



The Matty Fund®  
Epilepsy Resource Center  
Helping Others with Epilepsy  
[www.MattyFund.org](http://www.MattyFund.org)



November, 2011

November is **National Epilepsy Awareness Month**. We believe that one of the most important things we can do during this month is raise awareness about epilepsy to create a welcoming and safe environment for our children, especially when they are away from home. While the month of November highlights epilepsy awareness, as parents of children with epilepsy, we think about their health, safety and happiness every day throughout the year. As we are about to begin our ninth year here at The Matty Fund, we are ever vigilant in our commitment to expand programs that raise awareness about epilepsy and teach seizure safety protocols. This has been a very exciting year with many accomplishments including the completion of a three year strategic plan and recognition as the **2011 BEST Non-Profit** by the readers of Rhode Island Monthly Magazine. We hope that every time someone reads, sees or hears about **The Matty Fund®** or participates in a Matty Fund event or program that we are raising awareness about epilepsy for our children. We hope you will join us – we all play a role in raising epilepsy awareness at our children's schools and throughout the community!

- Richard and Debra Siravo

### Take on the Challenge – Raise Epilepsy Awareness for Children with Epilepsy!

- ✓ Bring the “Matty Hatty” Epilepsy Awareness Program to your child’s elementary or pre-school – Visit [www.MattyFund.org](http://www.MattyFund.org) for details!
- ✓ Encourage friends and family to “friend” the Matty Fund on Facebook during the month of November.
- ✓ Take the National Epilepsy Foundation’s “Seizure Smart” quiz at [www.GetSeizureSmart.org](http://www.GetSeizureSmart.org) – encourage friends and students to take it too!
- ✓ Post seizure safety protocols to Facebook and ask your friends to share it.
- ✓ Mark your calendar to attend the Matty Fund’s Snow Angel Ball or other event that raises funds to support programs and services for children with epilepsy.
- ✓ Give a copy “My Friend Matty – A Story About Living with Epilepsy” to your child’s teacher or school nurse to read in class or offer to read to the class. To obtain Matty books visit [www.MattyFund.org](http://www.MattyFund.org).
- ✓ Ask your doctor’s office to put Matty Fund brochures in their waiting area.
- ✓ Write a letter to the editor of your local paper about the importance of raising awareness in schools and the community and what it means to your child.
- ✓ Encourage a family of a child with epilepsy to attend The Matty Fund’s “Discovering My Epilepsy Support Group”.
- ✓ Support the National Epilepsy Foundation’s effort to have your Congressional leaders support House Resolution 298 that would create a national epilepsy campaign to increase the understanding of epilepsy and seizures making it easier to access emergency care, continue employment or achieve an education.
- ✓ Does your child play on a sports team or do you work out at a gym...wear purple during the month of November to raise awareness.
- ✓ Make an on-line donation to The Matty Fund to support programs and services.
- ✓ Post your ideas to raise epilepsy awareness to the Matty Fund Facebook page.

### Raise Epilepsy Awareness in School!

The **Matty Hatty Dance-A-Thon** is a statewide epilepsy awareness program created by the Matty Fund for elementary and preschools. This program teaches seizure protocols and encourages a welcoming, safe and productive school experience for children with epilepsy.

**Does your child's school participate? Check with your child's school!**

Contact The Matty Fund for more details • (401) 789-7330

Save the Date!  
2012  
Snow Angel Ball



**When:** 1/28/12  
**Where:** Crowne Plaza  
Warwick, RI

**Dinner, Dancing, Silent  
& Live Auctions**

Contact the Matty Fund  
if you would like to  
donate an auction item  
to raise funds to  
support Matty Fund  
programs and services

789-7330  
[www.MattyFund.org](http://www.MattyFund.org)

**Gifts to the Matty Fund allow us to offer quality programs at no cost to families**

To make a donation visit [www.MattyFund.org](http://www.MattyFund.org) or mail your donation to P.O. Box 5300, Wakefield, RI 02880