



New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome and Associated Disorders

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For Immediate Release

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“TSWEEK” IN TRENTON

MAYOR DOUGLAS PALMER JOINS PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR TOURETTE SYNDROME

TRENTON- Mayor Douglas Palmer has proclaimed Trenton's support for the 28,000 New Jersey children and families dealing with Tourette Syndrome. The Mayor's proclamation designates August 20-26, 2008 a week of TS awareness in New Jersey's capital.

The proclamation directly acknowledges and congratulates the efforts of New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome (NJCTS) which offers support services, medical referrals and the world's first Tourette Syndrome DNA repository.

The awareness pledge was issued in conjunction with a "Wednesday is TS Day!" celebration during the Trenton Thunder game on August 20. Spreading the message to spectators at Waterfront Stadium continued to solidify the message of the "Wednesday is TS Day!" campaign.

"Wednesday is TS Day!" is a public awareness campaign designed to empower families dealing with Tourette Syndrome and associated neurological disorders like A.D.D., O.C.D., and depression; combat stigma; and help parents, teachers and medical professionals develop a deeper understanding of the signs and symptoms of TS. Government statistics show 1 in 200 children exhibit signs of TS, but the nationwide average time it takes for proper diagnosis is still about 7 years.

"By recognizing our 'Wednesday is TS Day!' effort, Trenton leaders are taking a proactive step in standing up for adequate healthcare for the underserved, expanding public and professional acceptance as well as support a safe-haven for this vulnerable population, said NJCTS Executive Director Faith Rice, "This proclamation and support of 'Wednesday is TS Day' speaks volumes to the importance of fair treatment to those with mental health issues and access to

quality healthcare for all New Jersey residents. We're so pleased we could work together to put TS at the center of these important issues."

Mayor Palmer is joining a growing number of lawmakers standing up to raise Tourette Syndrome awareness, and this latest proclamation echoes the efforts of Congressman Albio Sires (D-NJ), Newark Mayor Cory Booker, Camden Mayor Gwendolyn Faison and State Sen. Kip Bateman to establish every Wednesday as a day of advocacy on behalf of families with TS. This summer, NJCTS is working with New Jersey's minor league baseball teams and city mayors to bring awareness to this often misunderstood disorder.

To learn more about the groundbreaking work by NJCTS at local hospitals, schools and research facilities- please visit www.njcts.org.

For more information, or to schedule an interview please call 908-575-7350.

PHOTO ATTACHED

PHOTO CUTLINE:

Trenton Mayor Douglas Palmer presents a proclamation designating this week as "Tourette Syndrome Week" to NJCTS member and teacher in-service educator Cheryl Ludwig (left) and New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome Executive Director Faith Rice.

New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome is a multi-disciplinary, cross-institutional program employing the resources of Rutgers University, healthcare professionals, the world's first TS genetics sharing repository and Tourette Syndrome Association of New Jersey. NJCTS provides diagnosis and treatment referral services, training for a new generation of professionals qualified to work with individuals with TS, and insights that can lead to better treatments or even a cure.