

It is our 10th Anniversary

After just 10 years, The Focus Foundation is recognized as one of the global leader in the field, working with the largest cohort of children with XY chromosomal variations in the world.
LOOK WHAT YOU HELPED US ACCOMPLISH!

A decade ago, testing was rare, families had little hope, and had few places to turn for accurate information and receive help. Today we are eliminating the stigma, destroying the myths and changing lives around the world:



- Many physicians, professionals and families who once believed that boys with XXY were slow to learn, impaired in life and dependent on their families now understand that these boys have a hormonal deficiency that is **treatable. AND, early is better!**
- Non-verbal children with 48, XXXY and 49, XXXXY who have received treatment are **verbal and talking -- often and well!**
- Teenagers who have been part of our group since infancy are playing sports, entering college, and assuming leadership roles in school ;

Physicians, clinicians, and families from England to Australia are requesting international clinics and conferences to help families and their health care providers understand our disorders.

The Next Ten Years

- A continued and aggressive focus on research and publications to accomplish universal adoption of Testosterone treatment as Standard of Care for boys with 47, XXY, 48, XXXY and 49, XXXXY;
- Expanded advocacy and awareness campaigns leading to routine prenatal and postnatal testing and moving from 25% diagnosis to 100%; and
- Widening access to treatment through national and international clinics, collaboration, and support for families so that every child can achieve independence.
- Without your help, we could never have accomplished so much. Thank you! We hope that you will consider donating this year as we forge ahead to change the care of children throughout the world with XY disorders, dyslexia and dyspraxia.



This year is the 5th anniversary for Oktoberfest. On October 15, join us at the Crystal Tea Room in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from 6pm-10pm for some fun, a live auction, music, and prizes! Oktoberfest is organized by The Great Philadelphia Fundraising Committee for the Focus Foundation. This year the theme is "Masquerade." The Greater Philadelphia

Fundraising Committee for The Focus Foundation will host our 5th annual Oktoberfest: "Masquerade." The event will be held Thursday, October 15, 2015 from 6pm-10pm with an exclusive VIP reception from 5pm-6pm. This year, again enjoy the evening in downtown Philadelphia at the Crystal Tea Room with your friends and business associates. As always, live auction items including vacation get-aways, sports memorabilia, jewelry, and more will be available! It is sure to be another exciting evening for a worthy cause (with a few surprises). As underwriters of the event, we are committed to helping The Focus Foundation continue their mission to identify and help children with XY Chromosomal Variations, Dyslexia and/or Developmental Dyspraxia; *Because every child **deserves** the chance to succeed.*



For more information, and to purchase tickets:

http://www.eventbrite.com/e/oktoberfest-masquerade-the-focus-foundation-5th-annual-tickets-16647151077?utm_campaign=201308&ref=esfb&utm_source=Facebookinvitefor001

For our Twelfth Annual 49ers Conference for children with 49 XXXXY and their families, we wanted everyone to go home HAVING A DOZEN IDEAS. To achieve that goal, we had several fine presentations:

- Drs. Andrea Gropman, Carole Samango-Sprouse, and Laura Tosi **had a Panel Presentation - Where have we been? Where are we going?** We have seen 65 children who continue to return to share strategies, friendships and watch their children grow.
- Dr. Tamar Chansky, Author, **discussed Parenting Strategies to Reduce Worry and Anxiety in Children.** Dr. Tamar Chansky is a licensed psychologist, and the Founder and Director of the Children's and Adult Center for OCD and Anxiety in Plymouth Meeting, PA. She is the author of numerous books on the treatment of anxiety including the popular *Freeing Yourself from Anxiety Series: Freeing Your Child from Anxiety, Freeing Your Child from Negative Thinking, and Freeing Your Child from Obsessive Compulsive Disorder.*
- Ayesha Ganges, MA, CCC/SLP returned for a second year to present **How Can I Help My Child Who Has Childhood Apraxia of Speech: Effective Treatment Approaches.**
- Melissa Bilash gave an excellent presentation on how to obtain the OPTIMAL services for your children with the **Best IEP for Your Child**

Our conferences are for families to receive the most current and state of the art information from specialists! There were 12 specialists at our multidisciplinary clinic and families from all over the world. IT WAS GREAT SUCCESS FOR ALL!

We all agree with John Steinbeck: Ideas are like rabbits. You get a couple and learn how to handle them, and pretty soon you have a dozen.

European Conference for the 49, XY Community Our first annual international conference for the children with 49, XXXXY occurred in Forte dei Marmi, Italy on September 10-12. Numerous pediatric specialists interviewed all the families. Topics for the conference included childhood apraxia of speech, immunology, motor issues and being healthy and active in your home, and the phenotypic profile of 49ers. There were 11 families: 6 Italian, 3 from the Netherlands and 2 from England. The conference was translated and we have audiotapes in English and Italian available for a small fee. We left hopeful and enthusiastic that care for all children with XY disorders around the world is improving--step by step. "Arrividerci, until we meet again!"



Chocolate and Peanut Butter Acorns; need I say more? These are a perfect project for tiny fingers!

1. Melt 1/2 bag of Mini-Chips {5 second interval in the microwave, stirring really good each time }
2. Dip the flat end of the Hershey's Kiss into melted chocolate and top with a bite-size NutterButter.
3. Dip the flat end of a Mini-Chip into the melted chocolate and stick it to the NutterButter.

If your child has a peanut allergy, substitute the NutterButter for a Ritz Bitz!



As seen on Pinterest from buzzfeed.com