



CHASA to Celebrate Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month

ARLINGTON, TX (May 1, 2012) – The Children's Hemiplegia and Stroke Association (CHASA), a non-profit organization dedicated to improving lives of children and families affected by pediatric stroke and other causes of hemiplegia, has announced that a series of awareness and fundraising efforts will take place throughout May 2012, as members celebrate Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month.

During Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month, CHASA hopes to increase awareness of pediatric strokes and raise money for programs designed to help little stroke survivors and their families. Some of the activities planned include bowl-a-thons, fundraising walks, picnics, and awareness events in schools and other community settings. Public officials in a number of states and cities have recognized May 2012 as Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month.

"We are amazed that CHASA has grown to almost 4,000 families across the country and around the world. Naturally, many of these families want a dedicated period of time to honor their childhood stroke survivors, so we are excited to celebrate Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month," said Nancy Atwood, Co-Founder of CHASA and mother of an 18-year-old perinatal stroke survivor. Atwood added, "I applaud all of the wonderful volunteers who help us raise awareness and funds so we can continue to carry on our mission of helping pediatric stroke survivors and others with hemiplegic cerebral palsy."

Childhood stroke occurs in approximately 1 in 2,700 infants and 11 in 100,000 children (ages 1 month to 19 years) each year. Children frequently have significant long-term disabilities after a perinatal stroke, including cognitive and sensory impairments, epilepsy, visual and behavioral difficulties, and cerebral palsy. Early identification and treatment is key to success for little stroke survivors.

About CHASA

CHASA is a 501 (c)(3) organization that provides support, education, and advocacy for children and families affected by pediatric stroke and hemiplegic cerebral palsy. Whether through discussion groups, educational fact sheets, or parent to parent connections, CHASA has helped, and continues to help, children and families through the overwhelming and complex world that occurs after a child suffers a stroke. For more information, visit www.chasa.org.

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