“I just want to learn.”

— Danny Stanton on his first day of preschool
“I am always doing that which I cannot do, in order that I may learn how to do it.”

— Pablo Picasso
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Meet Daniel George Stanton

Danny Stanton was born on March 2, 2005. Danny Stanton died on December 12, 2009.

A wonderfully normal two years of growth and development followed his birth as Danny joined his sister Mary Grace and his brother Johnny and took his place as kid number three in the Stanton family. He was, as his grandma Murtagh dubbed him, the “little toughie” of the family. The kid was a scrapper who held his own as he established his place within his family and, although the youngest child, Danny’s levels of affection, compassion, intelligence, and athleticism evened the score on all fronts as he experienced the day-in and day-out of life’s situations. Even at two years of age, he had established himself – somehow, and in many ways – as an equal not only in terms of experiencing life, but also as one who brought experience to the lives of everyone in his family. Danny was, though, soon enough no longer the youngest Stanton as his brother Tommy came along when Danny was two.

It was at age two when Danny had his first seizure. His eyes rolled back and he shook. We did not know what was happening. We dialed 911 then rushed him to our next-door neighbor, who is a paramedic. Danny seized for almost 10 minutes. On that night, we had a battery of tests done at Children’s Memorial Hospital in Chicago. There was no known reason or cause found for Danny’s seizure. No injury, no trigger. We were told that sometimes seizures in children have no known cause and that kids often outgrow them. The experience was terrifying.

We left the hospital that night sans any written information about seizures or seizure disorders, sans any mention of epilepsy or epilepsy organizations, and sans anything short of the feeling that we had fallen into a hole that had no bottom. Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy, of course, crossed no lips and fell upon no ears. And of course, as well, this made sense to those who made sense of such matters as we – as adults and as parents – were not prepared, in others’ estimations, nor entitled to such privy information. It was just too early. Too early for prevention? Danny began sleeping in bed with us after that first seizure.

Danny had a second seizure while sleeping just over a month later. After this second seizure, he had an MRI. Again, no underlying cause was found for his seizures. Danny was then put on a variety of medicines to control the seizures, and regular electroencephalograms (EEGs) were scheduled and
performed. At this time his neurologist determined that Danny had childhood seizure disorder. Still no mention of epilepsy, still no suggestion of outreach to epilepsy organizations, and still, of course, no mention of Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy. What we were told was this: he’ll outgrow it, many kids experience this, we don’t know why it happens, maybe it’s “his normal.” How might life be different had a sophisticated and tough-minded doctor sat us down and said “let me tell you something that will shock you but that I am mandated both by my profession and by my personal sense of duty to inform you of . . . your son is epileptic, and along with this diagnosis comes a plethora of safety issues that you need to become aware of . . .”

Danny’s day-in and day-out behavior was completely normal. He continued to be athletic, inquisitive, engaging, social, and, more than anything, affectionate. Vacations to the water park, trips to Target, outings to baseball games . . . he was a part of it all. As we continued meeting with Danny’s neurologist for regular check-ups, we became more and more comfortable with the idea that we were doing all we could for Danny and that we were on a clear and well-defined path. We were told that a slightly abnormal EEG might just be Danny’s ‘normal.’

After sleeping with us for a half a year, Danny began to return to his own bed. On hundreds of occasions we left our bed to check on him, and we frequently just brought him back to bed with us. We caught him twice more having a seizure in his sleep. We informed our doctors of every event.

We continued to trust and to believe that we were doing all that we could. We continued, as well, to roll as a six-some through the city of Chicago in our blue minivan, in our strollers and buggies, and on foot. Downtown, the parks, the beach, baseball games, the pool, pizza parties with the neighbors, school plays, kickball in the front yard, catch in the alley, hoops at the Y, around the block on scooters and bikes and Big Wheels, walks to Happy Foods for doughnuts . . . the package was complete. Birthdays, holidays, block parties . . . each month brought more punch to us as a family, and each day brought hugs from Danny: he’d tuck his arms into his own chest and then wait for you to surround his body with yours. He’d then nestle his head under your chin, take a deep breath, and let his exhale say that he had found the spot. It was Danny’s hug that inspired the DDF logo.

After a year of no known seizures, Danny returned again to his own bed. And then as he turned four (and started pre school) and had gone without a known seizure for 18 months, we thought that our course of action had been successful and that his neurologist was right: Danny would, through medicine and time, outgrow his ‘seizure disorder.’ We were optimistic and giddy. It was like a rebirth for us and for Danny.

On Tuesday, December 8, 2009, we took Danny for a scheduled appointment with his neurologist.
That day, Danny had a one-hour EEG done while sleeping. We met with his doctor after the EEG and went over the results. There was still abnormal activity showing up, but maybe a lesser amount than the previous EEG showed? Maybe, we were told. A little progress, we were told. The medicine was working, we were told. We increased Danny’s dosage that day to accommodate a slight weight gain since his last visit. How we looked at each other and at Daniel as we left the hospital that day. And how Danny looked back at us: cool as a cucumber, as usual, and ready to get some lunch and back to playing with Tommy.

Four days later, on December 12, 2009, we found Danny’s lifeless body in his bed at 7:15AM.

How many seizures did Danny have that we did not catch? We will never know. We wonder what Danny knew. We wonder what our little, middle boy knew. One thing we do know are the last words to ever fall upon that little toughie’s ears. They are the words whispered by his mom to Danny each and every night as she put him to bed: “I love you, sweet boy.” These words were always followed by three kisses: one to the forehead, one to the nose, and one to the lips. I love you, sweet boy.

And now life continues –in many respects– albeit without the soft bounce of one little boy’s feet upon the dirt of the Earth, and the family that was is now the family that is. Our Danny boy has entered a new phase, part of which is in the form of his organization, the Danny Did Foundation, which derives from the last line of Danny’s obituary: Please go and enjoy your life. Danny did.

Turns out that the last line of Danny’s obituary caught the attention of many people, including a writer from the Associated Press, who wrote in an article:

“The disarming smile of a 4-year-old boy with a buzz cut brightens an otherwise drab newspaper page, where whole lives are summed up in three inches of tiny newsprint. Danny Stanton’s death notice first makes you wonder how he died. But the eight haunting, final words make you want to know how he lived: ‘Please go and enjoy your life. Danny did.’”

Danny Did enjoy his life. Danny Did engage others in his life. Danny Did take his time in life. Please Go And Enjoy Your Life. Danny Did.
Imperfectly, our son Danny had epilepsy. Tragically, our son Danny died from epilepsy. Specifically, Danny died from Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy, also known as SUDEP. Graphically, Mariann found Danny dead in his bed one cold December morning two weeks before Christmas in 2009. Horribly, I tried to resuscitate Danny that morning in front of his sister Mary Grace and his two brothers, Johnny and Tommy. Distressingly, we believed that we had been doing everything possible to care for Danny.

Through two years of treatment by medical professionals, we were never informed that Danny had epilepsy, and even though Danny suffered from seizures we were never informed that Danny could die from one of his seizures. We were never told about SUDEP. We were never given information about organizations that could educate and support us as we spiraled through Danny’s seizure episodes.

And so when Danny died, we knew that he and that we had been robbed of the opportunities of a lifetime. An actual lifetime. And we were furious. And we asked each other in our bedroom on that morning in December – after we had returned home from the hospital where Danny’s body had grown cold atop of ours as we laid with him - we asked ourselves, “how could this happen?”

Part of our answer to that question has been the formation of the Danny Did Foundation, which we are nurturing and developing as if it were part of Danny himself, and together with so many other individuals and organizations, we are changing the perception of epilepsy and the outlook for those afflicted by epilepsy.

And so as one year closes and another begins, we look forward to new partnerships and to new alliances as we continue our work to enable access to seizure monitoring and detecting devices for families who cannot afford them, and to advance awareness of epilepsy and the risks that accompany it, including Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy. Thank you for your participation and for helping to prevent another death caused by a seizure.

Mariann and Mike Stanton
Letter from the Executive Director

There are a lot of ways that a person can leave a legacy: the impact that you’ve had on your family, your friends; your business; the sum of good that you have done. Danny Stanton continues to grow his legacy through the families helped by the Danny Did Foundation. In 2014 he added one more piece to the way he is remembered: a new law aimed at collecting data on Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP).

In January 2014, months of effort culminated when the “Danny Stanton SUDEP Act” became Illinois law, mandating that coroners and medical examiners in Illinois must report cases of SUDEP to a national registry. This law was sponsored by Danny Did Foundation board member Senator Dan Kotowski and is only the second of its kind in the United States. Recording every SUDEP case is critical for understanding the scope of its impact, and essential to securing funding for research into why and how it happens.

While this legislation immortalizes Danny in the law books, of course it doesn’t do what we would like best: to bring him back. This year Danny would have celebrated his 9th birthday. He would have entered the fourth grade, a safe and nurturing place where his curiosity, talents and friendships would have grown with the passing of another school year. Epilepsy impacts 1 in 26 Americans, and is second only to stroke among neurological disorders in Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL). Every family who has lost a loved one to epilepsy knows how painful those lost years can be.

This year Carrie McAteer, a person living with epilepsy, became President of our Board of Directors. Carrie has quickly become a strong and active advocate in sharing her story and advancing our cause. We’ve also begun a new partnership with the Young Irish Fellowship of Club of Chicago, through which we’ll raise more funds and awareness. During November National Epilepsy Awareness Month, Danny Did was a co-host of the 2nd Annual Epilepsy Awareness Day at Disneyland Resort. We expect more than 2,000 attendees, all wearing purple to raise awareness of epilepsy at one of the world’s most iconic venues.

To date, our supporters have enabled us to provide financial assistance to families spanning 47 states, Canada, Luxembourg, Brazil, South Africa and the Philippines. Your generosity enables us to reach and grow, along with the legacy of a little boy who started it. - Tom Stanton
Danny Did Foundation Mission Statement and Purpose

Founded by Chicagoans Mike and Mariann Stanton in January 2010 after the sudden death of their four-year-old son Danny, the Danny Did Foundation’s primary mission is to prevent deaths caused by seizures. The Foundation advances public awareness of epilepsy and Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP), strives to improve communication about SUDEP between medical professionals and families impacted by seizures, and advocates for the mainstream acceptance and use of seizure detection and prediction devices that may assist in preventing seizure-related deaths.

Epilepsy impacts 65 million people worldwide, and nearly three million people in the United States alone. One in 26 Americans will develop epilepsy over their lifetime. But what few people understand, including many people impacted by the disorder, is that seizures can be fatal. Amazingly, more people die as a result of seizures than from fires and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) combined. The causes of death can vary and include drowning, other accidents and status epilepticus (prolonged seizures). In addition, thousands of deaths occur annually from SUDEP, a fact that is little known and too rarely addressed in public and in medical circles.

It is DDF’s urgent priority to change the conversation about SUDEP. We have a two-pronged strategy to accomplish our goal. First, DDF engages physicians and in the fields of neurology and epileptology and asks them talk and write about SUDEP. We help to educate doctors about how to approach this difficult topic with their patients and families, and we create educational materials about SUDEP for physicians to share at clinic visits. We also partner with other epilepsy organizations to raise awareness of SUDEP and the need for better education on the risks faced by people with epilepsy.

Our second strategy is to collaborate with medical technology companies and researchers who are working on the latest in scientific understanding of SUDEP and how to prevent it. We pursue the latest seizure detection and seizure prediction technologies, and once identified as viable and worthwhile instruments, we advocate for these products to be approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration and then covered by insurance companies. We view these devices as complementary to the vast array of medical, surgical and dietary measures currently used to treat seizures. But we also view them as equally important to those traditional treatments, because researchers have shown that seizure monitoring, especially at night, seems to notably lower the incidence of SUDEP. To that end, DDF also helps patients and their families purchase such devices if they are unable to afford them.

Danny Did Foundation believes that SUDEP deserves the attention of all of the globe’s inhabitants, from grammar school students to internationally recognized epilepsy experts. We believe that one life lost to SUDEP is one too many, and we strive to make living with epilepsy safer and happier for the millions of people who struggle with this disease every day.

Danny Did is a non-profit corporation organized in Illinois and recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Learn more at www.dannydid.org, www.facebook.com/DannyDid and www.twitter.com/dannydidorg. Please go and enjoy your life. Danny Did®
An important component of safety in epilepsy is the knowledge seizures can sometimes be fatal. One way a person can die due to a seizure is Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy, or SUDEP. SUDEP is one of the least talked about aspects of epilepsy, yet because of its tragic consequences, it is the one aspect of epilepsy about which people have the most questions. Remember, good seizure control and the use of safety measures can reduce the risk of seizure-related death.

Q: Can people die from epilepsy?
A: Yes. Most people with epilepsy live a full life span. However, there are potential factors associated with living with epilepsy and seizures that may increase the risk of early death:
• Accidents such as drowning, burning, choking, or falling can occur during a seizure, and may result in injuries that are serious or life threatening.
• Very long seizures, or seizures that happen quickly and one after another (called status epilepticus), can be life-threatening. Ask your doctor about the scenarios under which status epilepticus could occur.
• People with epilepsy are more prone to experience depression and anxiety. In extreme cases, this can increase the risk for suicide.
• Some people with epilepsy may die suddenly and without explanation. This is SUDEP. The precise cause or causes behind SUDEP are not currently known, although research is underway that attempts to define or better understand them.

Q: What is SUDEP?
A: A death is referred to as SUDEP when a seemingly healthy person with epilepsy dies unexpectedly and no clear reason for the death can be determined. In most cases, an autopsy is required to rule out other causes of death. The most common criteria used to determine whether a death is due to SUDEP are:

• The person has epilepsy, which is defined as recurrent unprovoked seizures.
• The person died unexpectedly while in a reasonable state of health.
• The death occurred suddenly and during normal activity (often during sleep).
• An obvious medical cause of death could not be determined at autopsy.
• The death was not the direct result of status epilepticus.

Q: How often does SUDEP occur?
A: The incidence of SUDEP differs greatly depending upon the population studied. One challenge in pinpointing the numbers behind SUDEP is that information from county and state mortality registries is sometimes incomplete. Some physicians are unfamiliar with SUDEP, and do not list SUDEP on a death certificate. While the statistics on SUDEP are fluid, the fact that SUDEP exists is constant. Persons with absence or myoclonic seizures are not known to have increased risk for SUDEP, while the risk of sudden death increases among people with convulsive seizures. Talk with your neurologist or epileptologist and gauge the risks factors as they relate to you or your loved one.
**Q: What causes SUDEP?**
A: At this time, it is not known exactly what causes SUDEP. Most theories about SUDEP focus on breathing (respiration), heart rhythms and brain function, or some combination of those three factors. What role seizures play in SUDEP is currently being studied.

**Q: What are the risk factors for SUDEP?**
A: SUDEP can happen to anyone with epilepsy. Some people are at higher risk than others, and you should discuss your individual risks with your doctor. Risk factors that are most consistently associated with SUDEP are:
- Seizures that can’t be controlled
- A higher number of anticonvulsant medications, at high doses
- Long-standing chronic epilepsy
- Generalized tonic-clonic (grand mal) seizures
- Seizures that happen during sleep
- Not taking anticonvulsant medicine as prescribed
- Stopping the use of anticonvulsant medicine abruptly
- Developmental delays
- Onset of epilepsy at a young age

**Q: What can I do to reduce the risk of SUDEP?**
A: The full understanding of SUDEP is still unfolding, but there are measures that people with epilepsy and their families can take in effort to minimize their risk:
- Patients People with epilepsy should make sure to take the medications as prescribed for them to maximize seizure control.
- If medicines are not effective, research and consider alternative therapies such as surgical options, dietary options, or devices/technologies that may help to enable early intervention when seizure activity occurs.
- Consider supervision during sleep hours to monitor for nocturnal seizure activity.
- Lead a healthy lifestyle and keep stress to a minimum whenever possible. Patients should visit with their doctor regularly, especially if convulsive seizures are not completely controlled.
- Ensure that family members and caretakers have knowledge of seizure first aid and of emergency resuscitation measures including CPR and defibrillator use.

**Q: What should I know about seizure detection devices and resources?**
A: A variety of options exist, from sleep monitors to seizure dogs to seizure-alerting wristwatches. Many of these options undergo clinical trials testing to provide data on their efficacy. Some of them are listed at our website: www.dannydid.org. Danny Did does not recommend any one device, but simply that you investigate your options and see which one could be a fit for you and your loved one. Please note that to date, no commercially available seizure detection/monitoring devices have been proven to predict or prevent SUDEP. If you find a device that seems like a fit for your needs, ask the manufacturer if they can provide data that supports its usefulness, and consult your doctor for their feedback.
Q: **How do I talk with my doctor about SUDEP?**

A: If your doctor has not spoken with you about the health risks associated with epilepsy, including SUDEP, schedule an appointment to meet with them. Remember, no one can or will advocate for your loved one better than you.

More research and studies are needed to answer the many questions that remain about SUDEP. The topics listed above address some of the basic and frequently asked questions related to SUDEP. For information related to your individual situation, consult with your doctor. Education and advice from a medical professional that knows your specific case background is the best source.

_We will lead this fight until the fight is finished, and we are leading the fight with this mantra in mind: Example is not the main thing influencing those around you, it is the only thing._

_Please Go And Enjoy Your Life. Danny Did._
Tom Stanton, Executive Director

As Danny's uncle, Tom knows just what Danny Did, day in and day out, and is eager to spread the word about the way that Danny lived his life and to work with the Danny Did Foundation to help individuals and families who are facing a similar scenario.

Tom has more than 10 years of experience working with non-profits in various capacities, from volunteer work and mentoring, to public relations, events management and sitting on boards of directors. Tom has spent his career primarily working in the communications field, including several years as a spokesman for former Cook County State’s Attorney Dick Devine. He has earned excellent standing among Chicago and national media outlets through his work as a media relations professional for various private and public sector organizations. He has also served as a spokesperson during the winning political campaigns of several elected public officials, including Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart and former Congressman Rahm Emanuel. He began his career as staff writer for a national magazine.

His pursuits outside the workplace are rooted in community service and volunteerism, centered on 15 years spent as a youth sports coach and mentor. He is a board member for Special Children’s Charities, the fundraising arm of Special Olympics Chicago, a 42-year-old organization that serves the needs of more than 5,000 special needs athletes. He has also volunteered as a mentor through the Uhlich Academy on Chicago’s North side.

Tom holds a journalism degree from the University of Dayton, and a master’s degree in Public Policy from DePaul University.

Tom is thankful to have the chance to keep Danny’s spirit alive through service to the Danny Did Foundation.
Danny Did Foundation Staff

Mary Duffy, Assistant Executive Director

Mary earned her Bachelor’s of Science at Northern Illinois University and her Master’s in Human Resources and Industrial Relations at Loyola University in Chicago. Mary has 15 years of experience in Human Resources for large, international companies and was most recently employed at Pearson VUE, a leading provider of computer-based testing solutions.

Extremely active in community service, Mary is dedicated to the fundraising efforts for Edgebrook Elementary, where her children attend school. She is a Chairperson for the school’s annual Spring Fling event, which raises more than $90,000 each year. Mary also lends her time as a Class Room Mom, and she volunteers for the Posse Foundation and for JumpStart’s Read For The Record program.

Mary considers it an honor to serve the Danny Did Foundation and is dedicated to work to help others in Danny’s name.

Danny Did Foundation 2014 Interns

Trevor Ells and Nadia Abdulhafiz

Northwestern University
Scott Verhey

Scott Verhey is an attorney practicing law in Chicago at his firm founded in 1995. Scott began private practice in 1991 concentrating on select commercial litigation and civil trial work. In 1996, he was appointed as a Special Assistant Attorney General of the State of Illinois to represent the Illinois Department of Transportation in the prosecution of condemnation proceedings and related matters. Since 1998, Scott has served as “Of Counsel” for Amari & Locallo, representing and consulting with the law firm in various areas of interest including real estate taxation issues and complex real estate transaction. During his career, Scott has tried cases and argued appeals in the Circuit Courts of Illinois and the U.S. District Court. In 2001 he was sworn in and licensed to appear before the United States Supreme Court. Scott has served on various boards for the Illinois State Bar Association and currently is a member of The John Marshall Law School Board of Trustees Litigation Committee.

Scott graduated from Marquette University in 1988 with degrees in Political Science and Philosophy. Following the recommendation from a philosophy professor, Scott attended law school at The John Marshall Law School in Chicago. While attending, Scott served on the editorial board of its Law Review.

In addition to his work for the Danny Did Foundation, Scott coaches boys basketball at Queen of All Saints School in Sauganash and volunteers for Marquette University representing the school and meeting with prospective college students and their families at college fair events at Chicago area high schools.

Scott is grateful for the opportunity to help the Danny Did Foundation reach its main goal to prevent deaths caused by seizures. Scott is a Past President of the DDF board of directors.
Danny Did Foundation Board of Directors

Molly House, Vice President

Molly House is a vice president in the large lines commercial property and casualty division of Mesirow Financial. Molly evaluates existing insurance programs and works closely with contacts in the insurance market to develop more efficient and comprehensive coverages that suit her clients' needs. Since starting in the insurance industry in 1993, Molly has become well versed in various facets of risk management ranging from large, commercial accounts to smaller, specialty accounts. Prior to joining Mesirow Financial, Molly spent eight years at Near North Insurance Brokerage, where she served in the Real Estate and Healthcare Practices.

Molly holds a degree in political science and public administration from Miami University of Ohio, where she ran Track and Field and Cross-country. She and her husband Ken have two children and are very involved with their parish, Saint Andrew, in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood. Much of her time is spent driving her kids to and from hockey rinks, one offshoot of being married to a Canadian husband. Molly is honored to be a part of the Danny Did Foundation, and is a big believer in its mission and the people who are behind it. Molly began her term as DDF board of directors Vice President in April 2012.
Danny Did Foundation Board of Directors

JoAnne Pepper, Treasurer

JoAnne Pepper graduated from the University of Wisconsin – LaCrosse with a degree in finance and attended law school at DePaul University. After an accomplished career in the insurance industry and as a risk manager, she left the business world to spend more time raising her children. JoAnne has served on the parent board at her children’s school and continues to be an active volunteer at their schools. She also volunteers on the local park district’s Advisory Council.

JoAnne and her husband live in Chicago and have three children. JoAnne ran the 2011 Chicago Marathon as a member of the Danny Did Team and is extremely proud to be working with the Danny Did Foundation. JoAnne began her term as DDF board treasurer in 2011.
Danny Did Foundation Board of Directors

Carrie McAteer, President

Carrie McAteer has worked at DePaul University for 12 years and currently manages a university-wide internship program in the Career Center. In this role, she is responsible for building and maintaining relationships with businesses and nonprofit organizations that are interested in hiring DePaul interns. Her previous experience includes working as a recruiter at a staffing firm and outside sales in the telecommunications industry.

Carrie was diagnosed with epilepsy when she was a teenager. Her personal experience with this often-misunderstood disease has led to her desire to raise awareness of epilepsy, and she is thrilled to do so through the Danny Did Foundation.

In addition to her work with the Danny Did Foundation, Carrie is serving her eighth year on the board of directors for the Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce and is the Vice President of External Affairs for the executive committee. She is also a board member of Personal PAC and the State of Illinois Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan (ICHIP). She was recently chosen as a delegate of the Illinois Women’s Institute for Leadership, a program that trains women to become effective leaders in Illinois government and politics.

She holds a BA in public relations from the University of Dayton and an MS in public service administration from DePaul University.

Carrie is honored to advocate on behalf of the epilepsy community in this role for the Danny Did Foundation. She lives with her husband and their young daughter Norah, who is her pride and joy, in Chicago. She began her term as president of the DDF board of directors in April 2014.
Danny Did Foundation Board of Directors

Brendan Malone

Brendan Malone is a senior associate as part of the senior living team at Ziegler, a specialty investment bank. As a person living with epilepsy, Brendan has effectively served in a variety of advocacy roles and knows the impact of seizures first hand. Prior to joining Ziegler, Brendan had been a history teacher at Saint Ignatius College Prep.

He earned a B.A. in political science from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL.
Courtney Murphy, Secretary

Courtney Murphy leads the consumer and national promotions practice for dynamic retail marketing agency, TPN. Her extensive knowledge of the retail landscape extends across all channels and media, providing TPN’s brand and retailer clients with basket-building solutions and action-oriented campaigns to drive the point of purchase.

Throughout her 16-year career, Courtney has helped re-imagine the retail experience for leading brands such as Tropicana, Gatorade, Propel, Quaker, Mike’s Hard Lemonade, Barilla and Arch Chemicals. Her unique skills and talent were instrumental in growing TPN’s Gatorade business 300 percent and in helping Tropicana to execute their largest loyalty promotion to date.

Courtney has several personal connections to epilepsy and has become a highly effective advocate.
Senator Dan Kotowski

Illinois State Senator Dan Kotowski advocates for Danny Did Foundation first as a person living epilepsy himself. Dan has devoted his adult life to public service and to his family. Since taking the oath of office in January of 2007, Dan has quickly become an independent voice for the 33rd Senate district ushering in a new era of leadership for Illinois. He was sworn-in for his third term on January 2013.

In his time serving the people of the 28th district Dan has produced results and helped shape the debate on important issues such as healthcare, property taxes, veteran affairs and public safety.

Prior to being elected in 2006, Dan served as the vice president of development and public affairs for UCAN, a human service agency that serves 5,000 children and families every year.

Dan graduated from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana with a degree in English and Communications and received a Masters of Arts Degree from DePaul University.
Pete Lazzara

Pete Lazzara is a decorated Chicago Fire Department Ambulance Commander and a longtime neighbor of the Stantons in Edgebrook.

A Chicago native, Pete graduated from Northeastern Illinois University in 1979 with a degree in education, and began teaching and coaching at Gordon Technical High School, then the largest all-boys Catholic High School in the country. While teaching, Pete completed Loyola University Medical Center’s Paramedic program and the following fall, accepted a position with Paramedic Services of Illinois as a Firefighter/Paramedic and began serving in that role for several area Fire Departments. In 1990, Pete accepted a position with the Chicago Fire Department as a Fire Paramedic, rising to his current rank of Ambulance Commander.

While working for the Chicago Fire Department, Pete has been awarded several department commendations and in 1997 was awarded the West Suburban Hospital’s “Paramedic of the Year” award. Pete has also worked at the Loyola University Medical Center as an EMS instructor and received further training to serve as a Flight Medic with their air medical helicopter program “LifeStar.” Pete was hired in 1997 to be the first Emergency Medical Services Coordinator at Children's Memorial Hospital where he received the Illinois Department of Public Health’s Ron W. Lee, MD Memorial Award for “Excellence in Pediatric Care”, as well as the Illinois Department of Child and Family Service’s “Program Excellence Award.”

Pete has worked with city officials to develop the Midwest’s first state-of-the-art Fire/EMS training simulation laboratory to enhance emergency response skills of current and new paramedics. In addition, Pete is the founder and President of EMSed, an educational company specializing in Emergency Medical Services educational concepts. He is a nationally recognized EMS speaker and annually presents at EMS conferences nationwide.

Pete and his wife have two kids and have been married for over 30 years. Pete is committed to helping the Danny Did Foundation reach its goals.
Danny Did Foundation Board of Directors

Sean Murphy

Sean works as an S&P 500 options trader for Quiet Light Trading. His passion for the financial world has lead to a special interest in fundraising for the Danny Did Foundation. In addition to his friendship with the Stantons, Sean also has another personal interest in being a part of building the Danny Did Foundation as his nephew suffers from a seizure disorder. Sean currently lives on the northwest side of Chicago with his wife and two children.

Danny Did Foundation Board of Directors

Susan Nicholl

Susan is the President of Dillon Productions, Inc., an event management/marketing company that she founded 18 years ago.

Susan also serves as the Executive Director of Special Children's Charities, a financial supporter of Special Olympics Chicago programs since 1969.

Susan has extensive experience in major fundraising events and not-for-profit marketing and is one of the most respected figures in the Chicago non-profit community.

Born and raised in Chicago, Susan is a graduate of Loyola University in Chicago and is dedicated in bringing success to the Danny Did Foundation.
Mariann Stanton

Danny’s mom Mariann has been an educator in numerous school systems for over 20 years. She is currently a Chicago Public School High School English teacher.

Mariann received a bachelor’s degree in English from Loyola University in Chicago, which she attended on a four-year basketball scholarship. Mariann also earned a Master’s degree in Education from DePaul University.

Mariann and her husband Mike have four kids – Mary Grace, Johnny, Danny, and Tommy – and live on the northwest side of Chicago.
Dr. Marvin Rossi M.D., PhD

Dr. Rossi is an Assistant Professor and Attending Physician at the Rush Epilepsy Center of Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. As a teacher and physician, Dr. Rossi is dedicated to seeking out and providing the most up-to-date information and treatments to his students and patients. As a researcher, Dr. Rossi is most interested in the development and implementation of new detection and control technologies that stabilize dysfunctional neural pathways.

Dr. Rossi’s professional memberships include: American Epilepsy Society, full member; American Academy of Neurology; President and founder of SynaptiCOM (http://www.synapticom.net); American Medical Association; Illinois State Medical Society; Chicago Medical Society; IEEE Computer Society; New York Academy of Sciences; International Brain Research Organization (IBRO); and the Society for Neuroscience.

Dr. Charles J. Marcuccilli M.D., PhD

Dr. Charles Marcuccilli is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics in the Section of Pediatric Neurology at The University of Chicago. Dr. Marcuccilli attended medical school at the University of Chicago’s Pritzker School of Medicine and trained at the University of Chicago’s Children’s Hospital in the departments of Neurology and Pediatrics. In addition to being a teacher, a researcher, and a clinician, Dr. Marcuccilli is also a skilled lecturer who was listed in 2010 as one of the “Best Doctors in America.”

Dr. Marcuccilli’s professional memberships include the American Epilepsy Society, the American Academy of Neurology, and the American Academy of Pediatrics. Dr. Marcuccilli is also a member of the board of directors for First Steps Foundation.
Danny Did Foundation
Ambassador Group

Danny Did Ambassadors are extraordinary volunteers who choose to serve the Danny Did Foundation at elevated levels of engagement and responsibility. Each Ambassador shares their personal story to further the Danny Did Foundation’s mission to prevent deaths caused by seizures. With the support and backing of the DDF, Ambassadors work independently and proactively as official representatives of the Foundation to help Danny Did integrate into networks and communities across the United States.

Allison Austin,
Northern Virginia

Allison is the mother of two young boys and lost her husband Jeff to SUDEP on February 26, 2012. Jeff died from SUDEP after experiencing only his second known seizure, at the age of 42, and his family was never informed that seizures could be fatal. Allison now advocates in her husband’s name through fundraising events and media awareness around SUDEP. Her efforts have helped numerous families in her community.

Mylissa and Jeff Daniels
West Virginia

Mylissa and her husband Jeff lost their 5 year-old son Dallas to SUDEP in January 2011. They have held several fund raisers to benefit Danny Did, including a 5K walk and a T-shirt sale. Mylissa has spoken before the Institute of Medicine to represent both her personal experience and our shared cause.
Danny Did Foundation Ambassador Group

Scott and Lana Frey
Indiana

Scott and Lana Frey have a six-year-old daughter who faces the challenges of both Cerebral Palsy and Epilepsy. A dentist, Scott utilizes his professional networks to raise awareness and funds for our cause. The Freys also serve as our liaisons to the Indiana Chapter of the Epilepsy Foundation.

Danny Did Foundation Ambassador Group

Kari and Dennis Knapp
Minnesota

Kari and her husband Dennis lost their 22-year-old son Jake to SUDEP in March 2009. They serve as our liaison to the Minnesota Chapter of the Epilepsy Foundation. Each summer the Knapp family hosts a Socks & Sandals Golf Outing fund raiser, aptly named because Jake always wore socks with his sandals. Portions of the proceeds are used to purchase seizure detection devices for families who cannot afford them.
Misty and Stephen Phillips
*North Carolina*

Misty Phillips became an epilepsy advocate after her son Lucas began having seizures on Christmas Eve 2009 at age 11. An avid runner, Misty and her husband Stephen ran the 2012 Chicago Marathon as part of Team Danny Did. The couple is also running several local races to raise awareness and work to grow Team Danny in their home state.

Cindy Mitchell & Family
*California*

Cindy and her husband Tom have a son adult Robert who has epilepsy. The Mitchells have represented the Danny Did Foundation at several epilepsy conferences, meetings, and expos in California, and serve as our liaisons to the Los Angeles Chapter of the Epilepsy Foundation. Robert is a proud member of Team Danny Did.
Danny Did Foundation Ambassador Group

Kendal and Andrew O’Lenick  
*Georgia*

Kendal and Andrew have a 4 year-old son, Conner, who has epilepsy. A personal trainer, Kendal is helping to bring participation and fundraising for Team Danny Did to the Atlanta area. Her dad Jon conducts an annual hike of the Appalachian Trial to benefit epilepsy awareness. Says Kendal, “As a mom, not a day goes by that I don’t worry about SUDEP. I want other parents to have an outlet and know that we are not alone with our battle against epilepsy.”

Danny Did Foundation Ambassador Group

Sherri and Brad Newman  
*Virginia*

Sherri and her husband Brad lost their 12 year-old son Joshua to SUDEP in November 2010. Following the suggestion of their daughters, they registered Team “Joshua’s Smile” in the 2011, 2012 and 2013 National Walk for Epilepsy. Though they had originally planned to walk as a family of five, following Joshua’s unexpected death, their team grew to 160 friends and family who raised over $18,000. As a new tradition, each November they host the Joshua A. Newman Memorial 5K Run/Walk to advance epilepsy awareness and to support the Danny Did Foundation in purchasing seizure detection devices for families unable to afford them.
Danny Did Foundation Ambassador Group

**Stefanie and Marc Mingle**  
*South Florida*

Stefanie and Marc lost their daughter Emmy to SUDEP in July 2013, a few months before her second birthday. These brave parents now advocate for epilepsy and SUDEP awareness in Emmy’s honor, and work to advance understanding of seizures in their South Florida community.

Danny Did Foundation Ambassador Group

**Tom and Mary Nugent**  
*Northern Illinois*

Tom and Mary Nugent have three sons, Jack, Will and Quinn. Their two youngest boys have epilepsy. The Nugents represent the Danny Did Foundation at numerous conferences and meetings throughout the Chicago area and serve as mentors to many parents who care for multiple children with epilepsy. Tom and Jack Nugent are also alumni of Team Danny Did.
Danny Did Foundation Year in Review

“I read your article in our local paper yesterday and couldn’t wait to tell my daughter about it. My 3 year-old grandson has suffered from seizures since he was 6 months old and each time was sent home with the “I don’t know” diagnosis. Finally, last year right before Christmas my daughter insisted the doctors admit him to the hospital because he was having up to 8 grand mal seizures a day. They diagnosed him with epilepsy and he’s been taking Keppra and has been seizure free since. I worry daily about him as they did find in the hospital that he was having seizures in his sleep. His neurologists have assured my daughter that he will never die from this! How can they make that assumption? Thank you so much for giving us knowledge and for keeping the fight. I ordered four DDF shirts last night and can’t wait to wear them proudly for Danny! – Michelle, Pennsylvania

Year In Review: Achievements At A Glance

In 2014, the Danny Did Foundation continued its growth, helped families across North America and beyond, and accomplished meaningful and measureable successes. Some highlights include:

• The DDF became a partner member to the North American SUDEP Registry (sudep-registry.org), and our executive director began serving on the NASR Advisory Committee. This registry collects critical data that will accurately track the number of SUDEP cases in the United States and Canada. This data will form the basis for funding of research into the cause of SUDEP.

• We have updated our Seizure Safety and SUDEP Information brochures and distributed thousands to families, hospitals, doctors, and epilepsy organizations across North America. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and people have applauded our brochures as providing necessary information. Even more importantly, they have let us know that the brochure is the first such information they have ever received. We are filling a crucial gap in educating people with epilepsy and their families about SUDEP.

• In 2014 we subsidized seizure alarm monitors for 116 families nationwide, up from 91 in 2013, an increase of 22 percent. We have now provided financial assistance to families across 47 states. We believe seizure detection and prevention devices and other forms of technology should compliment medicines, surgical procedures, and diet to combat seizures and to help keep people alive while doctors search for a cure.
Danny Did was a sponsor of the 2014 Epilepsy Shark Tank Contest, a financially-incentivized competition that seeks to find and advance new technologies and devices that work to alert to, predict, or even prevent seizure activity. Early intervention when a seizure occurs is critical toward preventing death.

We continued to expand awareness in the world of social media, with more than 19,000 fans on Facebook and active followings on Twitter and LinkedIn.

We were honored as 2014 Advocates of the Year by Lundbeck, a pharmaceutical company that makes medications for people with epilepsy.

The Danny Did Foundation continued as a partner member to the 2014 Partners Against Mortality in Epilepsy Conference (PAME), a 3-day educational event that brings together families, medical experts, advocates and researchers from around the world to discuss mortality in epilepsy, and ways to combat it. This event is unique in the epilepsy community for gathering all invested parties to the same forum.

Our “Danny At Your School” educational program has continued to develop and grow, and included DDF presentations to the Chicago area. This program is aimed at educating kids and teachers about epilepsy in an effort to erase the stigma associated with seizures that has impeded progress for the epilepsy movement for generations.

We grew the Danny Did Ambassadors program, designed to further integrate our cause and mission into communities and networks across the United States. Danny Did Ambassadors are extraordinary volunteers who choose to serve the Danny Did Foundation at elevated levels of engagement and responsibility. Each Ambassador shares their personal story to further DDF’s mission to prevent deaths caused by seizures. With the support and backing of Danny Did, ambassadors work independently and proactively as official representatives of the foundation to help Danny Did integrate into networks and communities across the United States.

The DDF was a co-sponsor of the SUDEP Memorial Wall at the 2014 National Walk for Epilepsy in Washington, D.C. This display is a dedicated space at the country’s largest epilepsy walk, a place where families and spectators can take time to honor the men, women, and children who have been lost to epilepsy.
Progress On Our Initiatives: Advancing Awareness

Danny’s parents were not provided with literature or pamphlets when they brought Danny to various doctors and hospitals. To address this shortcoming, the DDF created a Seizure Safety/SUDEP Information Brochure.

In our efforts to advance awareness of Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy among both patients and doctors, we have researched, developed, printed, and distributed thousands of these informational brochures to date. This brochure is now in homes nationwide, and in many medical settings from coast to coast and around the world.

Having this brochure available in schools, pediatricians’ offices, neurologists’ offices, hospitals, and epilepsy centers heightens awareness of epilepsy and contributes to improve the treatment of and response to seizures that occur in public. The brochures teach seizure first aid to those who don’t know it. It’s a tangible and important change.

In addition to our Seizure Safety brochures, we build and grow our awareness program by utilizing many platforms. We understand that for people to care about epilepsy, they have to be aware of the scope of the problem. Our awareness outreach includes:

- **Presentations at epilepsy conferences**
- Sponsorships of SUDEP discussion panels
- **Presentations at schools nationwide**
- Media exposure across television, print, and Internet
- **Advertisements across magazine, radio, and billboard platforms**, including a radio campaign on WBBM 780 AM to promote National Epilepsy Awareness Month
- Social media presence, including Facebook (over 19,000 fans), LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube, and Vimeo
- **Our redesigned and frequently updated website** at http://www.dannydid.org.

Danny Did billboard in downtown Chicago
Social media, traditional media, and grass roots promotions all serve as a means to raise the stature of our cause and to enable us to serve as an outlet to which doctors can steer patients for more information about epilepsy and SUDEP. Our goal is to multiply and expand these efforts locally, nationally, and globally.
Progress On Our Initiatives: Trials and Grants

In 2014 the Danny Did Foundation continued funding support towards a research grant at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, where a newly created infrastructure will enable data on SUDEP to be shared and accessed by multiple epilepsy centers. Led by Dr. Stephan Schuele, the funding for this project was made possible by proceeds from the 2013 Northwestern University Dance Marathon. The DDF is also funding a four-center trial of the SmartWatch monitoring device, which is taking place at the University of Virginia, Stanford University, Boston Children’s Hospital and New York University.
Progress On Our Initiatives: Monitor Subsidies

In the process of discovering the seizure detection alarms as resources that we wish we had known about ourselves, the Danny Did Foundation has introduced monitoring device options to families nationwide so that they can investigate their potential usefulness for their loved one. And while many have gone on to purchase a device, many too have discovered that such a valuable seizure-detection device is cost prohibitive.

To make this technology available for those who can’t afford it, the Danny Did Foundation has purchased movement monitors for families in need across 47 states, the District of Columbia, and Canada, Luxembourg, Brazil, Philippines and South Africa. Feedback from parents tells us that these monitors are having a practical impact and providing peace of mind.

Thank you once again for this wonderful opportunity to gift our son a Smart Monitor watch. You can only imagine the sense of gratitude and relief that my husband and I now feel knowing that Josh will now have the freedom to live a more normal life. He will be able to play with his friends outside without his 5 year-old brother tagging along in case of a seizure to call for help. With Grateful hearts to the Danny Did Foundation. - Lieutenant Colonel Jeff Howell & Mrs. Caitlin Howell, Wahiawa, Hawaii
Progress On Our Initiatives: Events

5th Annual Basketball Clinic 320-plus boys and girls enjoyed a fun day of basketball with friends, and were educated on seizure safety and the power they have to shut down the stigma often shown against young people who have epilepsy.

This event was run by volunteer high school players and coaches and Loyola Academy, Notre Dame College Prep, Gordon Tech College Prep, Regina Dominican and Benet Academy.

5th Annual Hearts and Hugs Gala Over 390 Danny Did Foundation supporters joined the DDF at its 5th Annual Evening of Hearts and Hugs at the Jean Marie Ryan Center on the North Side of Chicago.

From elected officials to world-class doctors to supporters from across the country, all had a great time and raised money to carry on in our mission to prevent deaths caused by seizures.

Awards were presented to outstanding epilepsy advocates, and we also awarded our annual Danny Did Foundation High School Scholarship Award.

5th Annual Danny Stanton Kickball Tournament Over 300 kids, 30 games, 24 teams. Kids in 1st grade through 8th grade kicked it all day in one of Danny's favorite parks, and they were all wearing his favorite number, 19! Scores of volunteers, coaches, umpires, face painters, and parents made the day a big success for Epilepsy and SUIDP Awareness.

Team Danny Did Team Danny Did members represented and raised money to combat seizures in races across the country in 2014. Merging fitness and fundraising while raising awareness for our foundation, our supporters participated in walks, runs, bike rides, and triathlons nationwide. Team Danny Did continues as a growing platform for the DDF.
DDF In The News: Sample Media Coverage

The Boston Globe

December 4, 2014

New Watch Tested at MIT, Boston Children’s Hospital Can Detect, Track Seizures

Move over, Apple Watch: The Embrace wristwatch—developed by Empatica, Inc., a company co-founded by MIT Media Lab professor Dr. Rosalind Picard—is one smart watch.

Able to detect seizures in people suffering from epilepsy, the Bluetooth-enabled watch can alert a smartphone app or even a “companion” watch worn by a parent, spouse, roommate, or anyone who will be close to the wearer when seizures are likely to occur.

Its creators hope it will prevent cases of sudden, unexpected death from epilepsy (SUDEP) and also help doctor’s time doses of medication for epileptic patients.

Epilepsy is a serious condition characterized by recurrent seizures that affects 2.3 million adults and nearly half a million children in the United States. The CDC estimates that 1 in 26 people will be diagnosed with epilepsy at some point in their lifetime. Though many times its cause cannot be determined, epilepsy can be caused by brain injuries and tumors, strokes, or infections of the central nervous system.

Embrace is moving towards commercial development with the help of an IndieGoGo page where, by making early purchases of the watch, people can help fund the development of an improved prototype and its submission to the FDA.

The watch, which also tracks general stress levels, sleep habits, and other behaviors, is “slated to be available next summer for $199,” according to The MIT Technology Review.

Technology designed to help people with epilepsy, and to prevent SUDEP, is nothing new: Sleep activity monitors, anti-suffocation pillows, surgical implants monitoring brain activity, at-home EEG scans, and even other motion-detecting watches are available.

The original Embrace-like device was developed by Picard at MIT in 2007 to measure stress levels in autistic children. Stress levels spiked when wearers had seizures, leading to new studies with Boston
Children’s Hospital. That research was published in peer-reviewed journals, patents were issued, and now the sensor technology is used in research at more than 135 institutions, including BCH.

Embrace contains two types of sensors: there’s a motion detector (it’s also used in some iPhones) that picks up on the repetitive tilting and shaking movements associated with a seizure. Another sensor (also used in lie detectors) can sense minute amounts of sweat, a sign that the wearer’s sympathetic immune system has been activated. When these two indicators reach a certain level, Embrace sends an alert noting that a seizure has happened.

A case study conducted at Boston Children’s Hospital in 2012 showed that an earlier version of the device was nearly as effective at detecting grand mal seizures as electroencephalograms (EEGs), which detect abnormalities in electrical brain activity. While the device has since been upgraded, that earlier version detected 15 of 16 grand mal seizures in seven of the 80 children involved in the study, but also triggered 102 false alarms, according to VectorBlog.

Correction: an earlier version of this story said the device was developed by MIT and Boston Children’s Hospital. While those institutions were involved in testing the device, Empatica is the developer of the Embrace watch.

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Dear Doctor: My Child Has Epilepsy. Please Tell Me Everything

Tom Stanton | November 18, 2014

On Saturday morning Dec. 12, 2009, I was on a gym floor, at an early morning practice in my role as an assistant basketball coach at a high school just outside Chicago. I noticed that I had missed several phone calls from my older brother Mike, unusual for the time of day, but I figured I'd catch up with him after practice. When I called him back, he could barely speak. All he could muster was, "Danny is dead." His son, my nephew, had been found in his bottom bunk bed by his older brother, John, lifeless.

It was just a few months before Danny's 5th birthday. When I arrived, Danny's three siblings had been taken to their neighbor's house, since his parents had rushed to the hospital with Danny. The kids knew something was wrong, but they didn't know what. When Danny's dad returned, John, then 6 years old, asked his dad, "Is Danny dead?" His dad replied, "Yes, John. Danny is dead."

I'll never forget that.

A parent's most critical role is to ensure the safety of their child. But because my brother and sister-in-law did not know the full spectrum of risks that Danny's epilepsy presented, they were not equipped to create the best possible treatment plan for him. Doctors talk on a regular basis about the various risks that accompany seizures -- relative to swimming, bathing, driving, and the possibility of head trauma. To omit the single most significant risk a person can face, death, is both confounding and irresponsible.

Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy -- or SUDEP -- is described by the National Institutes of Health as the most common form of epilepsy-related death. Outside of SUDEP, seizures can also be fatal from a range of other causes: head trauma, accidents, status epilepticus, and suicide among them.

It is impossible to know if being informed about SUDEP would have prevented Danny's death.

What is known, however, is that Danny's parents felt a great sense of betrayal and anger at not having been told. That is what you are left with when you feel you have been robbed of an entire lifetime of opportunities with your son.

Information is power. It's a mantra and it's true.

During the first or second visit with their neurologist, when the range of epilepsy-related risks should be discussed, Danny's parents wish that their doctor had said to them, "We know your son is experiencing his seizures only during sleep. Nocturnal seizures are one of the factors that increase his risk for something called sudden unexpected death in epilepsy death, or SUDEP. There's no known 100 percent prevention for SUDEP, but watchfulness and early intervention -- being present during or just after his seizure -- will be a big advantage for Danny and could reduce the risk. Here's some more information on
SUDEP that you can read about."

Danny's parents and others like them are not seeking a drawn-out, isolated conversation about SUDEP. They simply do not want SUDEP to be left out of the conversation.

In 2010, Danny's parents founded the Danny Did Foundation. The name comes from the last sentence of Danny's obituary, written by his dad: "Please go and enjoy your life. Danny did."

The mission of the foundation is to prevent deaths caused by seizures, and a central goal is to enhance communication between doctors and families regarding the risk of SUDEP.

The aim is not to cause fear or stress, but to empower parents and adults with epilepsy with the knowledge to make informed decisions. That information about SUDEP would optimally come from a doctor, but until that is common practice, the foundation works to fill the communication gap by raising awareness about SUDEP among the epilepsy community and in mainstream society.

Some doctors believe that parents are unable to digest "scary" information about the possibility of a seizure leading to death. We hear regular rebuttals from parents: they can take it. When a parent is flying blind about the risks that come with epilepsy, they are powerless to protect a child. When a doctor provides information in an open and honest way, it builds trust and respect, and offers parents the chance to make informed decisions. Parents deserve for that to be the standard. Doctors may feel like talking about SUDEP is a difficult conversation to have, but it is certainly easier than explaining SUDEP after its impact has shocked and devastated a parent.

Simply being present with someone when they are seizing is a huge advantage for them. Danny’s foundation shares information about monitoring devices and technologies that can help to enable early intervention when seizure activity occurs. Danny Did has helped families spanning 47 states and six countries to gain access to these resources. The foundation is a continuation of Danny's place in the world, and through it, he continues to help others and spread happiness as he would if he were alive today.

Tom Stanton lives in Chicago. He is a dad, writer, and the executive director of the Danny Did Foundation. November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month.

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Read more 2014 articles about the Danny Did Foundation at http://www.dannydid.org/news/