

PATSA NEWS



learn more at www.patsainc.org



ADVOCATING FOR TOURETTE SYNDROME IN HARRISBURG

Did you know that "Tourette Syndrome" is a line-item in the Commonwealth of PA's annual budget? It's listed under the PA Department of Health between "Bio-Technology Research" and "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Support Services". It is one of several line-items under the PA Department of Health that provide grants to nonprofits and hospitals to support diseases such as epilepsy, lupus, and sickle cell anemia.

This dedicated funding has been in the budget since the 1990's and started as a mere \$3,000. Now the annual funding is \$159,000 and it helps to support all of the programs that PATSA offers. Without this funding, our services to families, schools and communities would suffer or even be eliminated!

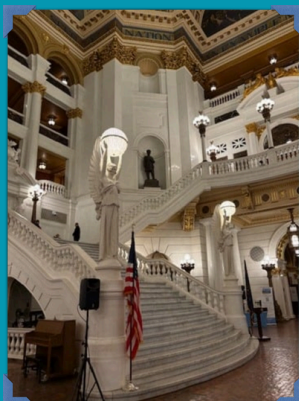
This is why we recruit volunteers to go to Harrisburg each year to make connections with our Senators and Representatives that have a hand in continuing that vital funding. It's the reason families and schools do not have a fee for

most of our services. Although we do have a charge for some special events, like Camp and Retreat, the full cost of these events are not borne by attendees and we are able to offer scholarships as well.

Through our meetings with Legislators, we are able to share what it's like to have Tourette syndrome. How the schools are supporting or not supporting each student. And how the PA Tourette Syndrome Alliance is able to offer training, education, and promote inclusion of students with Tourette.

We share information, reference materials and a poster that each Legislator can hang in their local offices so more people will become aware of our services.

In addition to reaching these influential people, it is extremely empowering to each attendee to share their stories and be a part of advocating for something they believe in! Please consider joining us next spring for our TS Awareness at the Capital.



TRAINING IMPACT

Over the last 6 months, (Nov - Apr) these schools and communities have received training on Tourette. Will your school or community be next?

Kissell Hill Elementary
Media Elementary
Rose Tree Elementary
North Catholic High School
Indian Lane Elementary
Ringing Rocks Elementary
Northside Elementary
PAMLE Conference
Northside School
Glenwood Elementary
Pinecreek Elementary
Tuscarora IU
Brookville Area HS
Wilson SD
Urban Academy of Greater Pittsburgh Charter School
Clayburg-Kimmel SD
Ellie Mental Health
Hanover Kiwanis Club
Lititz Elementary
Hickory Grove Elementary
Perry Elementary
Glenside Elementary
Tidioute Community Charter School
Greenwoods Charter School
Rockwood Area Elementary



TS FAMILY RETREAT

Our TS Family Retreat was held virtually on January 31, 2026! It was a fun day of connection where we played games and got to know each other. Crafts were made, conversations were positive and we ended the day with a fantastic Talent Show!.



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