



★ Thank you! We have distributed over one million dollars in grants! ★

Todd Ouida Children's Foundation

591 Clarendon Court, River Edge, NJ 07661

www.mybuddytodd.org

Spring 2011

Our Mission

The Todd Ouida Children's Foundation was established by Todd's family to create a meaningful legacy for Todd, whose life was tragically ended in the September 11th terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. Born out of Todd's own successful struggle with childhood anxiety, the mission of the foundation is:

- To financially support psychological services for children of families in need and promote mental health initiatives for all children
- To raise awareness and reduce the stigma of anxiety and depression disorders in children, recognizing the need for early intervention
- To provide contact information for those seeking help

Anxiety and depression in children and adolescents impair school, social and family functioning. When left untreated, children are at great risk for major depression and drug abuse as late adolescents and adults. We are extremely grateful to have you as our partners in providing help and hope to vulnerable youngsters. And we thank you for keeping Todd's memory alive through each and every one of them.

*Herb and Andrea Ouida
Amy, Alex, Ashley, Andrew
and Aidan Morik
Jordan, Heather, Christopher
and Nicholas Ouida*

Todd Ouida Annual Lecture and Clinical Scholar Award at the University of Michigan



The 2010 Clinical Scholar Award was presented to James E. Swain, M.D., PhD, for his work with a research group that is studying the thoughts, behaviors and brain physiology involved with the parent-infant bond.

The eighth annual lecture – *Adolescents, Anxiety, and Development: Treatment During the Stage of Storm and Stress* – was presented by Anne Marie Albano, PhD, ABPP, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology in Psychiatry; Director, Columbia University Clinic for Anxiety and Related Disorders.



Last year's clinical scholar, Kate Rosenblum, recently sent us a note with these words: *It has been an honor to be a part of this legacy, and though I never met him personally, I want you to know that Todd has now become a special internal reference for me. His resilience and courage, and your support and advocacy, remind me why we do the work we do. The potential for courage and growth – even in the face of hardship – is powerful and amazing.*

Ninth Annual Birthday Event

Todd's Charity Cocktail Party
May 18, 2010

Oh, what a night! Well over 200 of Todd's friends and family members came together on Todd's birthday to celebrate his life and raise money for the foundation in his honor. We were touched by the many guests who traveled great distances on such a rainy night. But all was well inside the 201 Club in Englewood, NJ! The lush Moroccan atmosphere, combined with great music, food and drink, made the Ninth Annual Birthday Event another special one. Additionally, our auction was very successful and those who could not attend were, as always, very generous, so we thank you all for your loving-kindness.



You're Invited!

Tenth Annual
Birthday Event
June 5, 2011

Homecoming 2011 (invitation enclosed) will be held on Sunday, June 5th at River Dell High School, where we gathered for our first annual birthday event. (Our tent will be on the oval, not the football field, so no planks will be needed if it dares to rain again!) Join us for a gala celebration under the party tent with a picnic/barbecue feast, music, activities for children, a silent auction and basket prizes – plus a chance to reunite with old friends and meet new ones.

This year we are partnering with Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS), with whom our foundation has

Creative Contributions

■ Sarah Shultz, with sisters Molly and Ruby and friends, set up a lemonade stand, enabling them to make their own donation to Todd's foundation.

■ Anthony and Gloria Ingrassia commemorated Gary Rancourt's retirement and 65th birthday with a loving gift to Todd's foundation.

■ Maggie Caspe Klein and Shane Klein blessed us with a donation in honor of the baby naming of their daughter Sabrina and her older sister Tess.



■ Jordan Ouida very successfully completed the Lake Placid Ironman this summer, running with Todd's logo on his singlet and Todd in his heart. The entire family was there to cheer him on, and Jordan then honored his brother with a miles-inspired donation to our family's foundation.

■ The kindness of strangers: Toni and Sean Welsh moved into a new home and asked friends for donations to Todd's foundation in lieu of gifts at their housewarming party.

■ Once again, over 30 children from the agencies we support attended the magical Nunnbetter Dance Theatre production of *The Nutcracker*, thanks to the generosity of Leath Nunn.

■ As she did last year, the lovely Blake Dixon-Patrick requested donations to Todd's foundation in lieu of gifts for her ninth birthday.

■ Todd's 95-year-old grandparents, Helen and Raymond Di Prima, decided to "give with a warm hand" and graced each of their grandchildren with a generous gift, making sure that Todd's foundation was included.

■ Fiona and Josh Monllor celebrated Carter and Jackson's first birthday with a backyard barbecue and a request for gifts to Todd's foundation.

■ Two of Todd's uncles, Vincent Di Prima and Harry Emme, passed away recently, and both families honored Todd with requests for memorial donations. We think Uncle Vince and Uncle Harry would both be touched to know they are influencing children's lives in this way.

■ Celia Mendelsohn and Alan Kostelnik said happy birthday to Julia Beninati with a gift to Todd's foundation.

■ On behalf of Michele Reutty and the Spokes-Women Motorcycle Club of NJ, Todd's foundation received a generous donation.

■ For his Bar Mitzvah project, Keith Gliksman helped Alan and Debra Hecht in their annual spring cleaning and planting of Todd's "Hope" garden at the Holley Child Care and Development Center. It was hard work on a hot day but Keith, who experiences anxiety as Todd did, has been inspired by Todd's ability to overcome his adversity. *"Through his garden I have seen myself grow from a child into a man, not physically, but mentally."*



PHOTO TC –
BAR MITZVAH –
CREATIVE
CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you!

With gratitude and pride, we are pleased to report that we distributed \$100,000 this year and \$1,000,000 since we began the foundation. (Please see the enclosed article from *The Wall Street Journal*, December 30, 2010.) The collective impact of your commitment and generosity is enormous! As always, we deeply appreciate your gift at this time and year-round contributions through mybuddytodd.org or checks mailed to the Todd Ouida Children's Foundation, 591 Clarendon Court, River Edge, NJ 07661.

Please contact us by mail or e-mail if you would like your name removed from our mailing list. ■ Newsletter design warmly donated by E. Fitz Art.

And the Work Goes On....

■ This year, we proudly sponsored the national **H'Olympics** for teens in residential care, hosted by **Youth Consultation Service (YCS)** at Ramapo College. For five days, athletes from residential programs across the country competed in track and field, volleyball, softball, swimming and basketball – cultivating discipline and building self-esteem. Festivities culminated with a cruise ship tour around Manhattan and the announcement of medal winners.



■ We continue to support the **Journeys Program**, art therapy for children and adolescents who have lost a loved one, are affected by the serious illness of a loved one, or are facing serious illness themselves. Providing a safe and caring environment to address grief issues when they happen helps to prevent the emotional problems that may otherwise manifest themselves in later years.

■ We are helping to move research toward application as the **Juvenile Bipolar Research Foundation** is enthusiastically beginning patient trials to examine novel treatments that have demonstrated rapid and dramatic improvement in a pilot study of children afflicted with this disorder.

■ At **Eva's Village Hope Residence for Mothers and Children**, homeless/addicted women and their children receive therapeutic services with the goal of improving their emotional/behavioral well-being and progressing towards increased stability. Todd's foundation supports "**Quality Time**," a bi-weekly special time for mothers and children to share a variety of special activities together.

■ Our donations this year to **Children's Aid and Family Services** have supported their Social Skills program, The Center for Alcohol and Drug Resources, programs addressing the medical needs of children in foster care, and the Thomas R. S. Burgin Parents Fund, which provides financial assistance to teens aging out of foster care and attending college or receiving vocational training.

■ Still going strong, we have garnered grants for **Zippy's Friends** from the United Water Foundation, the Ohl Foundation, and the Teaneck Schools: Bergen Mental Health and Schools

Initiative. **Zippy's Friends** is an evidence-based, best practice program that promotes mental and emotional health in children ages five to seven. Over 80 educators have been trained in the curriculum and nearly 2000 children are enrolled in the program.

■ A complete list of charities is available on our web site.



You're Invited!

Tenth Annual Birthday Event

overrun

collaborated for many years. In addition to the organizations and services we regularly support, funds raised this year will help to develop a medical services and advocacy center for children in CAFS treatment homes and foster families.