ANNUAL REPORT 2013



PRISMS Launches Regional Rep Program

PRISMS is proud to announce a new program that will underscore its outreach to families worldwide. Much work was put into this program and the planning of it during 2013. The Regional Rep Program is made up of parent volunteers from around the world who provide support and information to newly diagnosed families, and also responds to families in their region who may have questions and concerns about SMS. The regional rep is the central point-of-contact for families in their region and may be the very first PRISMS/SMS contact that families may encounter. The "reps" may also

be involved in planning family get-togethers and picnics, and encourage fellowship between all the families in their region. We are confident that this program will cultivate a close SMS community and also provide a network whereby families can share strategies and information about SMS.

The regional reps are divided into regions in the Unites States, as well as Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Australia, and Russia. We have a listing of our reps on the PRISMS website under the tab "Family Support" and "Contact Another SMS Parent." We hope that this program will encourage more dialogue and friendship between our families and provide a deeper level of support. Our reps are very dedicated to the families and have a heart for this endeavor. We are fortunate to have such dedicated volunteers and recognize their commitment.

We look forward to hearing about the regional gatherings and will share those stories with our members.

President's Message Randy Beall

Dear Supporters:

PRISMS was created to improve the lives of families affected by Smith-Magenis Syndrome. We provide much needed information and support and we sponsor research and foster partnerships with professionals to increase awareness and understanding of SMS. To achieve this mission, our community of researchers, medical professionals and volunteers work tirelessly and passionately. We appreciate the support of our donors and the people who have sacrificed to make our mission a reality. Here are some of our 2013 highlights:

- We began the development of a regional representative program that will roll out in 2014. It is our hope that this position will help us provide more local support and networking for our families.
- We continued to improve our website and also took steps to increase the security of our site.
- We continued our planning for the 2014 International Conference to be held in St Louis, MO in July 2014.
- We developed a new Awareness Committee. We also celebrated November 17th as SMS Awareness Day. Julia Hetherington is chair of this new committee.
- We updated our New Member Packet and redesigned the PRISMS brochure, a key tool to provide basic information about SMS and PRISMS. We also developed a new Compassion and Information card.
- We began work on an exciting new SMS Handbook publication which should be available at the 2014 conference.
- We provided new funding for SMS-related research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).



- We began developing strategies to prompt professionals in the field to contribute articles related to various components of SMS. We also conducted a survey to assess the needs of our readers, (what articles they would like to see in future newsletters, ideas for columns, determine future authors for articles).
- We began development of a Spectrum database that collects information related to various topics, and provides information as to where we are producing most literature, where our needs are and where we may want to target in the future.
- We developed a fundraising strategy and a case statement for conference fundraising.
- We continued to work on our organizational structure and efficiency by updating our bylaws and job descriptions. We also improved our controls and reporting of fundraising events. We began to discuss hiring an Executive Director and succession planning for our executive leadership team.
- We recruited a new board member, Steve Corbett, to join our board as the Spectrum Journal Editor. And Percy Huston and Phil Ruedi were re-elected to another 3-year term.
- We created a Volunteer Coordinator position and recruited more volunteers to help us fulfill our mission. Percy Huston agreed to serve as our first Volunteer Coordinator.

Since 1993, **PRISMS** has served as the primary source of information and support helping affected families. Today, we serve not only those in the U.S., but families throughout the world. Together we are making a difference in the lives of so many!! Again, thank you for your continued support. I look forward to a great 2014 and seeing everyone at the conference.

Warm regards,

Randy Beall



Professional Advisory Board

Sarah H. Elsea, Ph.D., FACMG

As an internationally recognized group of basic scientists, educators and clinicians with expertise in SMS, PRISMS' ten-member Professional Advisory Board (PAB) serves to advise the PRISMS Board of Directors on medical, scientific, educational and therapeutic matters, and to assist in the education and research activities of the organization. Members include experts in genetics, healthcare, basic science, education, and policy who assist in the development of accurate and effective informational and promotional materials for Spectrum, the PRISMS website, and other publications. The PAB is focused on the dissemination of accurate medical information regarding diagnosis, management, education, and genetic counseling. Members of the PAB respond to inquiries directly from families, caregivers, educators, and healthcare providers, give presentations and provide consultations at the PRISMS conference, and provide comprehensive support to the broader community via the Smith-Magenis Syndrome GeneReviews.

The PAB reviews requests for research studies and any requests for access to our membership. We have a process of review that requires all studies have Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval in addition to critical review by members of the PAB for relevance to the membership. These procedures ensure that the studies are credible, safe, and appropriate for families. In 2013, published research improved our understanding of the molecular changes affecting sleep disturbance and circadian rhythm, studies explored social preferences and interactions among children with SMS, and animal model studies enhanced our knowledge of the metabolic disturbances observed in SMS. We also saw the development of improved, cost-effective techniques for diagnosis of SMS that will provide alternative means for diagnosis in regions of the world that may have fewer resources for diagnostic services.

Current research studies on neuronal stem cell creation and characterization, the cellular function of RAI1, and the complex relationship of RAI1 with other genes involved in neurodevelopmental disorders are underway by scientists around the world and will further enhance our understanding of this complex syndrome. Additional studies about speech and sibling concerns are also expected.

The PAB and the PRISMS Board of Directors together in 2013 took steps toward the creation of a patient registry and began discussions with pharmaceutical companies to enroll persons with SMS in clinical trials for medications to improve sleep and behavior. We continue to support the SMS Biobank in collaboration with Coriell Cell Repositories, an NIH funded entity that collects and stores DNA and cell lines for use in research of both rare and common disorders, providing much needed support for ongoing and future research studies to improve our understanding of SMS.

Funding of both novel and ongoing research endeavors is critical for improved support for families, caregivers, educators, and healthcare providers caring for anyone with Smith-Magenis Syndrome. Only through research can education, treatment, and management of SMS be improved. The PAB strives to bring the most current information and support to the members of PRISMS.

Professional Advisory Board 2013

Sarah H. Elsea, Ph.D., FACMG PAB Chair Baylor College of Medicine Houston, TX

Ann C.M. Smith, M.A., D.Sc. (Hon), CGC PAB Chair Emeritus National Human Genome Research Institute Bethesda, MD

Christine Brennan, M.A., CCC-SLP Northwestern University Chicago, IL Kerry Boyd, M.D., FRCPC Bethesda Services Ontario, Canada

Brenda Finucane, M.S., CGC Geisinger Health Danville, PA

Andrea Gropman, M.D. Children's National Medical Center Washington, DC

Barbara Hass-Givler, M.Ed., BCBA Geisinger Health Danville, PA Gonzalo Laje, M.D. Behavioral Health Associates, L.L.C. Washington, D.C.

Ellen Magenis, M.D. Oregon Health Sciences University Portland, OR

Lorraine Potocki, M.D. Baylor College of Medicine Houston, TX

Membership Report

John Mayer

At the end of 2013 there were 323 individuals or families who were members of PRISMS. Our membership is strong and we added 40 new families as members throughout the year.

Our member list shows that PRISMS serves families from across the country and around the world - to members from 45 states and 13 foreign countries. (For your information states without members are Hawaii, Iowa, Mississippi, Tennessee, and West Virginia.)

There are many benefits from membership including receiving timely, helpful, and new information via the Spectrum journal, the monthly e-blast, the PRISMS web site, and the PRISMS facebook page; the opportunity to make or strengthen a connection with others at our international conferences; by receiving materials for family members, teachers, and advocates; and much, much more.

2014 will be an important and exciting year. The many volunteers and Board members are deep in our work to prepare for the 8th international conference that will be held in St. Louis beginning Thursday, July 31 and running through Sunday, August 3, 2014. All of us hope you will make plans to attend and "meet us in St. Louis!"

Your membership dues provide the financial resources PRISMS needs to operate – and this support enables us to help families. The organization is here for our members, and we are able to do our job because of your support.

Thanks to all of you who are part of PRISMS. We truly value your membership and support.

And thanks to my colleagues in the PRISMS office and on the Membership Committee for their efforts: David and Denise Smith, Mary Kate McCauley, Scott and Maggie Miller, and Angela Williams.

Please note: membership dues are for the calendar year – January through December, regardless of the month you have joined. If you have any questions about your membership, please do not hesitate to contact me.

John Mayer PRISMS Membership Chair

2013 Members of PRISMS

An * after the name indicates a new member in 2013.

Alabama

Carol & Tom Braithwaite Laura & Matt Markus Josh & Jill Wood

Alaska Robert Ermold* Jennifer Schroeder*

Arizona David & Elaine De Temple Patty & Steve Loyer Ines Oppenheim

Arkansas Carolyn Bruister Rosanne & Pace Hindsley **California** Gina & Steve Belden Frank & Judy Carney David Crummey

John & Priscilla Diamond Paul & Susan Diamond Diane & Joseph Erth Jeanine & T.D. Hetherington Mary Hetherington Krista & David Karr Charlene Liao & Liqun Luo Frank & Adela Nevarez Joan & Achille Paladini Laura Paladini Kim & Tom Pastore Amy & Brian Pereira David & Gail Reiner Andrew Staich & Kelli Brasket* Stephen & Arlene Marie Staich Melissa & Rick Visosky*

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Delaware George & Anne Hobbs

District of Columbia Gunther Birznieks Jillian Nickel

Florida

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Idaho

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ANNUAL REPORT 2013 PRISMS

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Indiana

Illinois

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Kansas

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Louisiana

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Maine

Susan & Daniel Longfellow Jaye Orgera

Maryland

Christopher & Lisa Corbett Mia Dudley* Kerry & Bob Fairweather Jim & Jamie Humphreys II Yukiko & Tetsuya Ichino Christian Lavedan* Mary & Paul Miller Amy Owens Joanne Seward Jane Stanley* Ruth & Dennis Unglesbee

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Rod Allen Herman & Lindy Hanko Nichol & Jeff Hill Jim & Irene McCool Rajean Potter Chad & Diane Ulrick Jane Vit Eva & Greg Wludyka John & Terry Zdanowski

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Montana Marni Rolston

Nebraska Marilyn & Steve Groeteke Donna Stevens

Nevada Patricia & Rafael Reynoso* June Winkler-Teixeira

New Hampshire

Douglas & Jacquelyn Hill James & Nina Kelly Debora & John Mayer

New Jersey Dorit Berlin

Dortt Berlin Ilse & Randy Ciprich Rosemary & Rod Clifford Yolanda & Alfredo DaSilva Sara & Tsvi Gal Marie Gallo Caroline Pope

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Delma & Alejandro Aguilar William & Laurel Sellyey

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North Dakota

Shannon & Darin Jantzi

Ohio

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Oklahoma

Adam & Tara Carleton

Oregon

Shirley & Donald Dechaine Jennifer & Lou Klump Ellen Magenis Jeanie & Michael Singleton

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South Dakota

Kipley & Ross McDaniel

Tennessee

Jim & Peggy Laney Tane & Dale Levin Olivia McGehee & Jim Schleicher

Texas

Eric & Sarin Abati Ruth Angol* Carolyn Beall Mary & Randy Beall Jack Byrom Dawnda & Brandon Daniel Karen & Glen Daniel

Ronald & Karen Dixon Meredeth Drummond-Cox Sylvia & Jeremy Farber Chantzee Harris* Jessica & Mark Kirklin David & Sue Kuebler Tamara Michelle Lee James Lupski, M.D., Ph.D. Brenda Massey Craig Massey Cecilia & Gordy Poole Ron & Chandra Powers Johnna Robinson Larry Sarver* Paula & Joseph Toussaint Leanne VanDover Eva & Weldon Wamble

Utah

Pat Boschetto Sandy & Richard Hall Jennifer & Joseph Haroldsen Margene & Jonathan Morris Jennifer Large Seagrave* Heather & Daniel Wilde

Vermont

Patty & Dan Saunders Sally Scheindel & Jason Lewis*

Virginia

Sarah Elsea Mark & Claudia Gibb Amanda & Charlie Graham Judith & Matthew Livingston Margaret & Scott Miller Alice & Troy Pettey Diane Powers Shannon & Darrell Richard Ann & Ron Smith Jeff & Venessa Stevens

Washington

Andrew & Kathy Booker Esteban & Jennifer Delgadillo John Doherty & Kathleen McMonigal Lance & Heather Eberlein

Wisconsin

Mary & Tim Kamp Linda & David Mills Kimberly & Charles Pechous Patti & Terry Schiller Bonnie & Bill Spear

Wyoming

Tiffany Helling Irene & Dan Knoepfle

PRISMS members from foreign countries:

Australia

Kawther & Monadhil Al-Hilali Paul Alexander Cally Bauman* Angela Bonato Denise & Stewart Caddy Richard & June Dixon Stephanie & Nicholas Hanson Susan & Bryce Hoad Catherine & Stuart Walker Jennifer Tolhurst-White* **Brazil** Eliane Barros & Raul Santos

Canada

Sonia & Brian Bench Dr. Kerry Boyd Donna Santiago-Douglas & Michael Douglas* Brian & Amanda Downey* Trina & Justin Fillier Lorna Harris & Jennifer Miller Kelsey Roberge* Justus & Jennifer Smith* Nathasa Sheets Andrea Tatarsk* Brandi Wilson

Denmark Leslie & Christopher Calzaretta

Iceland Vidar Gunnarsson & Thuridur Jonsdottir

Japan

Shinji & Kaori Nozaki **Mexico** Maria Elena Carrancedo

Netherlands Ronald & Carolina de Kimpe

Norway Ingvild Arskog Kjeldsen Kristine Ahlgren & Espen Stavland

Russian Federation Bela Kafengauz & Alexander Tsetlin

Scotland Hazel Wotherspoon

Sweden Stephanie & Jonas Waller*

United Kingdom

Kristine & Glen Braden Diana & Paul Brice Carol Funnell Emma Riddell Patricia van Nederveen

Fundraisers 2013

In 2013 SMS families from across the country held events in their local area to raise money for PRISMS.

Jean Weil and family hosted their Annual Nickels for Nicco Corn Hole Tournament in Kentucky and collected more than \$6,000. Jeremy and Sylvia Farber raised over \$8,000 during a bowling fundraiser in San Antonio. Heather Michalski ran a marathon in Georgia and collected over \$10,000 in donations. Jill Wood raised more than \$2,500 during a "cut-a-thon" where people donated money to PRISMS in exchange for a haircut.

Yolanda Dasilva participated in a community yard sale and donated her proceeds to PRISMS. In Canada, Lilly Wilson's grade school paid \$2 to wear their PJs to school on SMS day. Bill and Monica Mason hosted a golf outing in Cochranville, Pennsylvania with a \$4,050 donation.

Other successful fundraisers were held by Valerie Toke, Julia Hetherington, and Amanda Kurtz. Each and every fundraiser is valued by PRISMS and helps us meet our goals. We are grateful for the support.

PRISMS continues to host an online giving page at www.firstgiving.com/prisms and Gail Kopp opened a page in honor of her daughter's Sweet Sixteen Birthday. In the past two years \$23,000 has been collected for PRISMS through this site. Families can post a paragraph about their child, upload a picture and share with families and friends through email and social media. Consider hosting a "Virtual Fundraiser" as PRISMS focuses on raising funds to support the 2014 International Conference.

With the help of PRISMS volunteer, Michelle Lee, the PRISMS online store continues to sell SMS awareness items while collecting a portion of the proceeds. Visit www.cafepress.com/smithmagenis and order your stylish SMS clothing for this summer's conference in St. Louis.

Ideas for fundraisers can be found on the PRISMS website. If you would like more information on how to host a fundraising event in your area, send an email to <u>fundraising@prisms.org</u>. Thanks to those many volunteers who helped make the past year a success!

Submitted by Tina McGrevy, Board Member



Financial Report Philip Reudi

The financial position of PRISMS is the strongest in its history. PRISMS' financial goals include funding its continuing program services, supporting research opportunities and preparing for the 2014 Conference. Membership contributions, product sales and fundraisers are all important components of our strategy to fulfill these goals. 2013 was a non-conference year and the financial results of PRISMS were consistent with typical activity levels. Membership income increased about 3% over 2012 driven by an increase in the annual membership rate from \$30 to \$35. The slight drop in membership fees net of this price increase is typical of a post-conference year as membership peaks with conference attendance. Membership support in the form of fundraisers and donations was strong. Excluding one large donation designated to support the 2014 Conference, contributions increased 15% over 2012 levels. It is expected that PRISMS will draw down assets by at least \$55,000 to fund the 2014 Conference, and some planning expenses were already incurred in 2013. This deficit is lower than prior conference budgets due to better management of expenses. Importantly, this deficit incorporates a substantial increase in funds allocated directed toward family scholarships. Overall 76% of expenditures in 2013 were directly related to program expenditures and the 2014 Conference. PRISMS remains committed to its membership through the organization of the conference, program services and supporting research. The financial strength of PRISMS enhances its ability to meet its goals and the Board believes that this will be clear to the membership though the 2014 Conference and other resources that are being made available to families.

	<u>2012*</u>	<u>2013**</u>
upport and Revenue		
Conference Registrations	\$49,535	\$0
Product Sales	8,246	1,204
Contributions	127,781	67,800
Membership Fees	10,895	11,197
Interest Income	733	620
In-Kind Services Assets Released from Restrictions Total	6,400 <u>6,535</u> 210,125	166 <u>0</u> 80,987
xpenses		
Conference	113,367	7,700
Programs	30,467	34,955
Management and General	13,702	14,928
Fundraising	<u>5,136</u>	4,045
Total	162,042	61,628
ncrease (Decrease) in Total Assets	42,405	19,359
Ending Cash	277,253	296,612
Ending Total Assets	288,093	307,452

* Audited

** Unaudited

Donor List – 2013

Up to \$100

Kawther & Monadhil Al-Hilali Paul Alexander Harriet & Martin Arno Marsha & Gary Bach Lynne & Steve Baker Gina & Steve Belden William & Angela Bentley Raymond & Joan Bishop Carla & Glenn Blaser Paul & Angela Bonato Andrew & Kathy Booker Alice & Mark Bost Carol & Tom Braithwaite Carolyn Bruister Jack Byrom Leslie & Christopher Calzaretta Holly & Pat Carmichael Lesslie & Blair Carnahan Frank & Judy Carney Maria Elena Carrancedo Ilse & Randy Ciprich Rosemary & Rod Clifford Erin & Steve Corbett Nancy & David Cordrey Thomas & Diane Daly Dawnda & Brandon Daniel Barclay & Tony Daranyi Yolanda & Alfredo DaSilva David & Elaine De Temple Esteban & Jennifer Delgadillo Marty & Jean Eichelman Robert Ermold Trina & Justin Fillier Sharon & Daryl French Karen & Chuck Friedman Rich & Julie Giurleo Amanda & Charlie Graham Dianne Griego Ryan & Alana Harris Douglas & Jacquelyn Hill Stan & Joan Hinden Rosanne & Pace Hindsley Susan & Bryce Hoad Susan & Martin Holland Jim & Emily Humphreys Sabrina & Bill Hurtgen Matt & Charla Huston Percy & Bernadette Huston Fern Jantzi Jamie Imber Jonas Mary & Tim Kamp Irene Karpowicz Krista & David Karr James & Nina Kelly Jennifer & Lou Klump Irene & Dan Knoepfle Kelly Koerner Jim & Peggy Laney Josephine Lawlor George & Karen Lemmert Melissa & Dan Longman Bill & Janet Manning Tina & Charlie McGrevy Barbara Melamed Mary & Paul Miller Linda & David Mills

Robyn & Steve Mogul John & Maria Mosher Kevin Murdock & Savitri Ramsingh Frank & Adela Nevarez Shinji & Kaori Nozaki Helen & Michael O'Connell Kim & Tom Pastore Cecilia & Gordy Poole Caroline Pope Rajean Potter Walter & Jeanette Praetorius Liz & Bob Pucci Jim & Debbie Rahfaldt Denien & Jim Rasmussen Ann & Lowry Reid Mark & Carol Divens Roth William & Laurel Sellyey Stephen & Michelle Smith Bonnie & Bill Spear Stephen & Arlene Marie Staich Tracy & Linda Sundberg

Sam & Valerie Toke Linda & Dan Tortorelli Paula & Joseph Toussaint Ruth & Dennis Unglesbee Patricia van Nederveen Melissa & Rick Visosky Ronnie & Janet Wagoner Catherine & Stuart Walker Christopher & Laura Wells Cathy Witt Dennis & Edee Norman Wiziecki Gary Zaiser

\$100-\$1,000

Eric & Sarin Abati Lynda & Richard Algea Don & Stephanie Allison Karen Altsman Todd Amann & Kristina Bush Michelle Baudean Mary & Randy Beall Carolyn & Billy Belcher Jeffrey & Krisha Belz Joan & John Bielunski Lisa Bishop Adam Blanchette, M.D. David Blanton Pat Boschetto Tony & Sue Braddock Brian & Christie Busenlehner Dennis & Eleanor Bush Kathleen & Douglas Campbell Joan & Michael Campione John Cassapo Christiana Beer Outlet David Clarkson Margaret Clarkson James & Michelle Copeland Jan Corbett-Pittman Kathleen Costa Michael & Dionne Coston Stephen & Susan Cunningham Kevin & Mary Daly Ashley & Tom Danis Christopher & Becky Davenport Robert DayJohn & Priscilla Diamond

Paul & Susan Diamond Theresa Dicks Dennis & Tracey Dillon Ronald & Karen Dixon John Doherty & Kathleen McMonigal Sharon Durham Linda Duvall Barbara & Sam Dyer Elisabeth M. Dykens, Ph.D. Pamela Ferraro Shai & Hector Frietze Susan Garrett Joanne Garty George Gleghorn Scott & Paige Gorman Greer Chesco Dance Center Alice Hamby Thomas & Marilyn Hanna K.J. & Richard Hardegger Brooke Hardy Jeanine Hetherington Andrea Hilliard Kim & Eric Hoffman Kelly & Erik Hougen Ian Howell Casev & Tina Hudson Tammi Hughes Kathryn & Peter Hunter Yukiko & Tetsuya Ichino June & Todd Jacobson Nancy C. Jacobus Fred & Stella Jimenez Paula & Arthur Jump Judy & Dan Kearney Stephen Klausing Christina Knox Matt & Sharon Koleske Alan & Gail Kopp Kathy Krisko David & Sue Kuebler Beth & Paul Kurtz Tane & Dale Levin Cindy & Jeffrey Linert Debora & John Mayer Gerald & Sarah Maynor Mary Kate & Joe McCauley Kipley & Ross McDaniel William & Patricia McDonough Christine Meyer Margaret & Scott Miller John & Alvina Mitchell Katrina Munteanu Kerri R. Newlander Chris & Kimberly Norman Lisa Nunes Kevin O'Connor & Dana Deane John & Janet O'Reilly Ines Oppenheim Jaye Orgera Stephen Owens Jill Parrino Laura Pelaia Amy & Brian Pereira Diane & Michael Petrucci Sarah Pierce Kathy Platzman Lorraine Potocki, M.D. C. Ray Rathman Michelle & Timothy Reilly David & Gail Reiner Shannon & Darrell Richard

Fernando & Veronica Rizo Katherine Rundall Patty & Dan Saunders Betsy Schaffer Patti & Terry Schiller DeAnn Schleussler Terri Searcy Ann & John Sherman Joan & Peter Sherman Kenneth & Frances Shipman Jeanne Shobert Donald & Catherine Shoemaker Robert Simmermon Charles & Marcia Smallwood Ann & Ron Smith Denise & David Smith Jason & Jill Smith Angela & Kenneth Sparks Andrew Staich & Kelli Brasket Ann Stallard Danielle Stephenson Patricia Strawther David & Rhonda Stuart Stan & Connie Sweeney Cristine Thorp Ann Tidwell Sandy Tome Carol & Stan Triantafellu Rebecca & Richard Trout Coleen & James VanOsten Mary Vaughan

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\$1,000-\$5,000

Carolyn Beall Kerry & Bob Fairweather Sylvia & Jeremy Farber Julia & Tom Hetherington Charlene Liao & Liqun Luo William & Monica Mason James & Heather Michalski Joan & Achille Paladini Mary Pinchiaroli Zhenhai Shen American Endowment Foundation Constantinides Family Foundation TEK Systems

Over \$5,000 Fairfield Police Officers Assoc.

Donation in Kind Bank of America Cibolo Liquor The Wash Tub John Mayer

Awareness Day 2013

PRISMS sponsored Smith-Magenis Syndrome Awareness Day, November 17, 2013. Any individual hosting a PRISMS awareness activity during the month of November could enter into a contest to win an iPad Mini. Many activities were held with wonderful success stories. Our winner was Yolanda DaSilva.



I'm always eager to share awareness of Smith-Magenis Syndrome. I found out that a local supermarket was hosting a yard sale. I inquired as to distributing information regarding SMS and they said it would be OK. I had a wonderful time selling items to raise funds for PRISMS and sharing information with area residents about my son, Cesar, and SMS.

When I was told that I could enter in a drawing to win an iPad, I prayed that I would win it so Cesar and I would be able to use it. I am very thankful to PRISMS for allowing Cesar and I to enjoy the iPad and also be active in sharing information about SMS.

Yolanda

Conference Report Maggie Miller



The PRISMS Conference brings together families of persons with Smith-Magenis Syndrome and professionals interested in "SMS" so that research information, medical, educational and therapeutic treatment strategies may be shared throughout the community in order to improve the lives of persons with SMS.

PRISMS 8th International Conference will take place this summer, July 31, 2014 - August 3, 2014 in St. Louis, MO. The PRISMS conferences are a powerful expression of the mission of PRISMS where parents and researchers come together every two years in a collaborative effort to share further research and promote awareness of SMS.

Planning for this conference began immediately after the 2012 conference ended and the committee has been busy ever since organizing the conference. We are very fortunate to have the same committee members planning the 2014 conference and are grateful for their ongoing dedication and commitment to planning another successful conference. The committee members include Nancy Cordrey, Shannon Jantzi, Nina Kelly, Margaret Miller and Amy Pereira. The Silent Auction will also take place at the conference and Lynne and Steve Baker are chairing the auction along with help from Heather and Dan

Wilde who organized the 2012 auction. Our local St. Louis help comes from Tracey and Dennis Dillon. Tracey and Dennis have been busy securing local speakers, volunteers and helping out in a variety of jobs. We are so appreciative of all of our volunteers who help to plan and execute the conference. The conference is the foremost program of PRISMS and requires tremendous effort and support. Many volunteers come together to share in this endeavor to provide a positive and educational experience for the attendees. We also applaud all of our conference sponsors and donors whose contributions support the financial costs of the conference.

The keynote speaker for this year's conference is Brenda Finucane, M.S., CGC, PRISMS PAB Member. Brenda's presentation is titled "From Single Syndromes to Shared Pathways: The Evolution of Behavioral Research in Genetic Neurodevelopmental Disorders."

Other conference sessions will include information on:

- Navigating the conference and finding support along the
- way (for first- and second-time attendees)
 - Transitioning to adulthood
 - Nutrition to manage symptoms of SMS
 - Education supports and strategies
 - Special needs planning
 - · Behavior supports and interventions
 - Research updates
 - Technology in the classroom
 - Speech and communication
 - Sibling workshops

• Opening communication channels that encourage healthy relationships

- Sleep
- Advocacy in the educational system
- Siblings spotlight
- Medical management across the lifespan

We hope you will plan to attend and meet with families from across the globe. It is not just an educational conference, but also a celebration of our children! For more information on the conference, please visit the PRISMS website.

Committee members: Shannon Jantzi, Nina Kelly, Margaret Miller: Amy Pereira, and Nancy Cordrey



Ryan Marshall Grant Update

The Ryan Marshall grant fund represents the personal efforts of Ryan Marshall to raise money for PRISMS to promote research of Smith Magenis Syndrome. In March 2013, PRISMS awarded \$13,130 to Ann C.M. Smith, M.A., D.Sc.(Hon), who leads the interdisciplinary SMS Research Team in the Division of Intramural Research of the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD. The majority of the Ryan Marshall award is allocated toward parital support of the NIH postbaccalaureate intramural research training award (Postbac IRTA); these funds support 40% of a fulltime position to work on major SMS research initiatives as a research assistant under the supervision of Ann C.M. Smith, M.A., D.Sc.(Hon).

In July 2013, Folami Duncan, B.S. began a one year Postbac IRTA fulltime position with NHGRI, joining the interdisciplinary SMS Research Team (SMS-RT) to work with Dr. Smith on ongoing SMS research initiatives stemming from the two active SMS protocols at NIH (01-HG-0109; and 07-HG-0076). Ms. Duncan's early experience with families and children with Smith-Magenis syndrome began after high school when she spent several summers with NHGRI under the NIH's 8-week Summer Internship Program (NIH-SIP). After completing a B.S. degree from Temple University in Philadelphia, Folami accepted the full-time position as Postbac IRTA to spend a year with Dr. Smith in NHGRI-NIH before pursuing further graduate training. Very quickly she assumed the role as research assistant and has been integrally involved in management and analysis of clinical data collected by SMS-RT investigators at NIH Clinical Center under the SMS natural history protocol (01-HG-0109) that will lead to future publications. As a pre-med major at Temple University, Ms. Duncan plans to pursue a career in medicine and begins medical school in summer 2014 at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN.



PRISMS Booklet

On the Road to Success with SMS: A Smith-Magenis Guidebook for Schools

By Barbara Haas-Givler and Brenda Finucane

PRISMS is happy to announce the first in a series of SMS resource booklets. The first booklet will be available for purchase this summer at the conference and available online.

Brenda Finucane and Barbara Haas-Givler, PRISMS Professional Advisory Board members, are the authors of the booklet. Brenda and Barb have vast knowledge and experience with the education challenges facing SMS individuals. They have spent many years traveling around the world advising parents and school systems on the positive supports needed for children with SMS and outlining best outcomes and interventions that support their success. Brenda and Barb have also consulted on residential placements and training of staff to ensure the successful transition and placement of the individual.

Brenda and Barb have detailed their experiences in this booklet and provide practical hands-on strategies that can be applied to diverse school settings. This booklet will be a valuable resource for both families and professionals who are caring for an SMS individual of any age.

PRISMS is proud to sponsor this new resource as an additional service to our members.

PRISMS Updated Brochure

New in 2013!

PRISMS released a new brochure in the fall of 2013. The new brochure includes updated and expanded information on Smith-Magenis Syndrome, as well as updated information on PRISMS and its programs. The PRISMS brochure also includes photos of our beautiful SMS individuals and it represents the PRISMS trademark and is cohesive with the PRISMS website.

The new brochure can be downloaded from the website. Go to the home page and click on SMS Awareness Tools. You may request brochures at info@prisms.org and we will also have brochures at the conference. The PRISMS brochure is a resource tools, for parents to share with doctors, teachers and family. It provides a snapshot of the aspects of the syndrome, as well as information on PRISMS and how we serve our members.

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