



NEWS RELEASE

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May Is NF Awareness Month

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Not only is the Children's Tumor Foundation (CTF) celebrating Neurofibromatosis (NF) Awareness Month this May, it is also using this time to acknowledge the determination and kindness of the many individuals who are helping to make huge strides in the advancement of NF research. The Foundation extends its appreciation to all the people who day after day, year after year, make this happen.

"It's clearly not one person or group making all the progress. And it's not just the scientists and doctors who are helping us solve the NF puzzle. It's people like you and me – volunteers and supporters. We are all on the same team and it's the generosity and dedication of these wonderful people that is making things happen," says John W. Risner, President of CTF.

Volunteers in nearly all fifty states are holding events this May to raise public awareness for NF and the efforts of the Foundation. CTF expects to have events in every state next year as part of its "50 Events in 50 States" Campaign. To find out more about how you can get involved in this initiative, please visit www.ctf.org.

The Children's Tumor Foundation has been focusing a great deal on increasing the standards of care for NF patients across the country. CTF has recently developed the NF Clinic Network to do just that. Four clinics participated in the pilot program in 2006 – in Seattle, Los Angeles, St. Louis and Denver -- and now the program is being rolled out nationwide. This year, the Foundation will welcome additional clinics that meet these guidelines, with more to be added in the years to come. Member clinics are eligible to apply for grants of \$40,000 per year to support the salary for an NF clinic coordinator.

"Our hope is to have a network of clinics strategically located across the United States, to ensure optimal clinical care for all persons in the U.S. living with NF," said Dr. Hunter-Schaedle. "As the network becomes established, we will continue to work with hospitals across the country to improve the clinical care and quality of life for those with NF."

About the Children's Tumor Foundation:

The Children's Tumor Foundation is the leading not-for-profit health organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of the 1 in 3,000 individuals born with neurofibromatosis by funding research to enable effective treatments and ultimately a cure for NF. For more information about the Foundation, please visit www.ctf.org or call 800-323-7938.

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