



## SEPTEMBER 2007 UPDATE

---

### **DOCTORS, TEACHERS & TS**

It was a busy and productive summer at our office in Somerville. In addition to providing support and making referrals for families across New Jersey, we conducted significant outreach to NJ's professional community. Info on TS and the services we provide was distributed to every pediatrician and family practice physician in New Jersey. In addition, all NJ school principals, child study team members and school nurses were sent literature on TS and on the training programs we offer to educators. This continued outreach will help improve diagnosis, treatment and support for NJ adults, children and families dealing with TS.

### **RUTGERS & TS RESEARCH**

Through our partnership with Rutgers University the long awaited TS Biofeedback Study began in June, as did a research project on TS and Stigma. Both of these projects are headed by professors from the Rutgers Graduate School of Applied & Professional Psychology. In addition, the Rutgers Department of Genetics began collecting blood samples and screening New Jersey TS families to be included in the TS cell & DNA sharing repository which is making DNA samples available to qualified researchers all over the world to study the genetics of TS. This is the first time research on TS has been conducted in New Jersey. We urge you and your family to participate! For additional info, contact our office at 908 575 7350.

### **TS WEBINARS FOR NJ FAMILIES**

In an ongoing effort to reach more families across our state, starting Wednesday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>, we will be offering online interactive presentations for TS families - or more simply put TS WEBINARS. Our presenters will be experts in their fields and will answer individual questions at the end of each presentation. A message board will also be set up on our website where participants can post additional questions on the monthly topic and have them answered online by the presenter. We are very excited to bring this resource to our families. See the enclosed flyer for more details and sign up to participate today! (If you have web technical expertise to share, give us a call.)

### **COLLEGE WORKSHOPS ON TS**

In addition to the in-services we provide for school districts, we have established relationships with 14 colleges across NJ to provide workshops for teachers, school nurses and other education professionals in the surrounding communities. Parents and others with an interest in learning more about TS and how it affects children in the classroom are also welcome to attend these workshops. Workshops are scheduled for **October 13<sup>th</sup>** at Bergen County College and **October 18<sup>th</sup>** at Camden County College. For specifics on these workshops and others scheduled for 2008, see our website [www.tsanj.org](http://www.tsanj.org), click on resources and calendar.

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP – CALL 908 575 7350 TO VOLUNTEER**

We need volunteers to help with our many programs from conducting in-services to helping with mailings. There are volunteer opportunities for everyone. Call us today and volunteer to man our booth at the following conferences:

Oct 20 - NJ Psychologists Conference – Iselin

Oct 25 – American Academy of Pediatrics NJ School Health Conference – Somerset

Oct 28 – Obsessive Compulsive Foundation Conference – Somerset

Nov 8 & 9 – NJEA Teachers Convention – Atlantic City

Dec 14 – School Psychologists Conference – Monroe

## **INVEST IN OUR PROGRAMS - GIVE TO TSANJ THROUGH:**

United Way, Employee Charitable Campaign, Corporate Matching Gifts, Holiday Giving, In Memory or in Honor of Someone Special

**Send all donations to:** TSANJ, 50 Division St, Suite 205, Somerville, NJ 08876

Your support is invaluable to us as we are the **only** organization delivering family support, education and advocacy services to New Jersey families and professionals dealing with Tourette Syndrome.

## **WHO'S THE BEST TS DOC IN NJ?**

In an effort to serve our families, we regularly send questionnaires to doctors and therapists who have experience and interest in treating TS and its associated disorders. Please use the enclosed form to provide us with information about the medical doctor and therapist you use to manage and treat TS in your family. We will send a questionnaire to those professionals to request information from them on their hospital affiliations, insurance taken and experience. We also request copies of their curriculum vitae (biography) so that we have full background on the provider to share with other NJ families in need of medical or psychological support. Your name will not be used in our communication with any clinicians. Please return the form to: TSANJ, 50 Division St, Somerville, NJ 08876 at your earliest convenience. Thanks for helping us help others!

## **IT'S A NEW SCHOOL YEAR - TIME TO ADVOCATE FOR YOUR CHILD**

We have a team of experienced professionals who provide district wide faculty in-services on TS throughout New Jersey. If you are interested in having us conduct training for your child's school, please call 908 575 7350 or email [info@tsanj.org](mailto:info@tsanj.org). Information on this program is also available on our website at [www.tsanj.org](http://www.tsanj.org). Peer training can also be arranged for students in your child's school.

Now is the time to ensure TS training for teachers is included in your child's IEP and 504 Plan. If you need guidance on working with the school, email our education coordinator, Sandy Romano, at [sromano@tsanj.org](mailto:sromano@tsanj.org).

## **FOURTH QUARTER 2008 ACTIVITY CALENDAR ENCLOSED**

Enclosed is the TS activity calendar for October, November and December 2007. Some activities are for professionals and others are for families and individuals with TS. If you are interested in attending a particular session and need additional information, email us at [info@tsanj.org](mailto:info@tsanj.org) or call 908 575 7350 and we'll get back to you asap.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE OFTEN [WWW.TSANJ.ORG](http://www.TSANJ.ORG)**

**PLAN TO ATTEND THE FIRST TS WEBINAR ON WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 5**

**CALL 908 575 7350 AND VOLUNTEER TO HELP TODAY!**