



CROHN'S & COLITIS FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

GREATER NEW YORK CHAPTER

Chapter Newsletter

May, 2011

Annual Women of Distinction Luncheon Raises Over \$1.9 Million for the Greater New York Chapter!

On April 28th, over 800 people attended the annual Women of Distinction Luncheon at the Waldorf=Astoria Hotel to raise funds and awareness for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation. The CCFA honored celebrity jeweler, Lorraine Schwartz, Chapter Board member, Michele Sweetwood, and Rising Star, Lizzie Noble. Bergdorf Goodman presented the evening collections of Andrew Gn, Oscar de La Renta, J. Mendel, Alexandra Vidal, CD Greene, and Kaufman Franco.

The money raised at the luncheon will go to CCFA's mission critical programs. The foundation will use these funds to work toward finding a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis and improving the lives of those who suffer from these diseases.

(All photos by Rob Rich)



Ellen Crown, Jill Heller, Honoree Michele Sweetwood, Diana Williams, Michelle Swarzman, & Elyse Newhouse



Ciara & Honoree, Lorraine Schwartz



Rising Star, Lizzie Noble



Tina Knowles introduces Lorriane Schwartz



The Grand Ballroom at the Waldorf=Astoria Hotel



The Bergdorf Goodman fashion show

Message from the Executive Director:



The 18th Annual Women of Distinction Luncheon was an afternoon to remember! The room was bedecked in purple and lime, the guests were dressed to the nines, and best of all, over 800 people came together in support of the CCFA's efforts to conquer the devastating effects of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

This year's honorees touched the audience with their personal experiences of living with Crohn's disease, and their stories were surprisingly similar. The Rising Star recipient, Lizzie Noble, is a teenager who was recently diagnosed and adjusting to life with a chronic illness; the Woman of Distinction award recipient, Michele Sweetwood, has lived with the disease for many years and is a mother of two young girls.

They both conveyed a spirit of positivity, tenacity, and bravery that at times brought the audience to tears. Lizzie closed her speech saying, "Although my battle with Crohn's disease is far from over and my symptoms sporadic, I am happy to say that I am feeling good at this very moment. Through all the ups and downs, I have tried to face this disease with humor and spirit." Michele shared similar sentiments saying, "I still have my ups and downs but I don't let my Crohn's disease define me. I take care of my flare ups when I have to and carry on with my life. I try to make every day count."

A common trait among IBD patients is that we often suffer in silence. As part of the CCFA community, we can rely on each other and make a difference in the fight against IBD just as the Chairs of the Women of Distinction Luncheon have done for last 18 years. I hope you will all join me in congratulating the amazing efforts of the Chairs and Honorees. I hope it will inspire each of you to find your own way to fight back and make a difference!

Rhondel

Team Challenge Empowers Participant, Hayley Moore, in the Fight Against IBD



As a child, Hayley Moore learned first-hand the devastating effects of living with Crohn's disease, and it has shaped who she is today. When Hayley was diagnosed at only 12 years old, she was hospitalized for weeks at a time, underwent a battery of tests, and prescribed steroids. She succumbed to her first surgery at only 13. Though she was in remission after her operation, her disease soon returned.

Hayley was hospitalized again in college, and she credits experimental treatments with preventing another surgery. A few years later, during law school, she had another flare up which led to her second surgery in 2008. Now, she is thankfully in remission, but always knows that without a cure, a flare up could be around the corner.

"Crohn's may have made me crazy enough to think running 13.1 miles three weeks before my wedding is a good idea, but I'm not one to back away from a challenge! Today, I feel healthy enough to conquer those miles in the hopes of funding important research towards finding a long-overdue cure."

Wanting to make a difference for herself and every other IBD sufferer, Hayley and her fiancé Jared joined Team Challenge and are currently training with for the Wine Country Half Marathon.

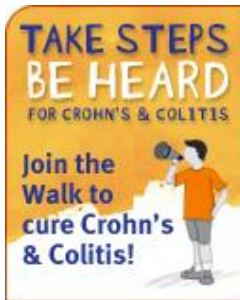


www.ccteamchallenge.org

Help Hayley and Jared cross the finish line this June by visiting their fundraising page at: <http://www.active.com/donate/virginia|nyc/TCHMoore>

Learn more about how YOU can cross the finish line with Team NY as we take on the Las Vegas Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon. Training begins this summer in Manhattan and Brooklyn!

CCFA Greater New York Chapter Upcoming Events:

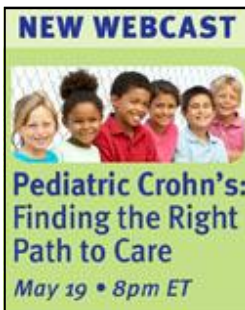


**Take Steps Walk—June 11, 2011
South Street Seaport!**
It's not too late to register for the Manhattan Take Steps walk!
Raise critical funds for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation!
To register, contact Danielle Thibault:
212-679-1570 ext. 7133; dthibault@ccfa.org.
www.cc.takesteps.org/nyc

May 11, 2011: Take Steps FUNdraising Clinic: All Things Fundraising and Matching Gifts, 6:30 PM

386 Park Avenue South, 14th Floor

Contact Danielle Thibault, 212-679-1570 ext. 7133; dthibault@ccfa.org.



<http://www.ccfa.org/webcasts/pediatriccd>

May 16, 2011: Young Professionals Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM

386 Park Avenue South, 14th Floor

Contact Liz Sylvan, 212-679-1570 ext. 7137 lsylvan@ccfa.org

May 17, 2011: Understanding Inflammatory Bowel Disease: What every patient needs to know, 8:30—10:00 PM

With Dr. Jeffrey Ben-Zvi

Parcare Health and Medical Center

445 Park Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11205

Contact Sergio Seijas: 212-679-1570 ext. 1 or sseijas@ccfa.org

May 19, 2011: CCFA Theater Club presents, "Catch Me if You Can," 8:00 PM

Support the CCFA and see a show! \$350 for two tickets

Contact Ed Muñoz at 212-679-1570, ext. 2 or emunoz@ccfa



**May 20, 2011: 1st Annual CCFA Teen Event, FEATURING JAY SEAN
7:00 PM—11:30 PM**

Space: 491 Dean Street, Englewood, New Jersey

Teen tickets, \$35; Adult tickets, \$150

<http://online.ccfa.org/teen>

May 28, 2011: "Pain in the Butt" CCFA benefit performance, 8:00 PM

11-05 44th Road, Long Island City, Queens, www.benmorrison.org/rsvpny



June 6, 2011: Annual CCFA Golf Classic,

Deepdale Golf Club, Manhasset, New York

For more information, contact Ed Muñoz at 212-679-1570 ext. 2 or emunoz@ccfa.org.

June 21, 2011: Understanding Inflammatory Bowel Disease:

What every patient needs to know, 6:30—8:00 PM

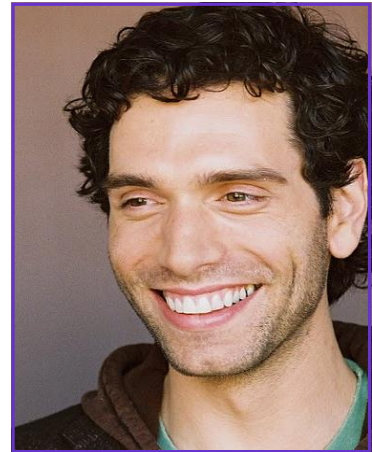
With Dr. Barry Jaffin

New York Public Library, Todt Hill Branch 2550 Victory Blvd. Staten Island, NY 10314

Contact Sergio Seijas: 212-679-1570 ext. 1 or sseijas@ccfa.org

Volunteer Spotlight: Ben Morrison

Actor and comedian, Ben Morrison, was diagnosed with Crohn's disease when he was a senior in High School. Since then, he has used his experiences with the illness to help others. Ben spent three summers at Camp Oasis teaching kids with IBD theater and improv. He believes that humor can help people deal with the challenges of chronic illness. To that end he has spent time reaching out to patients and, he says, "teaching them to use laughter to deal with their disease." A regular on the stand-up comedy circuit, he has written a one-man show about living with IBD, "Pain in the Butt." He uses the show to raise money and awareness for CCFA, and will be performing it the Queens Fringe Festival on May 28th. A percentage of the proceeds will go to the Greater New York Chapter. For more information and to purchase tickets for the performance, go to: <http://benmorrison.org/rsvpnyc>



Ben Morrison

Having a birthday, getting married, or love to plan parties?
Doing an Ironman, a triathlon, or love to do push-ups?
Contact us to find out how you can use your own events to raise crucial funds for the CCFA

Featured patient education event:

Understanding Inflammatory Bowel Diseases: What Every Patient Needs to Know

Join one of our FREE, interactive events for patients, families & caregivers.

Each session will be facilitated by a leading NYC Gastroenterologist!

To register, contact Sergio Seijas: 212-679-1570, Ext 1 or sseijas@ccfa.org

May 17, 2011: 8:30—10:00 PM

With Dr. Jeffrey Ben-Zvi

Parcare Health and Medical Center
445 Park Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11205

June 21, 2011: 6:30—8:00 PM

With Dr. Barry Jaffin

New York Public Library, Todt
Hill Branch
2550 Victory Blvd.
Staten Island, NY 10314

July 12, 2011, 7:00-8:30 PM

With Dr. James Marion

Central Queens Y
67-09 108th Street
Forest Hills, NY 11375



Join Team Challenge Cycle, CCFA's newest addition to our endurance training program. We'll provide you with all the training and fundraising tools you'll need to cross the finish line at Centurion Canada, a 50 mile cycling event on September 18. Registration opens in May, so

don't miss your chance to be a part of the team!

Cyclists receive professional coaching from Melissa Spooner, three-time Ironman champion. "Coach Mel" also has a B.S. in Nutrition and years of coaching experience to make sure each athlete, whether novice or experienced, is ready for race day in Ontario.

Challenge yourself to change a life and join Team Challenge Cycle!