

A
Fifth
SEASON
Brightening the landscape of
BATTEN DISEASE



February 2, 2012

Hello,

Batten disease has become a part of our lives. We didn't ask for it. We certainly didn't want it. Most of us had never even heard of it. But now it has ravaged the lives of a family member, a friend, or a neighbor. And sadly, they are not alone.

In the Chicago area, there are now five children under age 8 whose bodies are shutting down as they bravely fight Batten disease. The five children are fighting what is known as **Late Infantile Batten disease**, an extremely rare, degenerative genetic disease. For the first few years, the kids developed normally, toddling, talking, and laughing like any other kids. **Jasper (7)** loved to explore... **Bridget (7)** always wanted to go-go-go... **Ethan (7)** had a passion for all things transportation related...**Noah (7)** loved playing with trains...and his sister **Laine (6)** adores playing dress up.

Unfortunately, everything changed quickly. Between the ages of two and six, the children began to lose muscle coordination and experience seizures. Within a few years, they began losing their ability to speak, walk, and feed themselves as their little bodies slowly shut down. Some of these five children are now fed with feeding tubes, and are in wheelchairs. Most can no longer speak. At this time, Batten disease is terminal between the ages of 8 and 12.

If only there were more hours in the day, or a fifth season in the year, we would have more time to find a cure. And we would have more time for each of these special children to experience a childhood before Batten disease ruthlessly rips it away. **It is time to find a cure. It is our turn to help.**

We, along with Partnership for Cures are hosting our 2nd Annual Benefit to fund research on behalf of all five children, called "***A Fifth Season.....Brightening the landscape of Batten Disease.***" A casual gala for a serious cause, the event will be held on Saturday, May 5, 2012, at 5:00pm at the Cotillion Banquets in Palatine, Illinois.

The Fifth Season fundraiser will provide a big benefit experience with a relaxed atmosphere, featuring fantastic live music, special appearances, an impressive live and silent auction, and an extensive appetizer, dessert, and open bar.

This is where we need your help. May we count on your in kind donation as we prepare for another successful fundraiser? Your generous donation will not only help these very special children, but will also position your businesses in front of thousands of potential customers and clients. We welcome any marketing material you would like to share with our guests during the evening of the event.

All funds that are raised will go to the Batten LINCL Research Fund at **Partnership for Cures** (Chicago, IL) a **501(c)(3) nonprofit organization** that will use those funds for research specific to the type of Batten disease that these five children are fighting. Below is an excerpt from the press release that was just issued describing the partnership.

"Noah's Hope, Hope 4 Bridget, and Jasper Against Batten To Collaborate with Partnership 4 Cures

CHICAGO (January 16, 2011) — Three Chicagoland LINCL-Batten disease family foundations have partnered to raise funds to support research for a cure. The three foundations: Noah's Hope, Hope 4 Bridget, and Jasper Against Batten, will raise money, pool funds, and make decisions about which research projects to support. This is the first time that three Chicagoland foundations have formally partnered to support research for Late Infantile Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinosis (LINCL-Batten disease)." To read more please visit www.4cures.org

On behalf of Partnership for Cures, and the many supporters of the families across the Chicagoland area, thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anmarie

Anmarie Farnaus
A Fifth Season Chairperson
AFifthSeason5@yahoo.com
630-746-2507

www.4cures.org

Federal ID # 20-3620169



**Please help us as we fight for a cure for Batten disease,
which first takes away childhood...and then takes away the child.**



A Fifth Season 2nd Annual Benefit – May 5, 2012

Please Provide a Separate Form for Each Item Donated

Short Description of Item

Estimated Fair Market Value \$

- I will send or deliver the item Item to be picked up by A Fifth Season Committee Member

Please be sure to have the item clearly marked with your name so that we are able to accurately acknowledge and record receipt of your donation.

Please submit paperwork and auction items by April 20, 2012

to Ronald Farnaus, c/o A Fifth Season
3007 Bloomfield Drive ~ Joliet, IL 60436

COMPANY NAME _____

COMPANY CONTACT _____

COMPANY ADDRESS _____

COMPANY PHONE NUMBER _____

COMPANY E-MAIL _____

Please retain a copy of this form for tax purposes. Your donation may be tax deductible. Consult your tax advisor to determine the allowable amount. Partnership for Cures is a non-profit organization with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.

For additional information, please contact Annie Farnaus at 630-746-2507 or e-mail AFifthSeason5@yahoo.com