



CdLS Foundation

Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation, Inc.
Reaching Out, Providing Help, Giving Hope

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WHS Grad Named as Communications Coordinator for National Nonprofit

Avon, CT (November 16, 2012)— The Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS) Foundation is thrilled to announce the appointment of Brenda J. Shepard as its new communications coordinator. Shepard will take over public relations, social media outreach and publications for the national nonprofit, located in Avon, CT.

“We’re excited to have Brenda as a part of our team,” said Marie Concklin-Malloy, Executive Director of the Foundation. “She brings energy, creativity and dedication to the organization and we look forward to seeing what we can accomplish together.”

Shepard, of Avon, CT, is a third generation Hampton native and a graduate of Winnacunnet High School.

“I’m both excited and humbled by this position,” said Shepard. “The Foundation is something I’ve grown to really believe in, and I am so glad to be able to serve families around the country in this capacity.”

Shepard, a graduate of George Mason University, began working for the university as an Admissions Representative in the New England area. Before joining the CdLS Foundation, Shepard worked at the Connecticut Science Center, in Hartford, CT, as a Marketing Associate. Some of her previous work experiences include internships at CNN’s “State of the Union” and “Reliable Sources,” and NBC’s “Meet the Press.”

For more information about the CdLS Foundation or to make a donation, call the CdLS Foundation at 800-753-2357 or visit www.cdlsusa.org.

About CdLS

Cornelia de Lange Syndrome occurs in about 1 in 10,000 births. An estimated 20,000 people in the U.S. have CdLS but remain undiagnosed and/or without support services. Individuals with CdLS range from mildly to severely affected, though most have similar physical characteristics including small size, hands and feet; thin eyebrows that meet in the middle; long eyelashes; an upturned nose; and thin, downturned lips. Some individuals have limb differences, including missing fingers or arms. Common medical problems include GERD, bowel obstruction, hearing loss, and congenital heart defects. Early diagnosis and intervention is essential to ensure proper management of related medical issues.

About the Foundation

Founded in 1981, the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation is a national family support organization that exists to ensure early and accurate diagnosis of CdLS, promote research into the causes and manifestations of the syndrome, and help people with a diagnosis of CdLS and their families make informed decisions throughout their lifetime.

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