Hi Everyone!

I am very excited to bring you the first Kids Crew Newsletter! The Kids Crew is a new program from the Epilepsy Foundation that teaches kids how to give back and have fun at the same time. I would like to thank all of our new members for joining! I know that when kids get together, we can change the world.

This newsletter is not long and boring. In fact, it is the exact opposite. We have stories about kids just like you who have done something in the Kids Crew to make a difference, exciting events coming up that you can participate in, and some cool games to do as well! I hope that you enjoy helping others too.

Events

Join the Epilepsy Foundation’s Lemonade for Livy project by hosting a lemonade stand in your home town. Help us raise awareness about seizures and funds for epilepsy research. The event occurs yearly over the last weekend in July. It brings people from around the world together to give hope to those living with epilepsy and their families that new treatments will be discovered. It also let’s them know that they are not alone; that people care and the Epilepsy Foundation can help.

Ask your parents to help you go to epilepsy.com/lemonadeforlivy to register.

Epilepsy Facts

- 3 million Americans have epilepsy, including boys and girls and people of all races and ages. Seizures can start at any age, but often they begin before age 10 or after age 55.
- If you have seizures, you are probably not the only one in your school that does.
Meet Zoey

Zoey is a very happy 5-year-old little girl who loves to explore outside, attend Sunday School, play with her baby sister, and draw pictures to cover the entire fridge. She also loves play dates with her best friends. She is starting Kindergarten in just a few weeks and recently earned her very first Girl Scouts badge. Zoey has three kinds of seizures and none of them are stopped with medicine. She now takes two medicines - and has tried several other ones - but still has seizures almost every day. She and her parents are talking with doctors about trying other ways to stop her seizures, including a device called VNS Therapy.

Zoey has kept her fun and silly nature despite facing seizures daily. Even after all Zoey has been through, she hasn’t let the seizures take that sparkle from her eyes and she doesn’t let her epilepsy get her down. She wakes up every day just as happy as can be and she never lets her seizures get the best of her. She is truly amazing and now she wants to give back by hosting her own Lemonade of Livy stand this summer. She is such a joy and she keeps us all fighting to find that cure!

Make a Difference

Our 16-year-old brother, Jarin, has had epilepsy since he was 1.5 years old. We have had to get help for him when he has had a seizure. We remind him to take his medicine. We also stay home with him if our parents have to go somewhere, so he is not alone. Sometimes it can be hard when our parents are so focused on him because of his epilepsy.

Why is it important to participate in events?
We feel it is important for brothers and sisters to participate because epilepsy affects our whole family, not just our brother, Jarin. We have done many epilepsy walks. In April, we joined him at the National Walk for Epilepsy and Teens Speak Up (TSU) in Washington, D.C.

Why do you help your brother?
Helping our brother makes us feel good and like there is something we can do for him, since we can’t cure it or make epilepsy go away for him. Also, we have had to watch him have seizures, turn purple, and get help for him. This is very scary for us, yet we now know how to help others with epilepsy.

Hold a stand before August 8th and you will be entered into our Kids Crew Lemonade for Livy contest to win a cool summer pack of awesomeness! Ask your parents to email the link to your lemonade stand page to Kids-Crew@efa.org after you have held your stand.

Newsletter Name Contest

Share your ideas for a name for the newsletter! Ask your parents to submit your suggestions to Kids-Crew@efa.org and voting will take place on Facebook to pick a winner! We will announce the contest winner and the newsletter name in the next issue.

“I MAY ONLY BE ONE PERSON, BUT I CAN BE ONE PERSON WHO MAKES A DIFFERENCE” — VADRA FRANCENE GRACE