



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

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **Margaret Storey Joins Danny Did Foundation Board of Directors** *Chicago-based Nonprofit Works to Combat Epilepsy and SUDEP*

**April 14, 2015 – Chicago, Ill.** – The Danny Did Foundation, a Chicago nonprofit focused on increased awareness of epilepsy and sudden unexpected death in epilepsy (SUDEP), has announced Margaret Storey as a new member of its Board of Directors. She comes to epilepsy advocacy as the parent of daughter with Aicardi Syndrome, a rare and debilitating condition that causes early-onset, intractable seizures as well as a range of developmental and physical disabilities.

Storey is an Associate Professor in the History Department at DePaul University in Chicago. She is the author of numerous historical publications, as well as opinion pieces about medical marijuana, special education, and disability rights. She has been published in The Guardian online, the Motherlode Blog at The New York Times, and the Chicago Tribune. Storey has worked tirelessly to advocate for the legalization of medical marijuana for children with epilepsy in Illinois.

“We have so many opportunities to make progress in epilepsy understanding and the prevention of SUDEP, and I’m excited to work towards that in partnership with Danny Did,” said Storey. “My daughter is my everyday motivation to instigate near term improvements to the therapies and solutions that are available to families who face epilepsy.”

“We’re grateful to Margaret for joining our board of directors,” said Tom Stanton, Executive Director of the Danny Did Foundation. “Her perspective as a mother, her talents as a writer, and her knowledge of public policy will help Danny Did to have a bigger influence on issues that impact people and families who face epilepsy.”

As part of its mission to prevent deaths caused by seizures, the DDF has assisted families across 48 states and seven countries in gaining access to seizure monitoring devices that help to compliment their other treatments for epilepsy. In addition, Danny Did is currently supporting research projects at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago and Boston Children’s Hospital in Massachusetts, and is a partner to the North American SUDEP Registry at New York University.

Storey received her PhD in United States History from Emory University in 1999, and a BA from Macalester College in 1991. She is the past president of the Family Advisory Board and current member of the Public Policy Committee at The Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago.



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***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)