

Travis R. Roy Sudden Cardiac Arrest Fund

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TavisRoy

This newsletter and The Travis R. Roy Sudden Cardiac Arrest Fund (The Travis Fund) have been created in honor of our son Travis who died at the age of 14 from a Sudden Cardiac Arrest. Our mission is to:

- Raise public awareness about Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA).
- Encourage at risk people to have heart screenings,
- Encourage people to learn CPR,
- Place Automated External Defibrillators (AED's) in California public schools and facilities.

About Travis

On May 20, 2005 Travis was three weeks away from graduation from the 8th grade when he collapsed at



Travis Roy 1990—2005

his middle school in Murrieta, California. He had suffered a Sudden Cardiac Arrest caused by a previously undiagnosed heart condition called Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy. He was eventually transported to Children's Hospital in San Diego by helicopter.

Travis spent a total of four weeks in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Children's Hospital. An MRI was taken to ascertain the extent of the damage to his brain. The MRI revealed massive brain cell death and damage.

Travis had gone 23 minutes without circulation after he collapsed. He was blind, he was completely paralyzed, he could not speak and he could not chew or swallow. Travis died a week later on June 25, 2005. He was 14 years old.

The Travis R. Roy Sudden Cardiac Arrest Fund (The Travis Fund) was created in memory of Travis. Our motto reflects our mission

"Raising awareness so others may survive"

Our Mission Begins

In September, 2005, just two months after Travis died, Bob approached the Murrieta Valley Unified School District and requested that they place Automated **External Defibrillators** (AED's) at all of their schools.



Thompson Middle School Nurse Barbara Schuman receives flowers from the Roy family and an AED donated by John and Rachel Moyer

In November the board unanimously approved a resolution to

implement an AED program district-wide. Rachel Moyer, who also lost a son to Sudden Cardiac Arrest, flew out from Pennsylvania for the meeting and donated an AED to Thompson Middle School nurse Barbara Schuman. On May 20, 2005 when Travis collapsed at school, Barbara performed CPR on him for 15 minutes until she was relieved by paramedics. After Rachel's presentation of the AED, the Roy family presented Barbara with a bouquet of flowers.

Murrieta Valley Unified School District implemented a unique AED program in a 3-2-1 format. There are 3 AED's at each high school, 2 at each middle school and one at each elementary school. At the urging of The Travis Fund, other neighboring school districts have also implemented AED programs using the 3-2-1 format. This format places AED's strategically on campuses so they are available for deployment within three minutes. So far, The Travis Fund has been responsible for the placement of 105 AED's in:

- Murrieta Unified School District
- Temecula Unified School District
- San Jacinto Unified School District
- Point Loma Nazarene University

Our goal is to see AED's placed in every public school and facility in California.



An Affiliate of:

Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Day

On August 30, 2006 the California Legislature unanimously approved ACR-159. This resolution created a

state-wide memorial day each September 12th (Travis' birthday) in honor of those like Travis who have fallen from, as well as those who have survived, a Sudden Cardiac Arrest event.

On September 12, 2006
Bob spoke to the Pasadena Police department outside the Rose
Bowl. They were gathered for a memorial run to officer Ballard who collapsed in 2005 and died from a Sudden Cardiac Arrest during a training run on the grounds of the Rose Bowl. In attendance that day was officer Ballard's widow and his three children.
Bob spoke to the department about Sudden Cardiac Arrest and informed them about Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Day.



Addressing the Pasadena Police Department at the Rose Bowl

tion about SCA Awareness Day to all the fire chiefs and staff from all over California. They in turn spread the word about SCA back in their communities.

In July, Bob spoke at a "Safety in the workplace" seminar at the American Red Cross headquarters in San

Diego. Bob was invited to tell Travis' story and to speak about Sudden Cardiac Arrest. In attendance were members of public agencies and private companies from the San Diego area who wanted to learn more about protecting their em-



Safety in the Workplace" seminar at American Red Cross in San Diego

ployees and visitors to their facilities.

On August 30th Bob had a one hour radio interview by Anton Sousa at the Clear Channel studios in Riverside, CA. Clear Channel has a one hour program each Sunday called "Community Spotlight". It addresses health and safety issues in the community and is broadcast on all their stations in Southern California.

Anton has a unique understanding of Sudden Cardiac Arrest as he is an ER nurse at Loma Linda Hospital. The interview, which covers Travis' story, Sudden Cardiac



Anton Sousa interviews at Clear Channel studios

Arrest, AED's and CPR, will be broadcast on the Clear Channel stations on a repeating basis through out the coming year.

Spreading The Word About Sudden Cardiac Arrest

In January, 2006 The Roy's (Bob, Diana and their son Justin) went to the first annual meeting of Parent Heart Watch. This is a nation wide group of parents who have lost a child or a loved one to Sudden Cardiac Arrest. The group was co-founded by Rachel Moyer (PA), Linnette Derminer (OH) and Laura Friend (TX). The Travis Fund is an affiliate of Parent Heart Watch. We all have the same goal in mind—to prevent any other families from experiencing the nightmare of losing a child or loved one to Sudden Cardiac Arrest.

Various members of Parent Heart Watch have been successful in persuading their respective state legislatures to implement mandatory AED programs. Most recently, Texas passed the most comprehensive AED program in the country. Every school there must have an AED, and CPR has become a graduation requirement. We hope to emulate that program in California.

In the mean time, we have taken to speaking to various groups spreading the word about the imminent threat of Sudden Cardiac Arrest. In May, we attended the California Fire Chiefs Association's annual meeting in Temecula. This was a great opportunity to pass out informa-

How You Can Help

- Learn CPR
- Ask your local school board and your elected officials to support placement of AED"s in schools
- Support our mission to place AED's in schools and public facilities

The Travis R. Roy Sudden Cardiac Arrest Fund (The Travis Fund) is a non-profit California corporation. If you wish to make a donation to support our cause, please make your check payable to: "The Travis Fund". Please mail your donation to: 42245 Via de los Fideos, Temecula, CA 92590.