



The Chad Foundation

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Parent Heart Watch - 40 Families who have lost a child to SCA.

Parent Heart Watch - Las Vegas, Jan. 2006

The Chad Foundation for Athletes and Artists was honoured to be invited to the inaugural Leadership Symposium of Parent Heart Watch, founding sponsorship by the Medtronic Foundation, a leading mfg. of AEDs. More than 40 families from 30 different states- all who lost children to SCA, gathered in Las Vegas to build a national network of parent champions that can advocate for policy changes across the nation. "The families of Parent Heart Watch are moving from their tragic losses to action that can protect other children," said Joan Mellor, program manager for the Foundation's HeartRescue Program.

"Individually they have changed laws, placed hundreds of AEDs in local communities and conducted screening events for thousands of youth." It was heartbreaking to hear 40 personal stories - a 5 yr. old girl went to the school bathroom and never returned; an athlete down, with no AED available, succumbs; another young athlete down, the AED is locked in a closet, crucial moments lost, now he is in a vegetative state. However, their collective tragedies united the 40 Families as one and strengthened their resolve to raise awareness, campaign for AEDS and conduct necessary preventive heart screenings so that no other children would suffer these devastations.

Chad provides 400 Screenings

Thanks to ongoing community support, Chad was able to provide several hundred free screenings at Newport Beach High School last June thanks to Eric Licata, an 18 yr old senior, who was diagnosed with HCM following a routine root canal. Eric and his mother contacted Chad for he never wanted an athlete to die from not having this important screening. Thanks to mfg., Sonosite and Doctor Porzio from Newport Beach and the great doctors of Childrens Hospital Los Angeles Heart Center and Echo Techs, Chad was also able to provide free echos for students from Mira Costa High School and Bishop Montgomery along with players and participants at last year's Chad 11th VB Benefit for CHLA. We are forever grateful for the support of Dave and Kristie Najarian who have opened up their home and heart to Chad for the past 3 years and all the dear Friends and Organizers who are with us every year to help save lives! Bless You All!

Chad Benefit- Off Broadway

11-17 Dec., Lion Theatre, W.42nd St. "Cat on A Hot Tin Roof"

Chad Players go to Atlantic City

In October 2005, The Chad Players were honoured to be brought to Atlantic City, New Jersey, to perform at the prestigious Dante Hall Performing Art Center their NY production of "Days of Wine and Roses," a journey of the devastating effects alcohol can have on Love. The production was sponsored by the Atlantic Commission on Missing and Abused Children and the Department of Family/Youth Services as the event of the year to prevent substance abuse. Teens from dysfunctional families and people in recovery were invited to the performances. At an especially challenging point of the play, the leading male character who has become clean, falters and is tempted to take the drink. Teens, unable to contain themselves, uttered out loud, "Don't, no don't do it!!" On leaving they mentioned to a hostess that was the best play they've ever seen. It was a moving moment, for we saw that young people today are not too young to see this play and witness the debilitating effects alcohol can render. I think Chad would have been happy with this work, as many of you know he never took a drink of alcohol his entire life...Chad - the Gift of Heart and Art, www.chadfoundation.org