

Contact: Marie Concklin Malloy, Assistant Executive Director
outreach@CdLSusa.org; 800-753-2357



Families clean out attics, basements to benefit children with Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS)

NATIONAL (May 25, 2010) – From Hawaii to Connecticut, yard sales take place Saturday, June 5, as part of the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS) Foundation’s second annual *Yard Sale Across America*, a nationwide event benefitting children with CdLS, a little known genetic condition.

“There’s no better reason to clean out your basement and attics,” says Liana Fresher, executive director of the CdLS Foundation, the national organization organizing the event. “Last year, 15 families in 12 states held yard sales raising more than \$10,000 in support of the programs and services the Foundation provides,” she says. “This year we hope to have every state represented.”

While many yard sales are taking place on June 5, they can be scheduled for any time this summer. For more information on the program and a free yard sale kit, contact Gail Speers at 800-753-2357 or events@CdLSusa.org.

About CdLS

CdLS is a genetic syndrome that 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. Although individuals with CdLS range from mildly to severely affected, most have similar physical characteristics: small size, hands and feet; thin eyebrows that meet in the middle; long eyelashes; upturned nose; and thin, downturned lips. Some individuals have limb differences, including missing fingers or arms, and partial joining of the toes. Common medical problems include gastroesophageal reflux, bowel obstruction, hearing loss, and congenital heart defects.

About the Foundation

Founded in 1981, the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation is a 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 make informed decisions throughout their lifetime. For more information, call 800-753-2357 or go to www.cdlsusa.org.

#####