

BRINGING ATTENTION TO SDS

Anthony's Journey

by Gina & Christian Del Ré

Anthony and his big brother, Nicholas, were officially drafted as part of the College of Staten Island's Men's Soccer Team, the CSI Dolphins. Anthony was chosen by an organization called Team Impact. Children with life-threatening illnesses and fighting big battles are inspiring the lives of young men who want to be a part of his life and have an "impact" to help bring happiness and awareness to his rare disease. Nicholas, being the sibling, is



treated just as special and important. The boys were immediately greeted by every person on the team individually, were brought onto the field to practice, and introduced during the start of the game. When we got to the field, every single player lined up to greet all of us at the gate and were clapping for the boys, like they were celebrities. The bond they already have with the guys is incredible. Anthony knows their names and numbers and we have even begun going to the other college sports games along with the men on the soccer team. This partnership has done more for them than they realize, but we as parents are eternally grateful. The coach has already scheduled an SDS Awareness night for next season where the college will help in raising awareness and funds for SDSF!!

http://www.silive.com/sports/index.ssf/2017/10/inspirational_athlete_five-yea.html

Everyday Hero-Mom

by Jenni Wachter

“I’m Not a Hero...I’m Just a Mom.” This was my response when I received a phone call from the local news station in October explaining that I had been nominated as an “Everyday Hero” for my efforts in raising awareness for the bone marrow registry and Shwachman-Diamond Syndrome. Although I was nervous to be interviewed and to have the story be aired on the news, I knew that this opportunity was another means to explain SDS and encourage people to join the bone marrow registry as potential donors. All SDS patients need a cure and some of them need bone marrow donors to survive—so I’ll continue to fundraise, design t-shirts to raise awareness, and host and volunteer at bone marrow drives!



<http://www.kfv12.com/story/36692004/everyday-hero-jenni-wachter>

Team Impact by Mary Balint

We absolutely love the positive attitude and the loving care that the Stony Brook Women's Soccer Team have given us. The entire team goes well above and beyond for Rylie.



<http://www.stonybrookathletics.com/news/2016/10/21/stony-brook-welcomes-rylie-to-the-womens-soccer-program.aspx?path=wsoc>