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PWSA|USA

Vol. 21 | June 4, 2021

FAMILY SUPPORT & ADVOCACY



"PWSA | USA and their family support team has helped us at times where we were desperate for assistance. Their immediate response for help with medical issues have made the difference between a critical medical issue and immediate help to resolve and correct the problem. No words can say how appreciative we always will be."

Tammie, Mom to Victor (27) of Arizona pwsausa.org/get-involved-donate/



"PWSA I USA is a soft place to land, a light shining in the darkness and a community that cheers us on this grand adventure. We are so thankful to be a part of the PWSA I USA family and blessed to know they are here for us 24/7."

Christina, Mom to Oaklyn (2) of Maryland pwsausa.org/get-involved-donate/

To help sustain our life-saving Family Support Program, give generously below!

DONATE NOW

FAMILY SUPPORT

PWSA | USA is excited to announce an opportunity to participate in a new series that elevates the variety of voices and experiences in our community. *Stories of Resilience & PWS* will **CALLING ALL DADS!**

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE!



share personal stories from around the community with a focus not only on the challenges but on the joys, victories and opportunities of the journey.

We're currently looking for Dads to help us kick off this campaign! If you are interested in participating in a brief audio interview to share your story of resilience, please email <u>info@pwsausa.org</u> to arrange an interview time that works for you.

Thank you for using your voice to help us bring attention to PWS!

Hunter's Story

"If Hunter wasn't born with Prader-Willi Syndrome, he wouldn't be Hunter, which would be a shame because I have never met a happier person than him. He constantly has a smile on his face, always! I believe our kids can do anything they put their mind to. Prader-Willi Syndrome will not hold my child back and it shouldn't hold yours back either! Together we can all get through this. One day at a time."



- Nicolette, mom to Hunter (2)

READ THE FULL STORY HERE

Virtual National Convention



Time is running out to register for this year's Virtual National Convention **Hope's on the Horizon**!

There's so much to learn and so many ways to connect (and reconnect) with our PWS community. Whether you have a loved one with PWS, are a professional provider, a Physician, or Scientist . . . this year's convention has something for everyone!

Over 700 individuals have already registered and remember - this year, **registration to our General Conference is FREE**!

PWSA | USA's **virtual** National Convention will be held **June 22-26**, **2021**. Our dedicated staff and convention volunteers are hard at work putting together an exciting lineup of educational, informative, and fun sessions for the PWS community.

Download the Convention flyer <u>here</u>, and don't forget to share with your loved one's medical and care providers! Watch the Convention video <u>here</u>.

REGISTER HERE

Announcing This Year's Conference Agenda + Keynote Speakers



Virtual Medical & Scientific Convention Wednesday, June 23, 2021 | 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Keynote Speaker: Deepan Singh, MD **Topic:** Behavior Problems in Prader-Willi Syndrome – What to Expect



Virtual General Convention Friday, June 25, 2021 | 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Keynote Speaker: Clint Hurdle, Former Major League Baseball Manager **Topic:** Hello World – Ready or Not Here I Come!



Virtual Professional Providers Convention Tuesday, June 22, 2021 | 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Keynote Speaker: Lisa Graziano, MA, LMFT Topic: PWS Behavior Management Strategies & Solutions

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Superhero BINGO Family Fun Night Registration to receive a Superhero Kit has been

extended to Sunday, June 6th!

REGISTER FOR SUPERHERO BINGO



The Superhero Bingo Family Fun Night, June 26th from 6-8pm EST, is **ABSOLUTELY FREE** for PWS Families and Residential Homes. If you register between now and **June 6th**, you will be entered to win a PWSA | USA Family Summer Fun Kit!

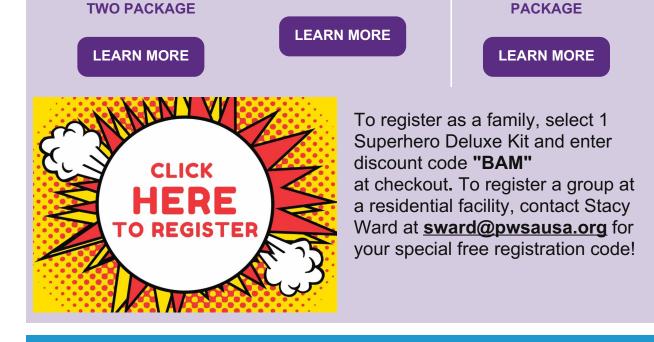


Don't forget about the incredible auction items up for bid! The Superhero BINGO Auction features brand-name toys, accessories, jewelry, a golfing adventure in Florida (perfect for Father's Day!), and items for everyone in your family to enjoy - all donated with proceeds benefitting PWSA | USA!

SEE ALL AUCTION ITEMS



THE MOUNTAINS ARE CALLING... GETAWAY FOR IPAD AIR / 4TH GENERATION HELLO SUMMER FAMILY FUN



Explore All That Our Convention Has To Offer



Recognize your loved one or family member with a Lifesaving Hope display image to be showcased during the 2021 Virtual National Convention for just \$30!

LEARN MORE HERE



PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS

Thank You to Our Convention Sponsors!



Lighthouse Sponsor

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Lighthouse Sponsor



Calling all New Englanders!

HUNTER LENS GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2ND 2021 - 1 PM

THE BACK NINE CLUB

17 HERITAGE HILL - LAKEVILLE, MA



TO REGISTER: WWW.PWSAUSA.ORG/LENSGOLF/ \$150 / Adult Golf & Dinner \$80 / Youth (16 + under) Golf & Dinner \$60 / Dinner Only Can't Attend? Donations are Welcome!

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Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS) is a rare, lifelong, noninherited, genetic disorder. It is the most common known genetic cause of life threatening obesity. Currently, there is no cure but early diagnosis and intervention saves lives.



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ADVOCACY & AWARENESS



DCCR COMMUNITY EFFORTS

May 27, 2021 - June 2, 2021



Join the Voices for Change and Contact Your Elected Officials on the Importance of DCCR

Our PWS community recently learned that the FDA is recommending an additional clinical trial for DCCR (Diazoxide choline controlled-release tablet), which is manufactured by Soleno Therapeutics.



DCCR is a therapy that our community

desperately needs and we hope that it can quickly become available to anyone with PWS who would benefit from it. While the PWS community might not have the resources of groups with greater numbers, change is still possible!

Please take the time to **contact your elected officials TODAY** and inform them of this issue facing our community.

RESEARCH

DCCR Shows 'Life-changing' Potential in Troubled Trial, Doctor Says in Interview

Dr. Jennifer Miller, a pediatric neuroendocrinologist at the University of Florida who is a lead investigator of the DESTINY PWS Phase 3 clinical trial of DCCR, shares updates on the trial's findings and some of the positive responses from participants.



READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE



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If you are a parent or caregiver of a child between the ages of 2-17 years old, who is diagnosed with Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS), we invite you to participate in an online survey study to help us learn more about problem behavior of children with PWS.

This study is completely online and will take about 20 minutes to complete. Following completion of the survey, you will be entered into a raffle for a \$25 Amazon gift card.

There are no direct benefits for you to participate, but the information collected from this study will help to provide information about the behavior of children with PWS, and may help in the development of interventions to address these concerns.

To Participate Visit: <u>https://singuserbb3f1b2a.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a9</u> <u>nAdHdICuAsUiG</u> Contact: Kasey Bedard kbedard@ego.thechicagoschool.edu

CLICK HERE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEY

Harmony Biosciences is seeking people with PWS between the ages of 6 – 65 to enroll in Clinical Trial

Harmony Biosciences will be studying the safety and impact of an investigational medication on excessive daytime sleepiness, cognition, and behavioral function in people with PWS.



Participation in the trial lasts approximately four months. During that time, there are five planned visits.

Read more <u>here</u>.



Important Message About This Newsletter

The information provided in this email is intended for your general knowledge only and is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Always seek the advice of your physician or other qualified healthcare provider with any questions regarding a medical condition. Never disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking it because of something you have read in this publication.



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PWSA|USA

Vol. 22 | June 11, 2021

FAMILY SUPPORT & ADVOCACY



"PWSA | USA has made a world of difference for all of us. From connecting us with a parent mentor to helping us navigate social services and providing connections with other families, PWSA has supported us on this journey from day one."

> Emily, Mom to Olivia (9) of California pwsausa.org/get-involved/donate/



"Without PWSA | USA as an anchor of support and resources, we would not have gotten very far on our PWS journey. Over the years, as a single homeschooling mother, things have not been particularly easy... Navigating the systems, finding the right doctors and learning about PWS became SO much easier once our family connected with PWSA! I am so grateful for the information and continued advocacy for our children."

Skye, Mom to Trevor (19) of Arizona pwsausa.org/get-involved/donate/

To help sustain our lifesaving Family Support Program, please give generously below!

DONATE NOW

BREAKING NEWS

FPWR and PWSA | USA Announce Upcoming Meeting with FDA

We are excited to share that The

Foundation for Prader-Willi Research and Prader-Willi Syndrome Association USA will be meeting with the FDA next week to discuss the treatment needs of the PWS community. Thank you supporters!



READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE



FPWR and PWSA | USA Request Regulatory Flexibility & Review of NDA for Intranasal Carbetocin

FPWR and PWSA | USA have submitted a petition letter to the FDA requesting regulatory flexibility & review of an NDA for intranasal carbetocina, a potential treatment for PWS. Levo Therapeutics recently completed a Phase 3 clinical trial evaluating the safety and efficacy of the drug in PWS.

FAMILY SUPPORT

Keep Your Loved Ones Safe in the Summer Heat with These Tips from Family Support

PWSA | USA's Family Support Team is always there for you – in fact, as the weather gets warmer, Director of Family Support Stacy Ward wants to make sure your PWS loved ones are safe in the summer heat.

- Capitalize on the cooler temperatures in the early morning and evening and plan your outdoor activities during those times.
- Carry an umbrella with you to block out the sun's direct rays.
- Always wear sunscreen!



READ MORE HERE

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DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY! The **2021 PWSA | USA National Virtual Convention** will Highlight the Newest Research and Resources in PWS

Get to Know This Year's Special Education Advisory Board Panel

General Convention | Friday, June 25, 2021 | 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Barbara J. (BJ) Goff, Ed.D.



Barbara J. (BJ) Goff, Ed.D., is a Professor of Special Education at Westfield State University in Massachusetts. She has 40 years of experience working with individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities (IDD) in a variety of settings, with 30 years devoted to individuals with Prader-Willi syndrome. She provides training and consultant services to schools and adult service providers throughout the US and is a frequent presenter at state, national, and international conferences. She is the author of *Supporting Adults with Prader-Willi Syndrome in Residential Settings*, co-author of *The Student with Prader-Willi*

Syndrome: Information for Educators, authored two chapters on educational issues and coauthored a chapter on sexuality in the third edition of *Management of Prader-Willi Syndrome.* She is a contributor to the international *Best Practice Guidelines for Standard of Care in PWS.*



Amy McTighe, PhD

Dr. McTighe has over 20 years of experience supporting persons with diverse learning needs in various settings. This experience has included supporting children and their families in public and private school settings, hospital rehabilitation programs, and inpatient and outpatient behavioral health programs. Additionally, she has provided support to adults in community day programs, group homes, and supported living environments. Dr. McTighe is a graduate of William and Mary Law School's Institute for Special Education Advocacy and is a certified Mental Health First-Aid trainer. She has presented at

the state, national and international level about Prader-Willi syndrome. She has published many articles on Prader-Willi syndrome and recently authored a children's book titled *Penny: A Tale of Lost Currency.*



Staci Zimmerman, M.Ed

Staci Zimmerman has over 20 years of experience in special education, teaching and consulting in various school districts in Colorado. She supports private clients, and contracts with The Prader-Willi Syndrome Association of Colorado (PWSACO), Prader-Willi Syndrome USA (PWSA | USA), and Rocky Mountain Down Syndrome Association (RMDSA), as an IEP Consultant.

Staci collaborates with the PWS Multi-Disciplinary Clinic at the Children's Hospital CO, supporting patients, families, providers, and school districts in Colorado. Additionally, Staci

collaborates with educators from Jewish Day Schools, integrating students with learning needs in a dual-curriculum education.

Staci is an Adjunct Professor in the Office of Clinical Experiences and Partnerships, School of Education, at Metropolitan State University of Denver. She teaches undergraduate Special Education, and supervises student teachers in various school districts in CO. Staci attended The University of Kansas and graduated with a B.A in sociology and a Master's in Special Education. She continued post graduate work at The University of Kansas Medical Center in Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Staci has lived in Denver, CO for the past 21 years. She lives with her husband and ten-yearold daughter. Staci enjoys teaching fitness classes, and keeping a healthy, active lifestyle in Colorado.



Brittni Kliment, M.Ed

Brittni Kliment started at Latham Centers in 2012 as a classroom teacher. She quickly became the Assistant Principal, and then Director of Education, serving as an administrator while working with the students for seven years. Brittni has worked with hundreds of students with Prader-Willi Syndrome during her tenure at Latham Centers and has created innovative plans for staff to best meet the needs of our students, as well as strategies for the students who are learning how to cope with the challenges of a PWS diagnosis. She now leads the Admissions team, bringing her educational background to the parents with whom Latham Centers works. Brittni

serves on the Special Education Advisory Board of PWSA | USA where she works with a team that advises on special ed. issues, develops and reviews special ed. resources, and offers guidance on support services. In 2020, during COVID-19, Brittni, along with Patrice Carroll and Katrina Fryklund, created and currently facilitates a PWS Virtual Community to strengthen relationships for individuals with PWS around the world.



Mary K. Ziccardi, B.S.

Mary K. Ziccardi has worked providing services and supports to people with developmental disabilities for over three decades. She is currently employed as the Regional Director at REM Ohio, a partner of The MENTOR Network, overseeing programming in sixteen counties in northern Ohio. Ms. Ziccardi is the Co-chair of PWSA (USA)'s Professional Providers Advisory Board (PPAB) as well as Co-chair of the 2019 Provider's Day. Along with the PWSA (USA) provider, special education advocacy and family resource activities, Mary K. has remained active with the international provider community, co-chairing IPWSO's Professional Provider Caregiver Board.

Find the full list of speakers and topics for each convention by clicking on the images below.



Join us Saturday, June 26th from 6-8 p.m. for a night a family of fun for ALL AGES!

REGISTER FOR SUPERHERO BINGO



SEE ALL AUCTION ITEMS





To register a group at a residential facility, contact Stacy Ward at **sward@pwsausa.org** for your special free registration code!

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> LEARN MORE HERE



Thank You to Our Convention Sponsors!





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Sandcastle Sponsors

Autism Brain Network **PWSA Minnesota** PWSA New England PWSA Ohio **PWSA** Texas **PWSA Wisconsin**

Anchor Sponsors PWSA Arizona **PWSA** lowa **PWSA Florida** Prader-Willi California Foundation

Calling all New Englanders!

HUNTER LENS GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2ND 2021 - 1 PM

THE BACK NINE CLUB

17 HERITAGE HILL - LAKEVILLE, MA



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ADVOCACY & AWARENESS



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May 27, 2021 - June 10, 2021



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PHONE 2 ACTION

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RESEARCH

DCCR Shows 'Life-changing' Potential in Troubled Trial,

Doctor Says in Interview

Dr. Jennifer Miller, a pediatric neuroendocrinologist at the University of Florida who is a lead investigator of the DESTINY PWS Phase 3 clinical trial of DCCR, shares updates on the trial's findings and some of the positive responses from participants.



READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE

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Read more <u>here</u>.



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PWSA|USA

Vol. 23 | June 18, 2021

FAMILY SUPPORT & ADVOCACY



"Following Samantha's PWS diagnosis, I was filled with fear and questions. The support and guidance I received from the parentmentors at PWSA | USA helped me shift out of fear and into hope. Now, at 8 months old, Samantha is making incredible progress and defying expectations. I'm glad she can benefit from all that has been and continues to be - learned about this rare disease, and I'm grateful to have PWSA | USA keeping me apprised of those developments."

Mandy, Mom to Samantha (8 months) of California pwsausa.org/get-involved-donate/



"Family support from PWSA | USA is such a critical part of our lives and for many others who have a loved one with Prader-Willi Syndrome. We are blessed to be able to help others while at the same time rely on our own family and friends to support us in our times of need. Helping loved ones that are impacted with Prader-Willi is absolutely a team sport."

John, Dad to Hunter (23) of Massachusetts pwsausa.org/get-involved/donate/

To help sustain our lifesaving Family Support Program, please give generously below!

DONATE NOW

BREAKING NEWS

We are Pleased to Announce that Dr. Moris Angulo M.D. has Opened up a New Clinic Located in Babylon, NY, and Accepts Patients Location: Center for Pediatric Specialty Care, 655 Deer Park Avenue, Babylon, NY 11702

To schedule an appointment, call 631-321-2100

NEW CLINIC OPEN



Moris A. Angulo, M.D., was born in El Salvador, Central América and attended the School of Medicine, National University, El Salvador. He attended Nassau County Medical Center, Long Island, New York, for his post-graduate work. Dr. Angulo is American Board certified in Pediatrics, Medical Genetics & Pediatric Endocrinology. He is a member of the Clinical and Scientific Board at IPWSO and the Clinical Advisory Board for PWSA | USA. Dr. Angulo has been recognized by the Global Directory of Who's Who as a

Top Doctor for outstanding contributions and achievements in Endocrinology. Dr. Angulo is a tireless advocate for PWS and has been instrumental in getting Growth Hormone approved for general use in PWS.

May 25, 2021

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FPWR & PWSA | USA Send Letter to FDA Requesting Regulatory Flexibility and Review of NDA for Intranasal Carbetocin



READ THE FULL LETTER HERE

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FAMILY SUPPORT

We want to wish all of the amazing Dads out there a very Happy Father's Day! Thank you for all that you do.

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experiences in our community. **Stories of Resilience & PWS** will share personal stories from around the community with a focus not only on the challenges but on the joys, victories and opportunities of the journey.

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works for you.

Thank you for using your voice to help us bring attention to PWS!

Last Chance to Register for the 2021 Virtual National Convention!



Registration for the 2021 Virtual National Convention CLOSES on Sunday, June 20th at 11:59 p.m. EST.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect (and reconnect) with our PWS Community! Whether you have a loved one with PWS, are a professional provider, a Physician, or Scientist, this year's convention has something for everyone!

REGISTER HERE

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Find the full list of speakers and topics for each convention by clicking on the images below.



DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY! Registration for Superhero BINGO Closes Sunday, June 20th at 11:59 p.m. EST



Superhero BINGO Family Fun Night will be the epic closing event to our Virtual National Convention, complete with special guest appearances, trivia and prizes, a live auction, and, of course, BINGO! Register <u>here</u> by June 20, 2021. Bonus - this super event is FREE for PWS families when you enter the discount code "BAM" at checkout.

Don't forget about the incredible auction items up for bid! The Superhero BINGO Auction features brand-name toys, accessories, jewelry, a golfing adventure in Florida (perfect for Father's Day!), and items for everyone in your family to enjoy - all donated with proceeds benefitting PWSA | USA!

SEE ALL AUCTION ITEMS





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Explore All That Our Convention Has To Offer



Help send families to our 2023 Convention by helping us raise funds for Scholarships! **Raffle tickets are available for purchase until Friday, June**

25th at 12:00 p.m. EST.

Learn more <u>here</u>.

PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS

Thank You to Our Convention Sponsors!



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Lifeguard Sponsor

Sandcastle Sponsors Autism Brain Network Mainstay Life Services PWSA Minnesota PWSA New England PWSA Ohio PWSA Texas PWSA Wisconsin Proder-Willi SYNDROME ASSOCIATION | Utah SAVING AND TRANSFORMING LIVES

Lifeguard Sponsor



Lifeguard Sponsor

Anchor Sponsors PWSA Arizona PWSA Iowa PWSA Florida Prader-Willi California Foundation

Support PWSA | USA on Amazon Prime Day!



Amazon Prime Day is coming up on June 21st and 22nd, which means amazing deals for Amazon Prime members. Whether you're already a Prime member or planning to sign up, please consider logging in through Amazon Smile to make your purchases. The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the

purchase price from your eligible smile.amazon.com purchases. Please consider selecting Prader-Willi Syndrome Association | USA in the "Supporting" tab on your Amazon Smile home page. Thank you for making a difference!

LOG IN TO AMAZON SMILE

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Harmony Biosciences is seeking people with PWS between the ages of 6 – 65 to enroll in Clinical Trial

Harmony Biosciences will be studying the safety and impact of an investigational medication on excessive daytime sleepiness, cognition, and behavioral function in people with PWS.



Participation in the trial lasts approximately four months. During that time, there are five planned visits.

Read more <u>here</u>.



Important Message About This Newsletter

The information provided in this email is intended for your general knowledge only and is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Always seek the advice of your physician or other qualified healthcare provider with any questions regarding a medical condition. Never disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking it because of something you have read in this publication.

