

A CAUSE FOR A SWIM

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Dear Friend,

I am writing to you to ask for your support for a very worthy cause. That cause being research into a cure for epilepsy and other seizure disorders.

As you may or may not know, my connection to epilepsy is through my oldest daughter Sophia who was diagnosed with Epilepsy at age seven. Sophia is now nearly fourteen, and her particular form of epilepsy is controlled well with medicine, diet and rest. However, many other people afflicted with this disease are not so fortunate. For many others with epilepsy and seizure disorders, it can be debilitating and sometimes even fatal.

Epilepsy is a disease that is more common than one might think, but is often not talked about. According to the website www.Epilepsy.com, here are a few facts about Epilepsy;

- Epilepsy affects over 3 million Americans of all ages – more than Multiple Sclerosis, Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy, and Parkinson's Disease combined.
- In America, Epilepsy is as common as Breast Cancer, and takes as many lives.
- Epilepsy affects 50,000,000 people worldwide.
- One in 100 people will develop Epilepsy.
- One in 10 people will suffer a seizure in their lifetime.
- 30% of those diagnosed are children.
- Epilepsy can develop at any age and can be a result of genetics, stroke, head injury, and many other factors.
- In two-thirds of patients diagnosed with Epilepsy, the cause is unknown.
- In over 30% of patients, seizures cannot be controlled with treatment.
- Historically, epilepsy research has been under-funded. Each year NIH spends \$30 billion of medical research, but just ½ of 1% is spent on epilepsy.
- The Federal government spends much less on Epilepsy research compared to other diseases, many which affect fewer people.

I would like to see more research conducted to try to find a cure and better therapies for epilepsy. This requires funding. *I am on a personal quest to raise funds for this purpose, and I am asking for your help and support.*

The Challenge

I am an avid swimmer. During the month of October, I have made a commitment to swim every day for a mile or more. I hope to swim 30 to 50 miles during this 30 days. I am reaching out to friends, colleagues and business associates to ask for sponsorship for this effort. The sponsorship structure will be just like a walk-a-thon, except here you can sponsor me per meter, per lap, per mile or with a fixed one-time donation. There are options for individual, family and corporate sponsorships.

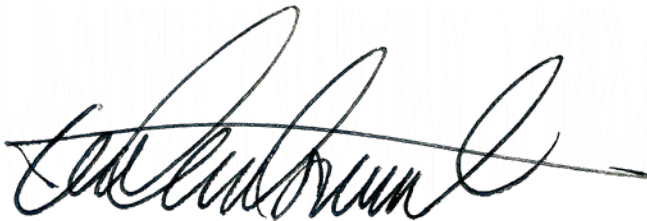
Please know that 100% of the funds raised will go directly to the Epilepsy Foundation of America. I will personally never receive any of the funds. Further, your donations are 100% tax deductible.

I have attached a form that you can fill out, scan and return to me by way of email, fax. However, I have also created a very modest website where you can make your commitment online. The website will track my progress towards these efforts and, if you choose to allow me, will list you or your company as contributor to this cause. Upon completion of my challenge, I will contact all those that have pledged with instructions on how to donate their contribution directly to the Epilepsy Foundation.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me directly by email or phone. My contact information is listed at the top of the first page, as well as the link for the website.

I sincerely appreciate your support and look forward to hearing from you.

Most Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Antenora", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Antenora
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PLEDGE FORM

Yes, I would like to pledge a donation:

- By Distance (Meters): \$ _____ per meter
- By Distance (Laps): \$ _____ per lap
- By Distance (Miles) \$ _____ per mile
- Fixed One-time Donation of: \$ _____

DONATION TYPE: **INDIVIDUAL** **FAMILY** **CORPORATE** (Please circle one)

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

COMPANY NAME (If applicable): _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER (with area code): (_____) _____

ADDRESS: _____

* Please fill out the form completely. Scan and email or fax it back to me (email is preferred), at the following address or fax number.

Email: acauseforaswim@icloud.com

Fax: (512)462-1849

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the same email address or the phone numbers listed.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!