



**I Will Hope, I Will Dream, I
Will Make a Difference:
Duchenne Muscular
Dystrophy Awareness Week
is February 13-18**

Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) is a progressive muscle disorder that affects 1 in 3,500 boys worldwide. It knows no boundaries and crosses into all cultures and races. Because the Duchenne muscular dystrophy gene is found on the X chromosome, the disorder manifests primarily in boys. Although many cases are genetically inherited, approximately 35% of all Duchenne muscular dystrophy cases are the result of a new random spontaneous genetic mutation. This means it could affect any family.

Boys diagnosed with DMD typically lose their ability to walk and need the assistance of a wheelchair beginning sometime between the ages of 10 and 14 years. Most lose upper body strength by their late teens, making the simplest of movements such as lifting a fork, using a pencil, or even turning over in bed very difficult. To date, there is no cure.

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Week is spearheaded by Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy (PPMD), a national nonprofit organization that is a key resource for those affected by Duchenne muscular dystrophy. Awareness Week purposely falls during the week of Valentine's Day because Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy wants to remind the world that YOUR HEART IS A MUSCLE, TOO! Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Awareness



Week efforts have grown steadily over the last three years, with families in 28 states and 6 different countries participating.



“Despite the high occurrence of Duchenne muscular dystrophy, raising awareness is one of our biggest challenges,” says Pat Furlong, executive director at Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy. “We hope doctors, parents, neighbors and communities learn more about Duchenne muscular dystrophy through our Awareness Week and join in our fight for a better future for our sons.”

This week represents a coming together of the DMD community and a concentrated effort to raise awareness and funding for all of those fighting Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

ABOUT PARENT PROJECT MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy, based in Middletown, Ohio, is a national organization founded in 1994. Its mission is to mobilize people in the United States and worldwide in collaborative effort to enable people with Duchenne and Becker muscular dystrophy to survive, thrive and fully participate within their families and communities into adulthood and beyond. Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy is the only organization entirely dedicated to



Duchenne and Becker MD. For more information, visit www.ParentProjectMD.org or contact Kimberly Galberaith at 201-944-9985.

ABOUT PTC'S COLLABORATION WITH PARENT PROJECT MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

PTC Therapeutics Inc. (PTC) and PPMD are collaborating to discover new drugs to treat DMD. PTC is committed to identifying new treatments for DMD patients and already has a drug in clinical trials (PTC124). Exciting progress has been made on the discovery collaboration, which encompasses efforts surrounding five targets believed to be medically relevant in DMD. For more information regarding PTC please visit:

www.ptcbio.com.

