



Making "GANES" for You! September 2006

Hello, Everyone—

We hope that everyone is having a great fall and "back to school" season. This time of year is a "back to..." time for lots of other things as well. The PGC conference this summer in Philadelphia has encouraged many people to get more involved in the galactosemia community. We are happy to report that many people are interested in helping GANES to meet our mission.

We would like anyone and everyone to take part in GANES, in whatever way works for you. Through this newsletter, we hope to give you an update of our current activities, and areas we would like to grow in and improve our service our regional galactosemia community.

Current projects:

1. Fundraising through the inkjet and laser toner recycling program.
This continues to be our main source of income. We have several families in the GANES region who have begun to recycle in their area. It's simply a matter of word of mouth to local businesses, families, co-workers, neighbors, churches, etc. The collection point-person then boxes the cartridges up and they are mailed with postage paid labels to the recycling company. This trash-to-cash program has helped us to do all of our programs to date. If you are interested in being a point person in your area, please contact Cheryl Forsyth for information at cjanie1210@verizon.net
2. Professional printing of our brochure
Thanks to our income from the recycling program and some private donations, we will be able to get our brochure professionally printed. We are in the process of comparing prices between printers. If anyone has a contact in this area, please let us know!!

3. New baby gift - diaper bag with goodies for new families
We'd like to help people to know that they are not alone, and that there is a network of support out there. To welcome new families to our community, we will send a diaper bag with GANES contact information and goodies for the baby. The logistics still need to be determined regarding the process for distribution of these bags.

New Projects:

1. Fundraising through the Funding Factory
This company provides the opportunity for GANES to receive a percentage of sales. It is a neat opportunity to have your kids' or any child's artwork available for purchase on a variety of products. The artwork can be on any subject - and will be posted on the Funding Factory website. You choose the artwork you would like to use, and it can be reproduced on many different items. GANES then gets a percentage of the profit. This is a great opportunity to get personalized gifts for Christmas, birthdays and other holidays!

In addition, the Funding Factory is sponsoring a contest. Artwork must be sent to Cheryl Forsyth by October 17 in the envelope provided. It will then be posted on the website & available for purchase to benefit GANES and entered into the contest. Please give any extra entries away to a friend so they are not wasted. Anyone can submit artwork - it does not have to be galactosemia-related subject matter! But any purchases will benefit GANES!

2. Fundraising/donations to support Dr. Segal's galactosemia lab
This is perhaps the most important project that we all need to be aware of. Dr. Segal, from the Children's Hospital in Philadelphia, has been working in galactosemia research for over 50 years! He currently has many projects that are in jeopardy of stopping due to a decrease in funding support. To help him to help "us" we have promised to do what we can to fundraise to support his laboratory and research. You can read about his current projects in the letter that he wrote for us. There is really some promising information that there may be a medication that can be used in galactosemia. GANES is committed to helping to support this research and we really need your help to make this happen.

Donations for Dr. Segal:

To make a targeted donation to Dr. Segal's lab, please make out your check to GANES and send to us with "Dr. Segal" written in the memo line.

Future Projects:

1. Educational and social gatherings

We would like to offer both social gatherings and educational meetings through GANES. We need your ideas and volunteer commitments to make this happen! If you would like to host an event in your area, please contact us!

2. Update our website

We are fortunate to have several dads who have provided us with a basic website. Our goal is to update and add to our website and we also need volunteers to make this happen!

3. More fundraising ideas!

We are open to any and all ideas. GANES is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, which means that donations are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations. If you are able to host a fundraising campaign in your area please contact us!

4. Your ideas!

GANES is here to serve our regional galactosemia community. We are run by a few volunteers and we need your help to guide projects that you feel are important. We want to hear from you!

We hope that this newsletter has updated you on our activities and sparks an interest to get more involved. Making GANES for all of us is our goal!

Sincerely,

Angie Forsyth, President
Jane VanZandt, Vice President
Maureen Bell, Secretary
Mike Denny, Treasurer

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