



Canadian Cystic
Fibrosis Foundation



Taking Steps to Cure Cystic Fibrosis

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brady bunch to take strides for cystic fibrosis

Join the Toronto & District Chapter of the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CCFF) at the first annual Great Strides™ Walk on Sunday, May 29. Take steps to to cure cystic fibrosis (CF)

TORONTO, ON (May 27, 2005) – Caitlyn Brady, 12, was diagnosed prenatally with CF. On Sunday, May, 29th, she will take another brave step in the fight against cystic fibrosis (CF) by participating in the Great Strides™ Walk at the Toronto Zoo.

Caitlyn knows only too well that her disease is still fatal: her sister, who passed away at the tender age of eight, also had CF. But she finds solace in the hope that research will find a cure for CF in her lifetime. Caitlyn and her mother will join the Great Strides™ Walk to do their part to make her hope a reality.

The Brady's loss and Caitlyn's disease have inspired the family to work tirelessly to raise funds for cystic fibrosis research. Caitlyn's mother, Sheilah Brady, is a dedicated member of the Foundation and hopes their commitment will inspire others to join the 30 different walks taking place across the country.

“There are thousands of families who need a cure to save their loved ones,” said Sheilah Brady. “Please bring the dream a step closer and make the hope a little stronger by joining the Great Strides™ Walk.”

Walk registration at the Toronto Zoo begins at 8:30 a.m. and runs through to 2 p.m. Walk participants receive free admission to the Zoo (with a minimum of \$25 in pledges per person), free lunch, a loot bag for children and a live performance from the PBS children's television sensation, Caillou & friends!

Caitlyn doesn't let CF hold her back from enjoying life. Like most 12 year olds, she enjoys watching the Simpsons, eating sushi, hanging out with her friends and horseback riding. Caitlyn must endure a daily routine of physical and inhalation therapy and must also consume a large number of pancreatic enzymes with every meal and snack. However, she doesn't let the ongoing treatments stop her from having big dreams for the future. She'd love to become an equestrian or a physicist.

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“We are counting on a strong participant turnout and significant support from our sponsors,” said Ron Anderson, Toronto & District Chapter volunteer President. “History tells us that we are making progress – but we all need to be involved in this final leg of the race. I know together we can take steps to cure cystic fibrosis”.

Since 1986, CCFE volunteer chapter members have been teaming up with community partners to participate in an annual walk, to raise funds for the CCFE’s fight against CF. New this year, the CCFE is pleased to bring the Great Strides™ campaign, which has been successful since 1989 in the U.S., to Canada.

For more information about the Great Strides™ Walk at the Toronto Zoo visit www.cfftoronto.ca. From your personal Great Strides™ home page, you can send emails to others, inviting them to pledge you in support of the fight against CF. Secure online donations can be made with most major credit cards.

Proud Partners and Corporate Sponsors of the Great Strides™ Walk are: Hbc, Siemens Canada Ltd, Kin Canada, Pizza Pizza, Schneiders, Crispy Minis and Quaker Oatmeal to Go Bars and Brinks.

CF is the most common, fatal, genetic disease affecting young Canadians. It attacks the lungs and the digestive system. The CCFE is a Canada-wide health charity, with more than 50 volunteer chapters, which funds cystic fibrosis research and care. The Foundation is a world leader in the fight against CF. The gene responsible for CF was identified in 1989 by a Canadian-led team of researchers supported by the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Canadian investigators continue to play a leading role in the worldwide race to find a cure or control for the disease. When the CCFE was established in 1960, most children with CF did not live long enough to attend kindergarten; today half of all Canadians with CF may be expected to live into their late 30s, and beyond.

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For more information and/or to arrange an interview, please contact:

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