short of extraordinary. And, when someone who is not even personally affected by epilepsy does as much as she has done, it's hard to find words to express our gratitude.

Thank you to Tammy Haddad, and her fabulous staff at Haddad Media. Thank you for not only sharing our vision of a cure, but for doing everything imaginable to make that vision a reality.

## Susan & David Axelrod and CURE on CNN

*Piers Morgan interviews Susan & David Axelrod about epilepsy and CURE*

On May 17th, CURE enjoyed international exposure with Susan and David Axelrod's appearance in a special feature on CNN's "Piers Morgan Tonight." During the segment, they talked about their family's struggles with epilepsy, and the lack of awareness and research funding, which motivated Susan and two other mothers to found CURE.

The impact of the program was significant. CURE's Twitter following doubled, the Facebook page saw numerous encouraging responses, and calls, emails, online registrations, and donations all increased. Special thanks to Piers Morgan and CNN for the opportunity to share our mission so broadly and ensure that epilepsy receives its due share of attention.



## White House Correspondents Garden Brunch Seeds New Friends

Washington, DC — On April 30th, CURE supporter Tammy Haddad produced another star-studded White House Correspondents Garden Brunch, with hundreds of politicians, journalists, and Hollywood actors in attendance. Haddad, with Brunch co-chairs Susan Axelrod and Wendi Murdoch (spokesperson for White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood) used the amazing opportunity to raise awareness and funds for both organizations.



*Past and present Chicagoans of the Year*

## Axelrod Named Chicagoan of the Year

In celebration of her passionate efforts as an epilepsy research advocate, Chicago Magazine honored CURE's Susan Axelrod as a 2010 Chicagoan of the Year. Axelrod, along with five other honorees from throughout the city, was presented with a donation from the Chicago Tribune Foundation for CURE.

At a January luncheon held at the elegant Four Seasons Hotel Chicago, Axelrod accepted her award and spoke of the progress made to date thanks to the tireless support of the hundreds of families who share the common goal of a cure. She noted that the paramount effort could not have been accomplished alone, and emphasized the need to remain steadfast in the quest toward high-reward, cutting-edge research for epilepsy.



*Tammy Haddad, Rosario Dawson, Matthew Morrison, Hilary Rosen*

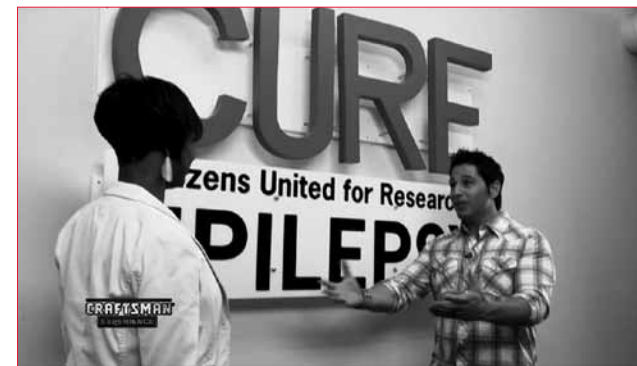
## CURE Gets a Makeover!

The CURE office got a facelift in July, thanks to Frank Fontana and his Craftsman "Down & Dirty" team! The crew donated their time and all the materials to remodel the conference room, and to create an attention-grabbing CURE sign to grace our office entrance.

The project was filmed for Frank's show, "The Down & Dirty with Frank Fontana." In front of an audience filled with CURE Chicagoland supporters, the live broadcast featured an interview with Susan Axelrod, footage of the office's transformation, and the much-anticipated "big reveal" with CEO Carmita Vaughan.

"Thanks so much to Frank and his crew, who really took this cause to heart," Vaughan commented. "We're so glad to have you as supporters of this cause!"

Watch the show, and view photos of the new and improved CURE office: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4htdJyjNTfM>



## VAUGHAN JOINS TEAM AS NEW CEO

CURE welcomed Carmita Vaughan as its new Chief Executive Officer in November 2010. She comes with a diverse professional background, as well as a strong personal connection to epilepsy. Vaughan's mother was diagnosed with epilepsy as an adult and passed away in 2001 after suffering seizures.

Vaughan most recently served as Chief Strategy Officer for America's Promise Alliance, a youth development organization founded by Gen. Colin Powell. Earlier, she served as the Chief of Staff of High Schools for the Chicago Public Schools. Before transitioning into the non-profit sector, Vaughan served in global marketing, strategic planning, and engineering/operations management roles in several Fortune 500 companies, including Procter and Gamble and Danaher Corporation.

Vaughan holds a Masters in Business Administration from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, and received her undergraduate degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan. She has been recognized as a 2009 Leadership Greater Chicago Fellow and a 2010 Aspen/NewSchools Entrepreneurial Leaders for Public Education Fellow.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Greetings CURE family! Thank you all for welcoming me with open arms. This cause is inextricably linked to my personal story and I can't imagine a place I would rather be!

2011 has been a year of growth and excitement for the organization. We've added crucial staff to our team to help us reach our goals and realized great heights by funding a record-breaking amount of innovative research. None of this could have happened without your support and continued dedication.

Our vision is to realize an even more remarkable 2012. With your help, we will build on this tremendous momentum and move ever closer to a cure through a focused and ambitious research agenda and targeted awareness and fundraising campaigns to sustain our progress.

Happy Holidays to you and yours!

## Record-breaking Number of Research Awards Granted in 2011

### Loss of the Perineuronal Net Component of the Extracellular Matrix after Status Epilepticus



**Paulette McRae, PhD**  
*Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*

Temporal lobe epilepsy (TLE) is the most common type of focal epilepsy and individuals who suffer from TLE can have impaired cognitive abilities that impact their ability to live a normal, productive life. The goal of Dr. McRae's project is to understand how changes in the environment surrounding cells in the hippocampus contribute to learning and memory problems in individuals with TLE. The perineuronal net (PN) is a component of the extracellular environment that sheathes a subset of cells in the hippocampus. Preliminary work found that the PN is destroyed following an acute seizure. An enzyme will be used to breakdown the PN in the hippocampus, mimicking the PN loss observed after a seizure, in order to study changes in the extracellular environment that contribute to the destruction of the PN and the development of epilepsy. Dr. McRae will explore how these changes contribute to cognitive dysfunction associated with TLE.

\*THE MUSE (MOTHERS UNITED TO STOP EPILEPSY) AWARD\*

### Simultaneous Electrocorticography and Optical Signal Recording of Seizures in Free-moving Rats with Implantable Devices



**Hongtao Ma, PhD**  
*Weill Cornell Medical College*

Up to 40% of individuals with epilepsy continue to have seizures. To improve the treatment of these individuals, Dr. Ma developed a new imaging technique that can provide high resolution mapping of the seizure focus to guide the neurosurgeon during surgery. The CURE-funded research will focus on the relationship between the electrical aspect of seizure onset and spread of the seizures to other brain areas, as well as the changes in blood flow in the brain associated with seizures, both in the seizure focus and the surrounding normal brain. The new information provided by such a device, if used in clinical practice, could create a new paradigm in epilepsy mapping and dramatically increase the efficacy of surgery. Dr. Ma will also study the ability of the device to predict seizure onset before it begins and provide stimulation to the brain area to stop seizures.

### Glia Activation and Vascular Changes as Biomarkers of Epileptogenesis: MRI/MRS Longitudinal Studies in Experimental Models



**Teresa Ravizza, MD, PhD**  
*Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research*

Traumatic brain injury may result in activation of glial cells along with production of inflammatory molecules and damage to the blood-brain barrier, increasing the risk for the injured person to develop epilepsy. In experimental models of epilepsy, glia activation and blood-brain barrier breakdown contribute to seizure precipitation and recurrence. Using in vivo MRI and MRS imaging techniques combined with EEG analysis and behavioral testing in animals, Dr. Ravizza will evaluate whether blood-brain barrier damage and glia activation after brain injury predict the development of spontaneous seizures and cognitive dysfunction. This information may provide not only clinically relevant prognostic tools, but also novel targets for developing effective strategies to prevent seizures and/or cognitive dysfunction following traumatic brain injury.

### Seizure Generator Location and Antiepileptic Drug Efficacy



**Jeffrey Tenney, MD, PhD**  
*Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center*

Absence epilepsy is the most common type of pediatric epilepsy syndrome and up to half of children impacted fail the best initial treatment. Response to treatment may depend upon whether seizures begin on the surface of the brain or in deeper structures. The goal of Dr. Tenney's research is to use state-of-the-art neuroimaging to compare areas of seizure onset in children with medication responsive and non-responsive epilepsy. This information will then be used to review the initial EEG for patterns that could predict treatment response. Better understanding of these differences will lead to reduced seizure burden and medication side effects.

### Novel Technology to Detect Neurotransmitters During Seizures



**Quoc-Thang Nguyen, PhD**  
*NeurAccel Biosciences*



**Thomas Fouquet, PhD**  
*NeurAccel Biosciences*

Epilepsy is strongly linked to a chemical imbalance in the brain and many anticonvulsant drugs restore the normal contribution of neurotransmitters (chemicals) to allow the brain to function. However, the role of neurotransmitters in epilepsy is poorly understood. To address this problem, Dr. Nguyen and his collaborator Dr. Fouquet will use biophotonics technology to measure levels of the neurotransmitter acetylcholine in the brains of experimental animals undergoing seizures to better understand the involvement of neurotransmitters in epilepsy and to establish specific neurotransmitters as biomarkers that could predict the onset of seizures. The results of this research will be important in the design of novel compounds to cure epilepsies that currently resist treatment with available anticonvulsant medications.

### Septohippocampal Stimulation for Seizures and Memory



**Robert Gross, MD, PhD**  
*Emory University*

Memory loss is a major contributor to disability for individuals with seizures arising from the mesial temporal lobe of the brain. Dr. Gross will test whether electrical stimulation of an important nerve pathway, the septohippocampal system, which connects the frontal lobe to the temporal lobe, can both control seizures and improve memory. Electrical stimulation will be done using an animal model of hippocampal epilepsy, a valid model of epilepsy that also shows memory dysfunction similar to that found in individuals with epilepsy. Positive results would pave the way for a clinical pilot study of electrical stimulation in individuals with mesial temporal lobe epilepsy as a means to control seizures and improve memory.

\*THE ROCK THE BLOCK FOR PEDIATRIC EPILEPSY RESEARCH AWARD\*

### Toward an Innovative Treatment for Pyridoxine-Dependent Epilepsy



**Paula Waters, PhD**  
*University of British Columbia*

Pyridoxine-dependent epilepsy (PDE) is a rare genetic disorder causing seizures due to errors in a specific gene, which damage a protein called "antiquitin." PDE occurs in 1 in 100,000 to 700,000 individuals worldwide, with at least 100 cases reported. Current treatment, relying on dietary supplements of pyridoxine, does not offer a complete solution. Paula Waters, together with co-investigators Marion Coulter-Mackie and Sylvia Stockler, is working toward an innovative new treatment for PDE. Their aim is to decrease the effects of genetic errors on the antiquitin protein by first doing studies to understand how genetic errors affect the structure and function of the antiquitin protein. Second, they will determine whether these consequences can be reversed by identifying so-called "molecular chaperones," which can rescue the protein. If successful, this method may open the door to treating other types of rare genetic epilepsies.

\*CURE & DRAVET SYNDROME FOUNDATION AWARD\*

### Gene Profiling and High-Throughput Drug Screening in a Zebrafish Model of Dravet Syndrome



**Scott Baraban, PhD**  
*University of California, San Francisco*

Pediatric epilepsies are associated with developmental or cognitive co-morbidities and are not well controlled by available drugs. Unfortunately, existing drug discovery programs are not designed to address this problem, as they are primarily based on acute or acquired seizures in adult rodent models of the epilepsies. Dr. Baraban seeks to shift current research in the epilepsy field in two ways. First, by utilizing immature zebrafish models designed to mimic known single-gene mutations seen in children (for example, Dravet syndrome), he will establish a drug discovery program targeted at pediatric epilepsy that also incorporates large-scale microarray gene analysis. Second, by focusing on the zebrafish model, he will establish a new template for high-throughput cost-effective drug screening with distinct advantages over current rodent-based approaches.

\* Named grant opportunities available. Contact CURE: 312.255.1801

## Record-breaking Number of Research Awards Granted in 2011

\*JULIE'S HOPE AWARD\*

### Flexible, Active, Implantable Devices for Epilepsy



**Brian Litt, MD**  
University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Litt and his coworkers developed a new implantable brain device to map, analyze and control epileptic networks on a much finer scale than has previously been possible. The new devices contain thousands of high-resolution sensors and "effectors" that can measure electrical, optical and other signals in brain tissue over clinically relevant scales. The devices are built on dissolvable materials that cause them to closely adhere to the brain's irregular surface. With funding from CURE, they will further develop these devices and test them first in animal models and then in individuals with medically resistant epilepsy in pursuit of CURE's mission to achieve "no seizures and no side effects."

### Acquired Interneuronopathy in a Mouse Model of Infantile Spasms



**Sacha D. Nelson, MD, PhD**  
Brandeis University

Infantile spasms (IS) is a devastating form of childhood epilepsy, which is difficult to treat and often has a poor prognosis. In order to better understand the underlying mechanism(s) that cause IS, two paradoxically opposite animal models have been proposed. In one model, inhibitory interneurons fail to integrate properly into the cortex, leading to too much excitation and too little inhibition. In the other model, blocking excitation with a toxin for several days leads to epilepsy when the toxin wears off. Dr. Nelson will explore the hypothesis that blocking normal activity causes a secondary change in interneurons, impairing cortical inhibition. Studies of biochemical changes within these interneurons may provide new targets for pharmacological treatments to prevent or treat IS and related childhood disorders.

\*CURE & PEOPLE AGAINST CHILDHOOD EPILEPSY (PACE) AWARD\*

### Silencing Hyperactive Neurons as a Treatment for Temporal Lobe Epilepsy



**Edward Perez-Reyes, PhD**  
University of Virginia



**Jaideep Kapur, MD, PhD**  
University of Virginia

Imagine a day when focal and temporal lobe epilepsies can be cured by gene therapy. Imaging techniques already allow us to localize seizure foci; however, incremental advances in drug design and epilepsy surgery are unlikely to precisely target epileptic tissue. The goal of Drs. Perez-Reyes and Kapur's research is to develop a novel gene therapy tool that will silence hyperactive neurons that cause seizures by selective expression of a potassium leak channel. Proof-of-principle studies will be performed in rodent models of temporal lobe epilepsy. To accelerate translation of this technology to treating individuals with epilepsy, expression of the channel will be drug inducible, allowing control of seizures while minimizing possible side effects.

\*THE HENRY LAPHAM MEMORIAL AWARD\*

### KCNQ Channels in RTN Chemoreceptors



**Daniel K. Mulkey, PhD**  
University of Connecticut



**Anastasios Tzingounis, PhD**  
University of Connecticut

Seizure-induced respiratory dysfunction is thought to contribute to Sudden Unexplained Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP). The KCNQ family of potassium channels are important determinants of neuronal excitability, and mutations in KCNQ genes can lead to pediatric epilepsy and SUDEP. Drs. Mulkey and Tzingounis hypothesize that KCNQ channels are required for proper control of chemoreceptor activity (i.e., neurons that drive breathing). They propose that disruption of KCNQ channel activity creates a background of respiratory problems that may worsen during seizures and contribute to SUDEP. They will investigate contributions of KCNQ channels to the firing behavior of chemoreceptor neurons. Understanding the role of KCNQ channels in regulating chemoreceptor activity may lay the foundation for the development of new treatments and diagnostic tests to identify individuals at risk for SUDEP.

\*THE 2011 CHRIS DONALTY AND KYLE COGGINS  
MEMORIAL AWARD\*

### Cardiac Mechanisms of SUDEP in Dravet Syndrome



**Jack Parent, MD**  
University of Michigan



**Lori Isom, PhD**  
University of Michigan

Dravet Syndrome (DS) is a severe childhood epilepsy usually caused by mutations in a sodium channel gene, SCN1A, that is critical for nerve cell function. Sudden Unexplained Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) is a major concern and risk for individuals with DS. Because SCN1A is also active in heart cells, Drs. Parent and Isom hypothesize that SCN1A mutations increase SUDEP risk by causing heart rhythm disturbances. To directly study heart cells from individuals with DS, they are using the induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) method in which skin cells from an individual with DS are reprogrammed to become stem cells, and then the cells are turned into heart cells. The study of heart cells derived from individuals with DS should provide critical clues about SUDEP mechanisms, and will offer a useful model system to test new therapies.

\*THE 2011 BRIGHTER FUTURE AWARD\*  
In honor of Lauren Axelrod, funded by a caring donor

### Efficacy of Flupirtine to Treat Hypoxia-Ischemia-Induced Neonatal Seizures



**Yogendra Raol, PhD**  
University of Colorado, Denver

Hypoxia-ischemia (HI) is the most common cause of neonatal seizures and often results in long-term neurological problems. Current first-line drugs to treat seizures in these children are not effective and are associated with significant side effects. Potassium channels play an important role in controlling brain excitability during early life. Dr. Raol's project will examine whether a potassium channel opener (flupirtine) can treat HI-induced neonatal seizures and alter long-term adverse neurological outcomes in an animal model of HI. This medication has been in clinical use in Europe for decades and, if successful, these studies could rapidly translate into a new effective treatment for neonatal seizures caused by HI and a better understanding of the underlying mechanisms of epilepsy in these children.

\*CJM FOUNDATION AWARD\*

### Modulation of Toll-Like Receptors to Prevent Post-traumatic Epileptogenesis



**Vijayalakshmi Santhakumar, PhD**  
New Jersey Medical School

Post-traumatic epilepsy is a growing health issue due to the increasing incidence of brain trauma in both the civilian and military populations, and the increased risk for developing epilepsy even many years after the brain injury. Activation of immune responses is an integral part of the brain's response to injury. Dr. Santhakumar's research will focus on a class of innate immune receptors known to regulate neuronal growth and excitability and determine their contribution to hippocampal structural and functional changes after brain injury. The studies will identify the cellular interactions that mediate innate immune responses following brain trauma and test whether modulation of the immune response can reduce the risk for developing epilepsy following brain injury.

\*LAZARD CAPITAL MARKETS AWARD\*

### Isoketals as Mediators of Epileptogenesis



**Manisha Patel, PhD**  
University of Colorado, Denver



**L. Jackson Roberts, MD, PhD**  
Vanderbilt University

The goal of Drs. Patel and Roberts's study is to determine the role of gamma-ketoaldehydes in cognitive impairment associated with chronic epilepsy. Gamma-ketoaldehydes are highly reactive products of lipid (fat) oxidation that bind to and crosslink proteins and DNA. Drs. Patel and Roberts will utilize a multidisciplinary approach to determine if gamma-ketoaldehyde formation occurs in a model of chronic epilepsy and whether pharmacological scavenging of gamma-ketoaldehydes inhibits cognitive decline and/or the development of epilepsy. These studies could lead to the development of novel gamma-ketoaldehyde scavengers for the treatment of cognitive dysfunction associated with acquired epilepsy.

\* Named grant opportunities available. Contact CURE: 312.255.1801

## Committed to Bringing Researchers Together

CURE is dedicated to sponsoring conferences that bring researchers together to share ideas, collaborate, and brainstorm new ways to search for a cure. To that end, CURE sponsored four exciting conferences in 2011:

The Epilepsy Genetics Workshop at Jackson Laboratories; The International Epilepsy Congress; The 5th International Workshop on Seizure Prediction; and The Hoyer Lecture at the American Epilepsy Society Annual Meeting.

We look forward to supporting even more exciting conferences in the coming year!

## Awards in Two Epilepsy Initiatives Announced by NIH

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has announced awards in two epilepsy initiatives—the Epilepsy Center Without Walls on Human Genetics and two SUDEP Planning Grants.

The Epilepsy Center Without Walls on Human Genetics was awarded to Duke University, who will use the grant to analyze the genomes of 4,000 individuals with epilepsy with samples provided by clinics around the world. The Center, known as Epi4K, will be run by scientists at Duke, the University of California, San Francisco, and the University of Melbourne, using modern genetic technologies to screen individual genomes for mutations that influence risk of epilepsy. Their hope is that newly-identified genes involved in epilepsy risk will also point the way toward novel pathways that can be targeted in the development of new treatments.

NINDS awarded two Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) Planning Grants to Baylor College of Medicine and Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. These three-year awards will be used to develop plans and obtain preliminary data on SUDEP that can be used in future applications to NINDS for an Epilepsy Center Without Walls or other grant funding.

Jeff Noebels, MD, PhD (Baylor College) will lead a team whose research will focus on identifying the genetic factors that lead to an increased risk of SUDEP in an individual with epilepsy. Samden Lhatoo, MD (Case Western University) will lead a team that will focus on the development of a data system for physiological data from individuals with epilepsy who are undergoing monitoring in the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit in order to identify physiological risk factors for SUDEP.

## Major Epilepsy Initiative Underway through 2012

An exciting new epilepsy initiative is underway at the Institute of Medicine (IOM) in which an independent, ground-breaking report, “The Public Health Dimensions of the Epilepsies,” is set to roll out in early Spring 2012. The IOM report is the first of its kind for epilepsy and will provide policymakers in Congress with vital information about the problems people with epilepsy and their families face.

By working outside of government to provide unbiased and authoritative advice to decision-makers and the general public, the IOM is a nonprofit organization that serves as an adviser to the nation to improve health. In October 2010, the Epilepsies report was commissioned because current approaches do not fully take into account the broad range of epilepsy disorders or their consequences for health and quality of life.

Sponsored in part by CURE, the IOM's year-long study, culminating in the 2012 report, will consider the public health dimensions of the epilepsies in the United States—including health care and human services, health literacy, and education—and will recommend priorities in these areas to better meet the needs of the epilepsy community. By assembling an unbiased and multidisciplinary panel of experts, as well as allowing multiple opportunities for public hearings, the IOM study and 2012 report will help suggest strategies and policies surrounding epilepsy and its impact on those who suffer from the disease.

IOM reports are influential and help shape public policy around the globe. With the potential to dramatically shape legislation, this is an integral opportunity for epilepsy advocates and community members alike to ensure that the voices of the 3 million Americans living with epilepsy are heard.

Be sure to check the CURE website for more information about the IOM report over the next few months as it becomes available!



From left: Evelyn Nussenbaum with her son Sam; Susan Axelrod with former Mayor Willie Brown



## Premiere West Coast Fundraiser a Huge Success

San Francisco—The first time around was certainly a charm for CURE's 1st Annual West Coast Benefit in San Francisco on Friday, March 25th. Hundreds of supporters and friends of CURE came from as far as Washington, DC and Wisconsin to join keynote speaker David Axelrod, former Senior Advisor to the President, and Grammy Award-winning bluegrass musician Peter Rowan at the Four Seasons Hotel.

Evelyn Nussenbaum and Fred Vogelstein, along with Barbara and John Vogelstein, chaired the spectacular event. From beautifully hand-crafted paper flower centerpieces created by Devora Nussenbaum to the poignant pillar candles featuring the faces of children with epilepsy, the fundraiser was a dazzling accomplishment after months of planning.

As the event's keynote speaker, David described his family's 30-year struggle with epilepsy and the many incredible friends they've made along the way. Referring to epilepsy as

“terrorism of the brain,” and a disease that transcends politics and ideology, he called upon guests to unite under a “common humanity” to fight a disease that strikes relentlessly.

The event featured a silent and live auction, manned by former San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown. Brown energized the CURE crowd, raising money paddle by paddle to support CURE's “Fund a Need” grant program for young investigators. The night also highlighted the groundbreaking work of Bay Area scientists who have received CURE research awards.

CURE extends a heartfelt thanks and congratulations to the dinner chairs and committee, volunteers, supporters, and new friends for creating a perfect night that brought so many families together and raised desperately needed dollars for research.

## A Recipe for Success

Chicago—Exemplary French cuisine, champagne, breathtaking views of the skyline from the 40th floor of the Chicago Stock Exchange, and exquisite, one-of-a-kind artwork can only mean one thing: the first-ever Everest Art Salon for CURE! Add to it good friends—some old, some new—and it was the perfect recipe for a truly memorable evening that raised both funds and awareness for epilepsy.

World-renowned Chef Jean Joho teamed up with Chicago artist Tim Anderson to host an event at Everest, one of the city's premiere restaurants. Anderson created an exclusive collection which was available for purchase with 50 percent of proceeds from sales donated to CURE, and a special raffle.

CURE extends heartfelt thanks to Chef Joho, Tim Anderson, and the many guests, friends, and dedicated volunteers who made the night a huge success!



Chef Jean Joho and Susan Axelrod with the night's volunteers

# ANGELS *with* PAWS



Andrew Stevens and his dog Alaya

**An angel with paws.** That's what a service dog can be to a child or adult living with epilepsy and his or her family. These dogs provide opportunities—an opportunity to experience some semblance of a normal life. An opportunity to take off the helmet for a little while. An opportunity for fewer injuries, quicker responses to seizures, and the comfort of knowing that someone will always be there. An opportunity to have a long-lasting and meaningful companionship.

Not all seizure service dogs are alike. They can be trained in water rescue and mobility assistance. Each is specially trained to fit their owner's needs. They learn how to react to seizures based on these needs: they know to remain next to him or her during a seizure, summon help, or retrieve a phone prior to a seizure when the owner can feel one coming. In addition, many seizure service dogs are able to actually detect seizures before they occur and alert their owner, allowing him or her to find a safe place.

In the case of 12-year-old Andrew Stevens, seizures can actually be stopped with the help of his dog Alaya. Before the onset of a seizure, she swipes Andrew's chest with a magnet attached to her collar, sending a signal to the vagal nerve stimulator he has implanted in his chest. This swipe eases or stops Andrew's seizures.

Of equal importance is the companionship these dogs provide.

The dogs eliminate feelings of fear, isolation, and loneliness felt by their companions. "Maggie is a trained seizure alert and response dog, but she really has come to serve an equally critical role as companion to Eoin," shared Cynthia Robertson. "He is severely developmentally delayed and consequently doesn't have many friends. Maggie has filled that role, and the bond they have formed is amazing. Man's best friend, indeed!"

## Fighting for Rights

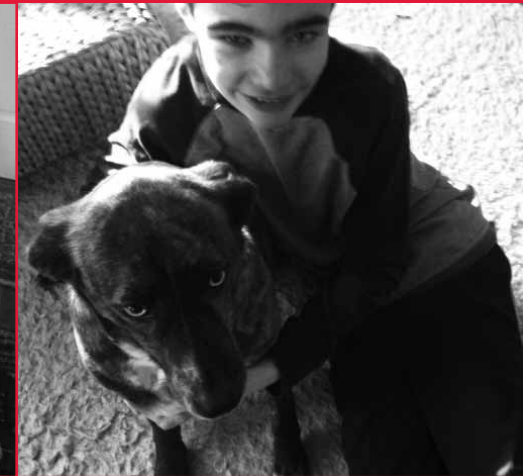
Unfortunately, the arrival of a new canine companion does not necessarily bring an end to the battles owners have to fight.

For Andrew's family, it has been obstacle after obstacle. They were so excited to finally bring Alaya into their home. But officials in Fairfax County, Virginia prohibited her from accompanying Andrew to school, despite her service dog status. That was the end of the line for Army Sergeant Angelo Stevens and his wife Nancy—they couldn't take anymore.

Angelo and Nancy fought for Andrew's rights under the Americans With Disabilities Act, drawing support from all over the country and even appearing on The Today Show. When asked about the inability for Alaya to join Andrew at school, Angelo was emphatic. "That's where I drew the line. I was tired of being



photo credit: Courtesy of Alden's Kennels, Ringwood, IL



From left: Kai Leisher with his dog Havoc; Rebecca Siegel with her dog Waltz; Eoin Robertson with his dog Maggie Mae

told no; tired of being tossed around; tired of jumping through hoops. I decided to fight and take a stand, and I was very loud about it. Too often people refuse to speak out when their rights are abused and services are denied. We must be vocal, public, and stand as a unified front. When one wins, we all win."

**The dogs eliminate feelings of fear, isolation, and loneliness felt by their companions.**

Although her family faced no challenges with their school district, Lisa Siegel reiterated the need to raise awareness of service dog owners' rights. "It's a challenge to educate the public... in grocery stores, banks, restaurants... sharing with people that Waltz is a licensed service dog and entitled to enter any public place. But it's also a great opportunity. We teach our community about service dog owners' rights, but also about epilepsy and developmental disabilities. We've met some wonderful people because of Waltz."

Despite the challenges, one thing is clear: seizure service dogs bring an amazingly positive change to a family's life. Angels with paws, indeed!

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT SEIZURE SERVICE DOGS, AND HOW TO APPLY FOR ONE:**

[www.4pawsforability.org](http://www.4pawsforability.org)  
[www.canineassistants.org](http://www.canineassistants.org)

## Know Your Rights

At the federal level, there are three laws that can govern the use of a service animal within schools: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

- Section 504: Generally applies to schools that receive federal financial assistance
- ADA: Applies to "public entities" and places of "public accommodation"
- IDEA: Governs special education services

Section 504 and the ADA are sister civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination against those with disabilities. The IDEA governs states and public agencies that provide early intervention, special education services, and related services to children with disabilities. Many states also have their own anti-discrimination laws.

Families seeking school access for a service dog should work with the school to show that the student has a disability, and that the dog is a reasonable choice.

It is important to confer with legal counsel before approaching a school district with a request to use a service animal. Requirements will differ depending on the legal law chosen (Section 504, ADA, IDEA, or a state law), as well as in which state or federal district the family resides.



photo credit: Jon Hamblin, Tyler Kaschke, and Haddad Media



photo credit: Fischer Williams Studios, Claudia Hehr, Haddad Media

From left: Beth and Peter Sagal; Vice President Joe Biden; David and Susan Axelrod with Takayoshi Oshima

From left: George Stephanopoulos and Ali Wentworth; Mika Brzezinski and Joe Scarborough

## Vice President Biden Welcomes Record Crowd to Annual Chicago Event

Chicago is indeed our kind of town! Nearly 900 guests—a new record—gathered at Navy Pier Grand Ballroom on June 21st for CURE’s Annual Chicago Event. Guests were joined by a very special guest, Vice President Biden, and emcee, NPR’s Peter Sagal.

Friends and supporters, both old and new, came out to show their support and to welcome the Vice President. He delivered a compelling and touching speech, rallying the crowd to fight together to support research to find a cure. “The truth is, I believe with every fiber of my being that {a cure} is just around the corner,” Vice President Biden said.

The event enjoyed an unprecedented amount of media coverage, as well, reaching local and national audiences. In addition, other high profile guests showed their support through attendance, including Illinois Governor Pat Quinn and Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

Sincerest gratitude to Vice President Biden, Peter Sagal, dinner and planning committees, volunteers, donors and friends. Your support, hard work and generosity helped to make this CURE’s most successful event to date!

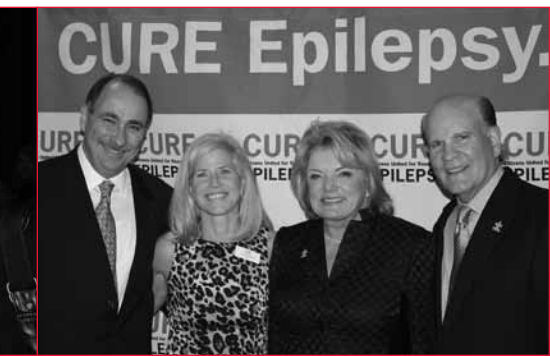
### THIS YEAR’S EVENT WAS SUPPORTED BY GENEROUS DONATIONS FROM KEY SPONSORS, INCLUDING:

Allied Telesis | Allscripts | Aon | Grosvenor Capital Management | Judy & Scott Leisher | Daina Lyons & Forrest Claypool | UCB | AKPD/ASGK | Heidi & Craig Albert  
Susan & David Axelrod | Patrice & Bill Brandt | Cafaro Livingston Family Trust | Capri Capital Partners, LLC | The Crown Family | Richard J. Dennis | Anna Giannoulas  
Anne & Howard Gottlieb Family Foundation | Larry Grisolano | Celia Huber | Carol Jones & Tom Hynes | Kirkland and Ellis Foundation | Toby & Greg Lewis | Lundbeck, Inc.  
Mesirow Financial | Sharon O’Keefe & Hal Moore | Donovan Pepper | Phil Stefani Signature Restaurants and Events | Susan & Joe Power | The Strategy Group  
The University of Chicago | Walsh Construction | Fred Eychaner | Watchtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz | Centerview Partners, LLC  
Michele Schara & Randy Mehrberg | Beth & Nathan Tross

### CURE GIVES SPECIAL THANKS TO THIS YEAR’S DINNER COMMITTEE, WHO GATHERED THE SUPPORT OF NEW FRIENDS TO THE CURE CAUSE:

Ellen Alberding & Kelly Welsh | Heidi & Craig Albert | Michael Axelrod | Susan & David Axelrod | Dr. Anita K. Blanchard & Martin H. Nesbitt  
Patrice & Bill Brandt | Cafaro Livingston Charitable Trust | The Crown Family | Richard J. Dennis | Kathy & Bob Dodd | Mary I. & Philip Doran | Russ Fradin  
Anna Giannoulas | Larry Grisolano | Carol Jones & Thomas Hynes | Melinda & Walter Kelly | Kirkland & Ellis Foundation | Judy & Scott Leisher  
Toby & Greg Lewis | Daina Lyons & Forrest Claypool | Sara & Patrick Nash | Sharon O’Keefe | Donovan W. Pepper | Diane & Quintin E. Primo III  
Susan & Joe Power | Bettylu & Paul Saltzman, MD | Michele Schara & Randy Mehrberg | Susan & James Schneider, MD  
Marla & Eric Sedler | Karen & Phil Stefani | Susan & Paul Toback | Beth & Nathan Tross | Polly & Daniel VanderWoude | Patricia & Daniel Walsh

From left: Logan Welborn and Susan Axelrod; Jessica Williams, Carmita Vaughan, Rufus Williams, Sharon Thomas Parrot, and Doug Parrot; Mayor Rahm Emanuel



From left: David and Susan Axelrod with Caroline Kennedy and Edwin Schlossberg; Lee Woodruff, Marc Adelman, Bob Woodruff; David and Susan Axelrod with Suzanne and Bob Wright

## New York City Benefit a Star-Studded Success

New York continues to keep the CURE drumbeat alive as over 300 friends in attendance displayed their support and toasted the night’s honorees Bob and Suzanne Wright for their groundbreaking work for Autism Speaks. An exciting new partnership between Autism Speaks, CURE, and the National Institutes of Health was also announced. The collaborative conference, at which a joint research initiative will be planned, is set to take place in May. This effort is particularly vital given that over 30% of children with autism also have epilepsy.

George Stephanopoulos and Ali Wentworth were the evening’s fabulous hosts, and Peter Sagal, host of NPR’s “Wait Wait... Don’t Tell Me!” graciously agreed to play CURE’s auctioneer. The Lead-

ership in Epilepsy Research Award was given to Dr. Shlomo Shinnar, MD, PhD (Albert Einstein College of Medicine), and Joe Scarborough and Mika Brzezinski of MSNBC’s “Morning Joe” were presented the Excellence in Journalism Award.

We continue to be overwhelmed by the love shown for CURE in New York City! None of this could have been accomplished without our hosts, awardees, dinner committee, and volunteers, all of whom put in hours of hard work to make sure this event was a success!

### THIS YEAR’S EVENT WAS SUPPORTED BY GENEROUS DONATIONS FROM KEY SPONSORS, INCLUDING:

Barbara & John Vogelstein | Bloomberg | Dorothy & Mark Doyle | Global Strategy Group | Donna & John Marino | Dennis & Karen Mehiel | Sugar Rautbord | UBS  
Wachtel, Lipton, Rosen & Katz | Alexandra Wentworth & George Stephanopoulos | Lally Graham Weymouth | Autism Speaks | Lisa & Joel Benenson  
Liane K. & Marc D. Carter | Parade Publications | Michele Schara & Randy Mehrberg

## Another Ace in the Hole for Drive for CURE

*Beach Park, IL* — What do you get when you combine sunny skies, one of the top-rated golf courses in the country, and 200 enthusiastic golfers and volunteers? The 7th Annual Drive for CURE, of course! The Drive, held on August 25th, was another incredible success, with the course reaching full capacity as guests enjoyed a marvelous afternoon of golf, prizes, raffles, and dinner. Longtime CURE supporters Jim and Susan Schneider host the event each year in honor of their daughter Julie, who has epilepsy.

The funds raised from the Drive will go directly to the Julie's Hope Award, a three-year CURE Challenge Grant.



Top: Golfers enjoyed a beautiful day on the course  
Bottom: Gloria Stender, Susan and Julie Schneider

## Rhode Island Rallies Once Again for Epilepsy Research

*Harrisville, RI* — Eighteen years and counting! Nearly 300 guests and supporters joined CURE board member LeeAnn Brigido as she hosted her annual Rhode Island Benefit at Wright's Farm Restaurant on March 25th. The lively event included performances by a jazz band, silent auctions and raffles, dinner and dancing—all to acknowledge and highlight the struggles of individuals with epilepsy and their families while raising money for research.

One of the highlights of the night, a moving video presentation by Amanda Hoskins, whose brother Nick suffers from epilepsy, documented the devastating effect epilepsy can have on children and their families, and truly brought the message close to home for guests.

Brigido knows the uphill struggle of epilepsy all too well: Her 21-year-old son, Zach, has battled epilepsy since he was just six weeks old.

"It's wonderful to have the siblings and the younger generations involved in this crusade to help find a much needed cure," Brigido commented.

CURE is deeply appreciative of all of the hard work and support of LeeAnn Brigido and family, the event committee, and all of CURE's friends and supporters in Rhode Island.



Top: Rebecca and Mary Incera, Amanda Hoskins

Left: Jeanne and Barry Donalty, LeeAnn Brigido, Barbara Kelly

## Over \$1 Million Raised in Upstate NY

*Whitesboro, NY* — On September 17th, the Christopher Donalty 2011 CURE Benefit reached an important and impressive goal—over \$1 million raised for research in the Mohawk Valley, NY since they began their efforts in 2003. Over 600 guests gathered to honor the memory of Christopher and the dedication and success of Dinner Chair George Aney, and to hear, firsthand, about the amazing research their dollars have supported.

Pedro Irazoqui, PhD (Purdue University), recipient of the 2006 Christopher Donalty Interdisciplinary Research Award, shared his exciting work, progress, and passion for this cause. "It is a very different thing to rise at six and go to work long day after long day in order to publish in that higher impact journal than it is to rise and work so as to save the life of another Christopher Donalty," Dr. Irazoqui shared.

Special thanks to Jeanne and the entire Donalty family, and to all those who have supported them and this cause over the years.



George Aney



Kelly and Mike Parsons

## Madison Friends of CURE Raises Awareness and Research Funds

*Madison, WI* — Event co-chairs Eileen Sutula and Bill Rowe outdid themselves this year, hosting a compelling 4th Annual Madison Friends of CURE Benefit. Held at the Promega BioPharmaceutical Technology Center, guests mingled before entering the auditorium to hear from courageous and eloquent panel members about their lives with epilepsy. Guests heard about the challenges of parenting from a young mother with epilepsy, the resilience and courage it takes to navigate the professional world from the perspective of a local news anchor with epilepsy, the heartbreak of parenting children or even losing a child to epilepsy, and even from a pediatrician who has struggled with poorly controlled epilepsy since childhood, and how she balances her career and parenting.

Guests were also inspired by the hope offered by CURE grantee Steven Rothman, MD, who shared advances in research that have been possible because of grant support from CURE, and from former SAB member Tom Sutula, MD, PhD, who acknowledged the courageous panelists.

CURE thanks Bill and Eileen for their passion and energy, the panelists for their courage in sharing personal stories, and the supportive community in Madison!

To watch the panel presentations: [http://www.madisonfriendsof-cure.org/2011\\_events/benefit.php](http://www.madisonfriendsof-cure.org/2011_events/benefit.php)



Top: Eileen Sutula and Bill Rowe



Left: Panelist Sarah Carlson

photo credit: Tricia Scott and Brett Sahler

## Special Thanks for Fundraising Efforts Around the Country

### Laughing for a CURE

Hosted by Rife Hilgartner  
Boulder, CO

### Masquerade Benefit for Epilepsy

Hosted by Christy Shake  
Brunswick, ME

### The Everest Art Salon for CURE

Hosted by Chef Joho & Tim Anderson  
Chicago, IL

### 18th Annual It's Time for a CURE

Hosted by LeeAnn Brigido  
Harrisville, RI

### San Francisco Benefit for CURE

Hosted by Evelyn Nussenbaum & Fred Vogelstein  
San Francisco, CA

### 8th Annual Kyle's Running for a Memory

Hosted by Donna Coggins  
Pittsford, NY

### CURE More Magazine Women's Half Marathon Team

Hosted by Jennifer King  
New York City, NY

### Bag a Bag for CURE

Hosted by Lindsey Goldman  
Andover, MA

### David's Run

Hosted by Christine Shindler  
Chesterbrook, PA

### The Annual CURE Chicago Event

Chicago, IL

### Gia's Hope – 3rd Annual Benefit for C.U.R.E.

Hosted by Wendy Flammia  
Miller Place, NY

### "The Dog Days"

Hosted by Julie Bollenbach  
Madison, WI

### Drive for CURE

Hosted by Susan Schneider  
Beach Park, IL

### Teresa's Birthday: A Benefit for CURE

Hosted by Laurie Walsh  
San Francisco, CA

### Christopher Donalty 2011 CURE Benefit

Hosted by Jeanne Donalty  
Whitesboro, NY

### Madison Friends of CURE 4th Annual Benefit

Hosted by Eileen Sutula and Bill Rowe  
Madison, WI

### Paul's Run for Epilepsy Marathon Team

Hosted by Merry Wurster  
Prospect Heights, IL

### The Annual CURE New York City Benefit

New York City, NY

## Many Thanks to Michelle Marciniak

It is with sincere gratitude that CURE acknowledges Michelle Marciniak for her contributions to CURE while serving as Executive Director. Michelle brought immeasurable passion, devotion, and energy to this mission. Her dedication over the last four years is appreciated, and she will be missed!

Michelle has taken a position as Associate Director at Children's Hospital Los Angeles, where she now resides with her husband Cort and daughter Marie.

## Upcoming Events

### The Iron Lady Movie Screening (with special guest, film producer – Harvey Weinstein)

January 12, 2012

Chicago, IL

INFO: [www.CUREepilepsy.org/IronLady](http://www.CUREepilepsy.org/IronLady)

### Charity Event to Benefit CURE

Sponsored by Webtab, Inc

March 27, 2012

Chicago, IL

INFO: [kyle@webtab.com](mailto:kyle@webtab.com)

### The CURE 2nd Annual San Francisco Benefit

April 17, 2012

San Francisco, CA

INFO: [info@cureepilepsy.org](mailto:info@cureepilepsy.org)

### S4 Epilepsy Walk/Dinner

June 9, 2012

Southbury, CT

INFO: [www.s4epilepsywalk.com](http://www.s4epilepsywalk.com)

## Save the Date

Stay tuned for more information on these upcoming events!

- The CURE Annual Boston Benefit, Spring 2012
- The CURE 14th Annual Chicago Benefit, TBA 2012
- The CURE 5th Annual New York City Benefit, Fall 2012
- The 3rd Rock the Block for Pediatric Epilepsy Research Benefit, Chicago, IL, Fall 2012

Contact CURE for help organizing your own fundraiser:  
[info@CUREepilepsy.org](mailto:info@CUREepilepsy.org) or 800.765.7118.

## EPILEPSY

Help change lives by donating to CURE's year-end campaign  
Every Dollar Counts | Every Seizure Matters



*CeCe*  
*Jan. 11, 2007 – March 9, 2010*



Epilepsy affects 3,000,000 U.S. citizens regardless of age, sex and race. It kills 50,000 Americans annually – many without warning. Yet research into a cure lags drastically behind most other disease states.  
Learn more about epilepsy. Join with us and donate to find a cure at [CUREepilepsy.org](http://CUREepilepsy.org).

**CURE**  
Citizens United for Research in  
**EPILEPSY**

3 MILLION AMERICANS 50 MILLION WORLDWIDE  
**HOPE RESEARCH CURE**

### OUR MISSION

Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to finding a cure for epilepsy by raising funds for research and by increasing awareness of the prevalence and devastation of this disease.

# CURE

Citizens United for Research in  
**EPILEPSY**

223 West Erie Street | Suite 2SW  
Chicago, IL 60654  
PH: 312.255.1801 | 800.765.7118  
info@CUREepilepsy.org  
www.CUREepilepsy.org

Nonprofit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
Chicago  
**PAID**  
Permit NO. 436

**Every Dollar Counts | Every Seizure Matters! Please give today to CURE's year-end campaign.**



*It's time we found a cure.*