

2nd Annual

BRAIN STORMS:

Bringing Epilepsy
Stigma out of
the Shadows

Saturday,

November 10, 2007

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Eugene M. Hughes
Metropolitan Complex
5015 E. 29th Street N.
Wichita, Kansas

The focus of this conference is on improving public acceptance and understanding of people with epilepsy, to...

**Create a community
where those with
epilepsy can come
out of the shadows**

For more information
call 316-943-1191.



and public awareness campaign.



A patient education conference



BRAIN STORMS:

Bringing Epilepsy Stigma out of the Shadows

**Saturday,
November 10, 2007**

9:30 a.m. • Registration, Breakfast & Visit Exhibits

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. • Exhibits Open

10:00 a.m. • General Session I: Self-Help Network: Role of Support Groups
Dr. Greg Meissen, PhD, Self-Help Network, Wichita State University

10:40 a.m. • General Session II: Overcoming Epilepsy's Mental Challenges & Stigma
Pat Gibson, MSSW, Associate Director, Comprehensive Epilepsy Program, Wake Forest University

11:20 a.m. • General Session III: Becoming an Epilepsy Advocate
Bryan Griffin, Advocate; Sherry Fortier, Advocate; Christy Parker, Advocate

Noon • Lunch & Visit Exhibits

12:30 p.m. • Meet & Greet

1:00 p.m. • General Session IV
Bringing Epilepsy Stigma Out of the Shadows
Angelia Paschal, MEd, PhD, Kansas University School of Medicine, Wichita

1:40 p.m. • Workshop Breakout A (*Choose one track*)

Pediatric Track: Overcoming the Challenges of Childhood Epilepsy
Sherry Fortier; Lena Heflin, Advocate;

Adult Track: Workplace Issues and Vocational Rehabilitation
*Bob Hamilton, Voc-Rehab Counselor, State of Kansas SRS
Becky Smith, Job Placement Specialist, JobForce, Employment Solutions, Inc.,
Emporia, KS*

General Track: Management of Epilepsy: Drugs & Devices
Keith Trevolt, ARNP, Via Christi Comprehensive Epilepsy Center

2:20 p.m. • Break & Visit Exhibits

2:30 p.m. • Workshop Breakout B (*Choose one track*)

Pediatric Track: Advocating in the Schools
*Schandra Banks, Advocate; Sherry Fortier; Lena Heflin;
Valerie Wall, Coordinator, The Arc of Sedgwick County Circle of Friends*

Adult Track: Management of Epilepsy in Women
Pat Gibson, MSSW

General Track: The Dual Challenges of Depression & Epilepsy
Ashan Khan, MD, Kansas University School of Medicine, Wichita

3:10 p.m. • Q&A Presenter Panel

3:30 p.m. • Adjourn

Who Should Attend

Persons with epilepsy, their family members; as well as nurses, teachers, social workers, and counselors will all benefit from this educational event. Attendees will find answers, gain solutions, and meet others affected by epilepsy. General session and breakout workshop tracts have been designed to meet the needs of this diverse audience. There is no fee to attend the conference. Please help us by registering prior to the event. Early registration helps to ensure we will be able to accommodate everyone attending.

Conference Sponsors and Supporters



We gratefully acknowledge the partial support of the Brain Storms conference,



By educational grants from:



Via Christi

UCB Pharma

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Via Christi Wichita Health Network

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WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

From these partners and sponsors:

WSU Self-Help Network Center for

Community Support & Research

The Via Christi Comprehensive Epilepsy Center

Marriott's Courtyard at Old Town



Hotel Lodging

Please call the official conference hotel **Marriott's Courtyard in Old Town**, (316) 264-5300, to reserve a room. Be sure to indicate you are with the Epilepsy Brain Storms Conference to receive the conference special rate.

Through the efforts of epilepsy organizations and campaigns like *Brain Storms* the stigma of epilepsy is slowly fading from the public's perception. There is still much work to do. For decades, patients and their families have been afraid to discuss epilepsy in public for fear of being defined by the disorder. Today more persons affected by epilepsy are choosing to step out of the shadows and discuss the disorder with family and friends. Tolerance begins with education. Epilepsy Resource Connection encourages you to be a part of the movement and to refuse to stay in the shadows!



“Don't be ashamed to have epilepsy. The more open you can be about it, the easier it is to deal with it.

The more you bottle things up, the harder it is.”

—Katie, a 16 year-old with epilepsy

The time has come for people with epilepsy to step out of the shadows of ignorance and social stigma, and for the disorder to be drawn out of the shadows of public health priorities. Every person with epilepsy can make the choice to no longer be stigmatized by the condition of epilepsy. We strive to enlighten the public about the condition and erase their fears about reacting when someone has a seizure.



Bringing Epilepsy Stigma Out of the Shadows ...

focuses on promoting the quality of life for those with epilepsy and helping others in the community better understand the complexities of living with epilepsy. No one should fear persons with epilepsy.

Faculty:

Patricia A. Gibson, MSSW

Assistant Professor, Department of Neurology,
Associate Director, Comprehensive Epilepsy Program, Wake Forest University
School of Medicine, Baptist Medical Center, Winston-Salem, NC

Ashan Khan, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences,
University of Kansas School of Medicine–Wichita,
Director, Via Christi Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic, Wichita, KS

Greg Meissen, PhD

Professor, Department of Psychology
Director, Self-Help Network: Center for Community Support & Research,
Wichita State University, Wichita, KS

Angelia M. Paschal, PhD, MEd

Assistant Professor, Department of Preventative Medicine and Public Health,
University of Kansas School of Medicine–Wichita, Wichita, KS

Presenters:

Bob Hamilton

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor,
State of Kansas, Department of Social &
Rehabilitation Services, Wichita, KS

Becky Smith

Job Placement Specialist, Job Force, Inc.,
Emporia, KS

Keith Trevolt, ARNP

Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Comprehensive
Epilepsy Center and Neurophysiology Laboratory
Via Christi Regional Medical Center, Wichita, KS

Valerie Wall

Coordinator, Circle of Friends,
The Arc of Sedgwick County, Wichita, KS

Advocates:

Schandra Banks, Wichita, KS

Sherry Fortier, Los Angeles, CA

Bryan Griffin, Wichita, KS

Lena Heflin, Haysville, KS

Christy Parker, Lawton, OK

Planning Committee:

Matthew K. Fullerton, *chair*

Kore Liow, MD

Colette Deeds-Conner

Bryan Griffin

Bob Hamilton, MA

Amy Seim

Michael Webb

Heidi Brandenberger

Epilepsy Resource Connection (ERC) is the primary non-profit organization serving those with epilepsy in south-central Kansas, and the primary non-profit epilepsy support organization located within the state of Kansas. ERC's mission is to provide support and counsel for individuals with epilepsy—and influence public acceptance and understanding within the community—through education and training that will enable them to achieve their highest level of independence and quality of life.

Learn more about ERC at www.arc-sedgwickcounty.org/erc.html

Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex
5015 E. 29th Street N., Wichita, Kansas

Directions To The Conference Facility

From I-135: Take exit 10 merging onto K-96 E to the Oliver St. exit. Turn RIGHT at Oliver Street proceeding south to 29th St. N. Turn LEFT at 29th Street and proceed east. The Hughes Metropolitan Complex is on the south side of the street.

From I-35 (KS Turnpike) Southbound: Take exit 53 toward K-96 E to the Oliver St. exit. Turn LEFT at Oliver Street proceeding south to 29th St. N. Turn LEFT at 29th St. and proceed east. The Hughes Metropolitan Complex is on the south side of the street.

From I-35 (KS Turnpike) Northbound: Take exit 42 toward US-54W merging onto I-135 North. Take exit 10A onto K-96 E to the Oliver St. exit. Turn RIGHT at Oliver Street proceeding south to 29th St. N. Turn LEFT at 29th Street and proceed east. The Hughes Metropolitan Complex is on the south side of the street.

Parking and Entrance "F" are located on the south side of the complex.



REGISTRATION

Registration is free and includes program, breakfast, lunch, refreshments and access to the vendor exhibits in our epilepsy resources area. Only individuals that pre-register will be eligible to win the prizes to be awarded during the conference.

Registration by October 26 is requested. We regret that seating, materials, and refreshments may not be available for on-site registrants.

Register on-line at:
www.epilepsybrainstorms.org

For more information call:
316-943-1191

Please reserve _____ seats. Number of persons attending luncheon: _____

I am a: patient caregiver family member health professional
 other _____

Please print your name EXACTLY as you wish it to appear on your name badge:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ E-mail _____

Will need additional name badges for these persons attending:

Name _____ Name _____

Name _____ Name _____

Please select the breakout workshops you plan to attend:

Workshop Breakout A (Choose one track)

- Overcoming the Challenges of Childhood Epilepsy (Pediatric)
- Workplace Issues and Vocational Rehabilitation (Adult)
- Management of Epilepsy: Drugs & Devices (General)

Workshop Breakout B (Choose one track)

- Advocating in the Schools (Pediatric)
- Management of Epilepsy in Women (Adult)
- The Dual Challenges of Depression & Epilepsy (General)

Please return completed registration form by
Friday, October 26

Fax to:
316-943-3292

Mail to:
Brain Storms Conference
Epilepsy Resource Connection
2919 W. Second Street
Wichita, KS 67203-5319