



# New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome and Associated Disorders

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## **NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND DISABILITY JOINS EFFORT TO BUILD TOURETTE SYNDROME AWARENESS**

**“Wednesday is TS Day” Campaign Is Gaining Steam Among Local Colleges**

**May 14, 2009-** Representatives from several local colleges have joined a growing number of notable New Jersey leaders in declaring “Wednesday is TS Day!” This statement is in support of the 28,000 New Jersey children and families dealing with Tourette Syndrome.

Tourette Syndrome is a misunderstood neurological disorder characterized by involuntary motor or vocal movements known as tics. While TS is associated with other conditions like obsessive-compulsive and attention deficit disorders, with proper intervention and treatment, children with TS can expect to lead full and successful lives.

“Wednesday is TS Day” is a grassroots campaign through the New Jersey Center for Tourette Syndrome (NJCTS) to promote TS awareness and to shatter the stigma attached to this disorder. Representatives from the New Jersey Association on Higher Education and Disability (NJAHEAD) work to accommodate special needs students at colleges throughout the state. By declaring “Wednesday is TS Day,” NJHEAD members join a growing number of prominent New Jersey leaders who support the efforts of the New Jersey center for Tourette Syndrome.

“Working together, we can change the misperception of Tourette Syndrome and put positive focus on the people who live and thrive with TS,” said NJCTS Executive Director Faith W. Rice, “Wednesday is TS Day is about self-advocacy. We encourage all kids and families with TS to stand proud and take Wednesdays as an opportunity to educate those who may not understand what you’re going through.” To learn more about Wednesday is TS Day, visit [www.njcts.org](http://www.njcts.org).



Members of the New Jersey Association on Higher Education and Disability (NJAHEAD) declare “Wednesday is TS Day!” on behalf of 28,000 New Jersey children and families with Tourette Syndrome. (Seated) Ramona Kopacz, LDT-C, Ramapo College, Loretta Cramer, LDT-C, Ocean County College, Project Academic Skills Support - NJ Regional Center for College Students with Learning Disabilities (funded by CHE- NJ Commission on Higher Education) David Nast, County College of Morris, Director of Disability Support Office. (Standing) Jennifer Aitkens, New Jersey City University, Director of Project Mentor -NJ Regional Center for College Students with Learning Disabilities (CHE funded) Rosellen Moller, LDT-C, Ocean County College, Project Academic Skills Support Teri Yamiolkowski, The College of New Jersey, Coordinator of the Disability Support Office, Meredith Vicente, Cumberland County College, Director of Project Assist, NJ Regional Center for College Students with Learning Disabilities (CHE)

*NJCTS is a collaboration among the Tourette Syndrome Association of New Jersey, Rutgers University and health professionals across the state.*