



*Please Go And Enjoy Your Life. Danny Did. ®*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Danny Did Foundation Names Carrie McAteer As Board President**  
*Chicago-based Nonprofit Works to Combat Epilepsy and SUDEP*

**April 23, 2014 – Chicago, Ill.** – The Danny Did Foundation (DDF) has announced Carrie McAteer as the new President of its Board of Directors. McAteer was diagnosed with epilepsy when she was a teenager, and her personal experience with this often- misunderstood disease has led to her desire to become a leading advocate. She replaces outgoing President Scott Verhey, a Chicago attorney who serves as “Of Counsel” for the law firm of Amari & Locallo.

McAteer has worked at DePaul University for 12 years. She manages a university-wide internship program in the DePaul Career Center, building and maintaining relationships with businesses and nonprofit organizations that are interested in hiring DePaul interns. In addition to her work with the DDF, Carrie is serving her ninth year on the Board of Directors for the Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce, and is the Vice President of External Affairs for its 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.

“I look forward to continuing to support and help advance the mission of the Danny Did Foundation in this new role,” said McAteer. “While 1 in 26 people will develop epilepsy in their lifetime, it is a disease that is often feared due to lack of knowledge. DDF is creating awareness about epilepsy and Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) and as a result, empowering families. It is an honor for me to support DDF in this capacity and to advocate on behalf of families who face this disease.”

“We are excited to have Carrie take on this leadership role for Danny Did,” said Tom Stanton, Executive Director of the Danny Did Foundation. “Her perspective as a mother, advocate and a person with epilepsy will go a long way toward helping our organization have a positive and practical impact for the nearly 3 million Americans who face the challenges of epilepsy. Her care for others is an extension of Danny’s.”

Danny Did is currently supporting research projects at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago and Boston Children’s Hospital in Massachusetts. In addition, the DDF is an advocacy partner to the North American SUDEP Registry, which is based at the Langone Medical Center at New York University. As part of its mission to



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prevent deaths caused by seizures, the DDF has assisted families across 44 states and five countries in gaining access to monitoring devices that help to compliment their other treatments for epilepsy.

McAteer holds a BA in public relations from the University of Dayton and an MS in public service administration from DePaul University. She first joined the Danny Did Board of Directors in April 2013, and lives with her husband and their young daughter in Chicago.

***For more information:***

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**About Danny Did Foundation**

Founded by Chicagoans Mike and Mariann Stanton in January 2010 after the death of their four-year-old son Danny, the Danny Did Foundation works toward its mission to prevent deaths caused by seizures with these main goals in mind: advancing public awareness of Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP), enhancing the SUDEP communication model between medical professionals and families afflicted by seizures, and the mainstreaming of seizure detection and prediction devices that may assist in preventing seizure-related deaths. We view these devices as complimentary to medicinal, surgical and dietary measures that are used to treat seizures. Epilepsy impacts nearly three million people in the United States and 65 million people worldwide. **One in 26** Americans will develop epilepsy over their lifetime. Seizures can sometimes be fatal from a range of causes; more people die as a result of seizures than from fires and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) combined. Thousands of deaths occur annually from SUDEP, status epilepticus (prolonged seizures), and other seizure-related causes such as drowning and other accidents. Find more information at [www.dannydid.org](http://www.dannydid.org), [www.facebook.com/DannyDid](https://www.facebook.com/DannyDid) and [www.twitter.com/dannydidorg](https://www.twitter.com/dannydidorg). The name of the foundation originates from the last line of Danny's obituary, written by his dad: *"Please go and enjoy your life. Danny did."*

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Danny Did Foundation

PO Box 46576, Chicago, Illinois 60646

Danny Did Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit incorporated in the State of Illinois

Please remember Danny Did Foundation in your will or estate plan

[www.dannydid.org](http://www.dannydid.org)