



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 26, 2017

Danny Did Foundation Co-Founders Honored with “Outstanding Community Leaders” Award

Chicago, IL - Mike and Mariann Stanton, co-founders of the Danny Did Foundation, will be honored at the Association of Fundraising Professionals’ 41st annual Philanthropy Awards Luncheon. Mike and Mariann will receive the Outstanding Community Leaders Award, presented to individuals for extraordinary leadership or advocacy resulting in significant change within the community.

Mike and Mariann founded the Danny Did Foundation in 2010 after losing their four-year-old son, Danny, to Sudden Unexplained Death in Epilepsy, (SUDEP). The Foundation - which works to prevent deaths caused by seizures through increased awareness and communication - takes its name from the last line of Danny’s obituary: “Please go and enjoy your life. Danny did.”

Each year, the AFP recognizes philanthropists that exemplify a standard of excellence and awards them for the dedicated contributions they have made to the community. Mike and Mariann will be receiving one of seven awards to be presented at the luncheon taking place May 5 at the Chicago Hilton.

“Every day we think of Danny and his beautiful smile. We started this Foundation to celebrate his life, and because we knew there was more to be done to help prevent this outcome for another family,” says Mariann. “We hope that this award will bring more awareness to the millions of families afflicted by epilepsy and help to increase conversation about detection and prevention.”

Mike and Mariann run the Foundation with goals to increase public awareness of SUDEP, enhance the communication between doctors and families of epilepsy patients and mainstream the use of seizure detection and prediction devices. The Danny Did Foundation collaborates with physicians, researchers, medical technology companies and epilepsy organizations to present themselves as an outlet for patients and pursue the latest innovations in seizure detection technologies.

“Thanks to the hard work of our team and our loyal community of supporters, we’ve been able to provide seizure monitoring devices, which can often be lifesaving, to families across the country,” says Mike. “We hope that the Danny Did Foundation will be able to continue to mainstream the use of these devices because in our minds, there is no such thing as too much prevention.”

Mike and Mariann are grateful for this recognition from the AFP and hope that this award shines a light on the important work being done by the Danny Did Foundation. They are confident that with time, passion and the help of the Danny Did Foundation supporters, they will succeed in their mission to prevent deaths caused by seizures.

About Danny Did Foundation

Founded by Chicago parents Mike and Mariann Stanton in 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 affected 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 affects nearly 3 million people in the United States and 65 million people worldwide. For more information please visit www.dannydid.org.

###