

Press Release

“A Night for STARS” A Success To Benefit STARS-US

Hollywood, Florida, June 10, 2008- ‘A Night for STARS’, hosted by the posh and popular SAS Martini Bar, was an evening to remember. Special ‘Star Martinis’ were served. Over one hundred guests enjoyed live music, entertainment from ‘Lips’ of Ft. Lauderdale, and a silent auction to benefit STARS-US.



Local resident and event chair, Dawn Holt planned the event to raise funds and awareness of Syncope conditions. Holt stated; “My involvement with STARS is a very personal one. I’ve suffered from Reflex Anoxic Seizures, a form of Syncope, since October of 2003. It is a life altering medical condition with no cure that affects not just the individual but also their family and friends. Unfortunately, not many Doctors or medical professionals know how to treat this or even diagnose these conditions. That is why I wanted to plan and host this event. It has brought awareness of this condition to those who otherwise had no idea what Syncope is.

Syncope affects a million and a half Americans each year. Syncope is the medical term for a faint or blackout caused by a sudden lack of blood supply to the brain. Tragically, more than 40% of Americans with Syncope are either misdiagnosed or go undiagnosed.

If you have Syncope, your life is turned upside down, you're prohibited from driving, and you could fall unconscious at anytime, perhaps even losing bladder control. The embarrassment and the anxiety can ruin lives yet, if diagnosed correctly, most patients can be simply and effectively treated.

Syncope is often dismissed as simple fainting, but for a significant number of individuals, the blackout is anything but simple. Complex Syncope (Reflex Anoxic Syncope or acute Vasovagal Syncope) often appear just like a "seizure" or "fit", this leaves many patients with a tragically incorrect diagnosis of epilepsy. It is very important to make sure that Syncope and epilepsy are distinguished from each other; this is a vital component of STARS educational effort around the world.

STARS is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization that is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and their families coping with Syncope conditions. STARS aims are to address the disadvantages, discrimination and stigma experienced by people living with these afflictions. STARS main focus is on educating and supporting sufferers, their families, the medical community and general public by offering a support system where they can obtain knowledge and understanding of Syncope conditions.

"It is my hope others will follow my example and host an event in their town. It is so important to increase awareness and if we are able to educate one or two people it is all worth it", stated Dawn.

For more information about STARS and Syncope call the STARS office at (843) 785-4101 or visit their website www.stars-us.org