

2007's GREAT STRIDES!!!!!!

Great strides were made throughout the state of Wisconsin during the month of May! Over \$255,000 was raised for vital cf research and care programs for those living with cystic fibrosis.

National GREAT STRIDES month started with much success on May 5, when Eau Claire and Marshfield took their own steps towards a cure! Eau Claire's great efforts by the co-chairs, the Brantner and the Falch families helped them raise over \$48,849, topping last year by over \$10,000! Adding to this was a VERY successful pin up program that was run by the Culver's locations.

The rain and cold were not enough to keep the walkers away in Marshfield. They raised \$11,412 with the help of a volunteer run softball tournament in Ashland.

The city of Janesville was the only Great Strides walk on May 11. Preparing us for the overwhelming success of National Walk Weekend, they raised \$12,368.

2007 National Walk Weekend was a busy one for the Madison Chapter with four walks in two days! But we were ready!

Saturday started out with a BANG as Dodgeville met and exceeded their goal and raised \$25,503! Up nearly \$5,000 from 2006!

And no one was more excited about Great Strides then the committee members in Monroe, as they held their own inaugural GREAT STRIDES walk. Raising just shy of \$16,000 in their first year showed great effort and leadership from this dedicated group. We look for great things coming from Monroe in years to come!

Sunday was meant to be the most beautiful of days, that is, if you listened to the weather forecast all week. But walkers awoke to 40 degree weather.....but that was not enough to dampen their spirits. The Madison walk brought a record breaking 400 plus walkers out to raise over \$126,000! A growth of over \$40,000 from 2006.

After the excitement of the Madison walk, it was off to Stevens Point (where finally the weathers started to show signs that the weather man knew what he was talking about!) for our final GREAT STRIDES event during National Cystic Fibrosis

Foundation month. Over \$15,000 was raised by the dedicated volunteers in the Stevens Point area. This is also where we celebrated long time volunteers, Don & Kathy Soderberg's last year as the walk chairs of this walk. They will be greatly missed, leaving BIG shoes to fill!

Overall, Great Strides 2007 was one of much fun and success! Records were broken, fun was had and most of all, money was raised for our great cause! We hope to continue on this success in 2008! Just think.....GREAT STRIDES in only 9 months away!!

Top 20 Great Strides Teams

Totals for teams of 5 or more as of 8/6/07

1. Truckin for Tucker	\$27,875	Madison
2. Cure for Cayden	\$17,781	Madison
3. Laurie's Locomotors	\$10,639	Dodgeville
4. Team Amelia	\$8,907	Madison
5. CF Cruisers	\$8,901	Eau Claire
6. BRF Bike-A-Thon	\$7,134	Eau Claire
7. Riviera Bowl	\$7,083	Madison
8. Team Bubba	\$6,830	Monroe
9. Kelly's Crusaders	\$6,743	Madison
10. Kennedy's Pointers	\$6,592	Stevens Point
11. Bethany Hawes	\$6,040	Dodgeville
12. Team Cameron	\$5,305	Madison
13. Team Walker	\$5,000	Dodgeville
14. Imagine	\$4,920	Madison
15. Carla's Crew	\$4,840	Madison
16. ZAK	\$4,816	Madison
17. Team Barrett	\$4,490	Monroe
18. Nana's Team	\$3,806	Eau Claire
19. CF Bombshells	\$3,535	Eau Claire
20. Maddie's Madtown	\$3,325	Madison

Volunteer Spotlight

Volunteers are the most vital component of our organization. Since it's start in 1956, the Wisconsin Chapter has gained the support of numerous individuals, families and companies to help find a cure for cystic fibrosis. Some of those volunteers come from the Brantner Family out of Eau Claire, Wisconsin. The Brantners have been involved in the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation since 1988 when their first daughter was diagnosed. GERALYN BRANTNER was born assumably healthy until dehydration and required a multiple-month hospital stay. After many tests, a pathologist suggested a new test being done in Denver. This test returned a positive diagnosis of cystic fibrosis. It was that test that later became part of the newborn screening testing which is now required for all newborns in Wisconsin and many other states in America. Three years later their second child Rachel was born diagnosed by a sweat test at six weeks old. The Brantner girls' diagnoses were a part of groundbreaking testing that is now used across the country.

Both girls are healthy and enrolled in the UW system with career ambitions and plans for families, not to mention fundraising agendas to help cure cystic fibrosis. The Brantners have been involved in an array of CFF fundraisers beginning in Milwaukee, hosting Mother's Day Tea for the past 20 years. When the Madison CFF office opened in the 90's the Brantners were contacted to start GREAT STRIDES Eau Claire. They have been co-chairing it with another cf family for the past eight years. Last year GREAT STRIDES Eau Claire raised over \$48,000; the most this site has raised since its inception.

Each year they are amazed at the amount of money that is raised at GREAT STRIDES. "The support of our families and friends is the strength behind our success" says parents of the girls. "Our daughters have been blessed with healthy, productive lives because of the research and treatments that are made possible by fundraising. Fundraising is the one way we can make a difference in their future."

We commend the Brantners for their continued commitment to their daughters' health and the lives of other families living with cystic fibrosis.

Schools Rally For CF!

In 2006, we launched our school program, Curefinders. The program takes FUNDraising to a new market, targeting school age children who are always eager to help!

During the first half of 2007, the Madison chapter has had great success with this new program, and we are hoping to increase that success during the fall. BUT...we need your help!

Blessed Sacrament School, a private grade school in Madison held Cystic Fibrosis Week during May. They had an eighth grader, Maddie Poranski who has cf. Maddie was graduating from Blessed Sacrament in May, and her friends wanted to give her a proper send-off...to help assure her that no matter where she went in life, she stayed healthy and happy! A group of about twelve students took on the task of planning "CF Week" and after getting everything approved by their principal, executed it all.

On Monday, all students in the school paid \$1 to wear shorts and \$1 to wear flip-flops. Being a private school, both of these were forbidden by the dress code. The students made a whopping \$350 that day! On Wednesday, they organized a bake sale and those students in charge of planning (and those who just wanted to help out) made tasty treats that students were able to purchase during their various lunch hours. The staff of the office went over to make our purchases, and we were stunned at how great everything was! The kids raised nearly \$300 from their sale, and better yet, they sold out! Also during the week, change jars were in every homeroom, and students brought in all their spare change aiming to be the "TOP HOMEROOM" and win a pizza party arranged by the foundation staff. When the change was counted, over \$1,100 had been collected, and we were so impressed, we planned three pizza parties for the top three classes. A very successful week all together. But that wasn't all! On the Saturday before Madison Great Strides, a car wash was held as an out of school activity. The friends gathered, along with a few parents, and they raised over \$750! Then, they culminated it all by forming a team to walk at GREAT STRIDES Madison on Sunday. It was suggested that the students ask 5 people for \$6 each, setting a goal for their team of \$400. Of course, they took this challenge on like they had all the others, bringing nearly \$1,500! All together, the efforts of Blessed Sacrament brought in over \$4,000 in one week!

We have also had several other school successes this spring, including Madison West High School raising over \$1,000, Westside Christian School raising over \$1,000, Mount Horeb School raising over \$1,200 and our most successful, Lodi High School raising over \$7,000!!

What does this prove...IT CAN BE DONE! But like we mentioned before, we need your help!

Please consider talking to your children's teacher or administrator. Talk to your family members, and have them do the same thing. The foundation is always willing to step in and assist when needed. Let us help arrange a pizza party for the "winning class!"

Please call the office for more information about Curefinders and the success we can help create at a school near you!

Upcoming Events!

Here is a list of upcoming CFF events you won't want to miss! Please contact us at 608.298.9902 or madison-wi@cff.org for sponsorship and general information.

Keg & Cork: Toast To A Cure
Friday, September 14th
Capital Brewery

LaCrosse Great Strides
Saturday, September 15th
Myric Park, LaCrosse

Sixty-Five Roses Golf Classic
Friday, October 5th
Drugan's, Holmen

Kick Off To A Cure: Tailgate 2007
Saturday, October 13th
Quaker Steak & Lube

Olive and a Twist
Saturday, November 10th
Nakoma Country Club

WISH LIST

At the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation we are always looking for ways to keep down our expenses and keep our efficiency rating up (over 90 cents of every dollar goes to research and program services, thank you very much).

<u>One-time gifts</u>	<u>Constant Needs</u>
Flash Drive	Copy Paper
Scanner	Avery Labels #5660
HP Laser Jet Printer	General Office Supplies
Digital Camera	
Laptop Computer	

Welcome Alyssa!

We would like to welcome our new Special Events Coordinator, Alyssa Harvey. Alyssa graduated from UW-Eau Claire in 2006, and did an internship with the Eau Claire chapter of the American Red Cross. She assisted the Development Director with their fundraising events. Alyssa will be working closely with Bowl for Breath and the newest addition to our events, the Sixty-Five Roses Golf Classic. She will also be working with the Great Strides walks for Monroe, Marshfield, LaCrosse and Janesville. If you haven't met her yet, make sure you stop and introduce yourself at an event so she can meet all of our great volunteers!

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