



NEWS RELEASE

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Zach's Run celebrates five years of raising awareness and funds for Hunter Syndrome cure

Fifth Annual Zach's Run, Saturday, September 18, 2010

Making Precious Strides, Inc. (MPS) will hold its Fifth Annual Zach's Run, a 5K Race and 1-Mile Fun Walk, to raise funds for a cure for Hunter Syndrome. This year's race will take place on Saturday, September 18, rain or shine, at 6th Street and the Boardwalk in Ocean City, New Jersey. Registration details follow below.

This year, the event's annual Tot Trot will be named in honor of Edward Woolley, of Penn Valley, Pennsylvania. Edward lost his battle with Hurler Syndrome, a form of Mucopolysaccharidosis, similar to Hunter Syndrome, in 1994, one month before his fifth birthday. Each September on Edward's birthday, his mother Gina Woolley visits Ocean City to remember Edward and celebrate his life.

Last Labor Day weekend Gina was walking along the Ocean City Boardwalk and came across a Zach's Run flyer while purchasing a paperweight for her friend.

"I was speechless. I explained to the lady behind the counter that I had a child with MPS, and it was his birthday," said Gina Woolley. "Edward is an angel now. After seeing Zachary's face and that similar smile, I knew I had received a sign that Edward was okay and watching down over all the other MPS children and families."

Edward would have been 21 this September.

MPS, Inc. donates proceeds from each event to North Carolina Children's Hospital at the University of North Carolina, a medical research center currently working on a cure for Hunter Syndrome.

Hunter Syndrome or (Mucopolysaccharidosis Type II- MPS II) is a life-threatening, genetic disease that affects the body's ability to break down cell waste, which interferes

with the functions of cells and soft tissue organs leading to serious complications. There is currently no cure for the disease.

The race's namesake Zachary Dearth was diagnosed with Hunter Syndrome in July 2005 at the age of three. Zachary's parents are Cheryl (Betz) Dearth and Chris Dearth natives of South Jersey.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Race begins at 9 a.m. The check presentation to the North Carolina Children's Hospital will take place at 10:30 a.m. Pre-Registration costs \$20 and Day-of Registration costs \$25. Proceeds from the event go to medical research for Hunter Syndrome.

For more information, visit www.zachsrun.org or www.makingpreciousstrides.org.

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