

# NEWS TO GROW ON

## Children's Growth Foundation, Inc.

219 Bryant St.  
Buffalo, NY 14222  
[www.childsgrowth.org](http://www.childsgrowth.org)

### SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

#### CGF ANNUAL FAMILY CONFERENCE

Everyone is invited to attend the Annual Family Conference free of charge to be held on April 21, 2007, Saturday from 10-3:15 at the Center for Tomorrow, University of Buffalo, North Campus, Flint Entrance off Maple Rd., Amherst.

The annual meeting of CGF and the election of officers and board members will be held just prior to the conference from 9-9:45. Registration for the Family Conference begins at 10.

There will be a continental breakfast and a hot buffet lunch served. In the afternoon, there will be a variety of seminars on topics such as obtaining special education services, nutrition and endocrine issues. Children will be entertained separately while the adults attend the conference. They will be supervised and there will be games, crafts and animals, among other things. To register, please call 878-7769 or email [vickip@childsgrowth.org](mailto:vickip@childsgrowth.org).



#### CGF VALENTINE'S DAY SOCIAL

CGF will be sponsoring a Valentine's Day Social on February 11, 2007, Sunday, from 5 to 7 pm. to be held at the suburban location of the Temple Beth Zion, 700 Sweet Home Rd., Amherst. All are invited. We will show the video "How to Do Homework without Throwing Up" by Trevor Romain. Everyone is invited to watch; however, children may choose to be in an adjoining room to play games and do crafts. Dinner will be served.

This event is free of charge to CGF members. You may bring friends. There is a nominal fee of \$5 per family for non-CGF members.



#### CGF HALLOWEEN AND HOLIDAY PARTIES

CGF hosted a Halloween party in October and a Holiday party in December, 2006 for CGF members. There were games, food, magic, juggling, crafts and music at both events. Each child took home goodies, presents, candy and pictures.

#### 504 PLANS AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

If your child is struggling in school, you may be able to obtain special accommodations (under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities) or special education services (under the IDEA). To be eligible for special education services, your child must have a disability that interferes with his education and performance. To be eligible for protections under Section 504, your child must have a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits at least one major life activity. Major life activities include walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, caring for oneself, and performing manual tasks.

Section 504 generally provides accommodations and modifications in testing situations and programs, and improved building accessibility. IDEA however requires public schools to provide an educational program that is individualized to meet the

unique individual educational needs of a child with the goal of enabling the child to become independent and self-sufficient. Classification under IDEA means the child has been identified as having unique educational needs related to his/her disability and is entitled to an Individualized Education Program (IEP) to meet these needs.

**A child who receives Section 504 protections has fewer rights than the child who receives special education services under the IDEA. The child who receives services under the IDEA is automatically protected under Section 504; however the opposite is not true. Some of the areas which are handled differently under IDEA and 504 are when a child misbehaves, procedural safeguards, prior written notice before any change, the right to an independent educational evaluation at public expense, and how impartial**

## FUNDRAISING AND GRANTS

### Variety Club

On October 29, 2006, Dr. Tom Mazur, Ted Johnson, Cathy Howard, Jim and Amy Dzielski and Vicki and John Fithian attended the awards dinner of the Variety Club at the Millennium Hotel. On behalf of CGF, Board President Cathy Howard accepted three checks totaling \$35,000. The Shields Family made a donation of \$5,000 to the Variety Club to be directed to CGF. A \$500 check was presented in honor of our young ambassador, Kevin Spadinger. A check for \$30,000 was presented to be used for the various programs provided to the patients in the Endocrine Clinic free of charge.

The young ambassador representing CGF at the Variety Club telethon for 2007 is Grace Anne Croop. Grace was born prematurely at home on April 4, 1999 at 27 weeks gestation. At 23 days old, she required surgery to help relieve pressure due to bleeding that enlarged the center of her brain. At 12 weeks old and 4 lbs 5 ozs, Grace was ready to go home.



In July, 1999, the Early Childhood Intervention Program started providing therapy to Grace and her triplet brother and sister (Colin and Elizabeth). Three therapists worked weekly with them. Grace's doctor became concerned with her growth rate and in April 2005 referred her to the endocrinologists at Women's and Children's Hospital of Buffalo.

At the clinic, Dr. John Buchlis diagnosed Grace with growth hormone deficiencies and prescribed "Norditrophin". This is growth hormone medication used to strengthen her bones and help increase her weight and height. Grace has been on it almost a year and has shown good results.

Grace is almost eight years old in second grade and is a very happy girl. She has been in the "Brownies" for two years, likes to dance, play, read, draw and sing. Grace has adapted to this new challenge with enthusiasm and determination.

A big thanks to our outgoing young ambassador, Kevin Spadinger.

### CGF To Sponsor Two Other Major Fundraisers in 2007

If you would like to participate in our golf marathon, or a fundraising dinner event, please contact our fundraising chair, Jim Dzielski at 874-3666.

### M&T Bank



M&T Bank recently awarded the Children's Growth Foundation a grant of \$7,000 to be used for educational purposes at the Annual Family Conference and to implement a new program designed to teach youth about finances and banking practices.

There will be more details on this new program in the next newsletter and in clinic.

### Raffle Winners

All Endocrine Clinic patients and their siblings are invited to enter a monthly raffle. Details are in clinic and you may enter there. However, you can also enter by sending your name, address and phone to CGF, 219 Bryant St., Buffalo, NY 14222. Or email the information to [vickip@childsgrowth.org](mailto:vickip@childsgrowth.org).

For privacy reasons, winners will not be listed in the newsletter unless specifically requested by the entrant.

### Kidz Kart Revamped Thanks to Hadley Exhibits



A huge thanks to Ted Johnson, board member of CGF and owner of Hadley Exhibits for revamping the Kidz Kart. It can be found in clinic when there is a volunteer available to man it. If you are interested in volunteering in this invaluable way, please contact Vicki at [vickip@childsgrowth.org](mailto:vickip@childsgrowth.org).

### Congratulations To The Winners Of The Monthly Raffle Sponsored By Jenss Décor

Each month Jenss Décor gives a member of CGF a \$25.00 gift certificate to be used at any of its locations: Maple Rd., Amherst; Eastview Mall, Rochester, or its newest location on Milestrip Rd., Orchard Park, which will open in April 2007.



The four winners for the last third of 2006 are Michele Arcara, Clarine Radt, Christine Wachowicz and Bobbie Krukowski. Many thanks to Jenss Décor for sponsoring the CGF monthly member raffle.



Thanks to the United Way for their continued funding of the programs provided by CGF.

**504 PLANS AND SPECIAL EDUCATION cont. from front cover**

**hearings are conducted. In general, you should not agree with the school district to change your child's IEP to a 504 Plan. Your child may lose some services and certainly will lose some rights and protections under the law.**

## Membership Application

Please make your tax deductible membership check payable to: The Children's Growth Foundation and mail to: The Children's Growth Foundation, 219 Bryant St., Buffalo, NY 14222.

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone (Optional):

Email:

Type of Membership: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Regular \$40 \_\_\_\_\_ Donor \$60 \_\_\_\_\_  
Patron \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact us if you would like more information about including CGF in your will or estate plan. Leave a legacy.

If you would like to volunteer for CGF, we have a number of areas of need: advocacy, fundraising, Kidz Kart, membership, special events, patient support network, and publicity. Please contact us via email, phone or snail mail.

Why Join? If you are a patient of the Endocrine Clinic at the WCHOB, then you are familiar with the work that CFG funds. Dr. Tom Mazur is a psychologist dealing with the issues surrounding the medical conditions of the children seen in the Endocrine Clinic. One of the assistants of the doctors would have had you complete some questionnaires to assist the doctors in dealing with these issues. And Marian Goodman would have seen your child to discuss educational vocational matters. We provide social events bi-monthly. You will be eligible for our monthly Jeness raffle. Please become a member or make a tax deductible donation to help fund this important work.

### Annual Election of Officers and Members of the Board

The election of board members and officers will be held at the Annual Meeting on April 21, 2007 at 9 am. CGF thanks the current officers and members (listed below) whose terms are expiring for their dedicated service. All CGF members may vote for board members. If you are a member of CGF and wish to run for one of these positions, or become a member of the board, please contact Ted Johnson, chair of the Nominating Committee at 874-3666.

President – Catherine Howard,  
Vice President – Ronald Krukowski,  
Treasurer – Brad Dossinger, Secretary – Debbie Wiesner  
Jim Dzielski, Kathy deGuehery, Ron Krukowski, Terry Lauria  
and Renee Pawlik

### Websites Which May Be Of Interest

If you are looking for information on a specific condition, see below.

◇Alliance of Genetic Support  
[www.geneticalliance.org](http://www.geneticalliance.org)

◇Little People of America  
[www.lpaonline.org](http://www.lpaonline.org)

◇GlaxoSmithKline Genetics  
[www.genetics.gsk.com](http://www.genetics.gsk.com)

◇Magic Foundation  
[www.magicfoundation.org](http://www.magicfoundation.org)

◇Healthfinder  
[www.healthfinder.gov](http://www.healthfinder.gov)

◇Noonan Syndrome  
[www.noonansyndrome.org](http://www.noonansyndrome.org)

◇Human Growth Foundation  
[www.hgfound.org](http://www.hgfound.org)

◇Turner's Syndrome Society  
[www.turner-syndrome-us.org](http://www.turner-syndrome-us.org)

◇KS and Associates  
[www.genetic.org/ks](http://www.genetic.org/ks)

◇The Prader-Willi Syndrome  
Association  
[www.pwsausa.org](http://www.pwsausa.org)

### Webmaster Change

After six years of dedicated volunteer service to CGF maintaining and updating the website, Sean Hudson is retiring. We have appreciated his hard work over the years! A tech savvy board member, Meg Moore has stepped forward and graciously offered her services to take over this important task. Thanks Sean and Meg!

### The Year in Review

A WORD FROM THE CGF BOARD PRESIDENT,  
CATHERINE HOWARD

2006 was a good year for CGF. CGF provided assistance to approximately 150 new patients in the Endocrine Clinic. One of the two psychologists provided by CGF in 2006 helped these patients with a variety of issues. Educational/vocational services provided were career planning, resume writing, and participation in the summer youth program. CGF continued its collaboration with Variety Club to provide economically disadvantaged and ill children with the opportunity to attend a week of summer camp. We held social events for patients and their families which included a Halloween party and a Holiday party.

A membership drive held in August helped to increase membership. Board membership from ten to fourteen members. We continued to raise money with our annual fund raisers which included a Corporate Ski Challenge, a dinner where we honored Dr. David Sandberg and a Golf Marathon.

We receive grants from the Variety Club and United Way as well as donations from private donors.

All of this could have not occurred without the assistance from those who participated in strengthening CGF. Thank you for your continued support and the board is looking forward to a successful 2007.

**4th ANNUAL CORPORATE SKI CHALLENGE**

The fourth annual Corporate Ski Challenge will be held at the Buffalo Ski Club, Lower East Hill Road, Colden, on February 23, 2007. The corporate ski challenge invites corporations, families and individuals to compete in a slalom race that is challenging and fun.

Each team must have three participants and men and women must be represented on each team. The entry fee for a team is \$300. Individuals may enter for \$125.

If you choose not to race but would like to join us for skiing and the party, the fee is \$45. If you are not a skier, please join us for the party only for a fee of \$35.

We are accepting ads for the ski brochure. A form for the ad and an entry form to race may be found on the website or call 878-7769.

The Ski Challenge will include dinner, a party, 50/50 split raffle, silent auction and Chinese auction. 100% of the net proceeds will go to programs of the Children's Growth Foundation.

**2007 CGF EVENTS CALENDAR**

Feb. 11, Sun. 5-7 pm



Valentine's Day Social  
Temple Beth Zion  
Amherst

Feb. 23, Fri. 6-10 pm



Fourth Annual Corporate  
Ski Challenge  
Buffalo Ski Club  
Lower East Hill Rd.  
Colden

April 21, Sat. 9-9:45 am



Annual Meeting including  
Election of Officers and  
Board Members  
Center for Tomorrow

April 21, Sat. 10-3:15 pm



Annual Family Conference  
Center for Tomorrow  
University of Buffalo  
North Campus  
Flint St. off Maple Rd.  
Amherst



**Board of Directors**

Catherine Howard, President\*  
Ronald Krukowski, Vice President\*  
Bradley Dossinger, Treasurer\*  
Deborah Wiesner, Secretary

James Dzielski, Fundraising Chair  
Lawrence Dautch, Audit Committee Chair\*

Theresa Lauria, Board Member  
Margaret Spadinger, Board Member  
Kathy deGuehery, Board Member  
Thomas Carey, Board Member  
Meg Moore, Board Member  
Theodore Johnson, Board Member\*  
Renee Pawlik, Board Member  
Norman Bennett, Board Member

**Health Advisory Board**

Margaret MacGillivray, M.D.  
Tom Mazur, Psy.D.  
Teresa Quattrin, M. D.

**Executive Director**

Vicki Prager, Esq.\*

**Educational/Vocational Counselor**

Marian Goodman, M.Ed.

\* denotes member of the Executive Committee



Children's Growth Foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization in Western New York State that supports children with growth disorders in a holistic manner: We believe medical, psychological and social needs go hand-in-hand to achieve healthy, productive and happy futures.