

New Jersey Rett Syndrome Association

P.O. Box 354
Adelphia, NJ 07710-0354

Executive Director

Leslie Greenfield

Board of Trustees

Robin Diamond

Treasurer

Carla Benetatos

Steven Medlin

Carl Raso, M.D.

Gerard Saydah



COMMITTEE

Theresa Bartolotta

Carla Benetatos

Robin & Eric Diamond

Catherine Gavallas

Leslie & Mike Greenfield

Bill Jones

Karen Keegan

Lainie & Ben Laskowitz

Kim Poulos Lieberz

Joan Lauria

Karen & Steven Medlin

Patricia Remshifski

Eleni Passalaris

Wendy & Nick Petruzzelli

Joan Raso

Maryann & Ben Riegelman

Judy & Gerard Saydah

Cara Serra

Kellie Weaver



NEW JERSEY RETT SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

WWW.NJRSA.ORG

January 7, 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

The 28th NJ Silent Angels Gala to benefit Rett syndrome (RTT) research, will be held on March 7, 2020 at the Westmount Country Club in Woodland Park, NJ. This year it is our great honor to Theresa Bartolotta, Ph.D, CCC-SLP. Dr. Bartolotta is a speech and language pathologist with over 30 years of experience in administration, undergraduate and graduate level teaching and clinical work. Inspired by her daughter Lisa, her interests are communication disorders in persons with complex disabilities including Rett syndrome. Dr. Bartolotta was instrumental in creating the New Jersey Rett Syndrome Association as one of the founding trustees and creating the Program for Rett Syndrome Research and Support for Rett Syndrome at Monmouth University. We are truly grateful for her many years of dedication to our children.

Rett syndrome (RTT) is a neurological developmental disorder that occurs almost exclusively in females but can also be seen in males. The child with Rett syndrome starts out as a happy, healthy baby until 12-18 months of life. Then something goes terribly wrong. She may lose the ability to speak, to walk and use her hands; she makes constant hand washing or hand wringing movements. By the time she is 3 years old, the child with Rett syndrome is severely handicapped. Since the discovery of the gene that causes RTT in 1999, and reversal of symptoms of RTT in mice in 2007, there are now several human drug trials enrolling children around the world that are providing promising results. Your contribution helps us continue to support our families as we work toward that cure.

NJRSA was established in 2007 to contribute towards an improved quality of life for girls and women affected by Rett syndrome, support families dealing with the disorder, increase awareness and support ongoing research for treatment and cure of Rett syndrome. With your help, NJRSA has been able to give over \$500,000.00 to the research funds at the International Rett Syndrome Foundation, Rett Syndrome Research Trust, and the Rett Syndrome Center at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore. Our partnership with the Program for Research and Support for Rett Syndrome at Monmouth University is providing speech therapy and evaluations as well as family support and educational seminars for parents and professionals.

We look forward to your support and thank you for helping us move closer to our goal, a *cure* for Rett syndrome. Your help is our hope!

Very truly yours,

Executive Director

The Common Meadow Violet, the New Jersey state flower, symbolizes the beauty and fragility of our girls and women with Rett Syndrome and their ability to flourish.

NJRSA is a 501(c)3 charitable organization,
Tax ID # 26-1359425