

FIRST ANNUAL VISION DINNER

A TIME FOR AWARENESS. THE HOPE OF A CURE.

The Hydrocephalus Association's First Annual Vision Dinner, "A Time for Awareness; The Hope for a Cure," was held on October 11, 2013, in New York City at the Apella Alexandria Center. Generously hosted by Vicki and Craig Brown, major benefactors of the Hydrocephalus Association (HA), the evening united patients, neurosurgeons, scientists, advocates, and business leaders to raise the public profile of hydrocephalus and to share the need for greater research funding to cure the condition.

The evening debuted HA's *Reason for Hope* video that profiled the unique stories of members in our community. We would like to thank Stephen Brawerman, Jennifer Bechard Johnson and her husband Andrew Johnson, and Tanzanea Christian and her parents April and David and sister Zaire, for lending their voices, and Nikki and Brad Silver for providing funding to produce this powerful video. Attendees also had the opportunity to hear from two parents who are leading the way to further HA's research initiative and learn about the "hope" in progress, currently funded by the association.

Renowned pediatric neurosurgeon and 2012 MacArthur Foundation Fellow, Dr. Benjamin Warf, was the keynote speaker, sharing his revolutionary new surgical procedure to treat hydrocephalus in the infant population. The evening also honored three individuals for their tireless dedication to the elimination of the challenges of hydrocephalus through their affiliation with the Hydrocephalus Association. Paul Gross, Co-Founder, Hydrocephalus Clinical Research Network, received the Inspiration Award; Marion Walker, M.D., Professor, Neurosurgery, Primary Children's Medical Center, received the Service Award; and Emily and Russell Fudge, Co-Founders, Hydrocephalus Association, received the Leadership Award. United States Senator Charles E. Schumer and New York State Senator John J. Flanagan provided congratulatory letters praising the dedication of the awardees and the progress of the Hydrocephalus Association.

The Hydrocephalus Association would like to thank Craig and Vicki for their leadership and generosity in hosting this special evening to raise the profile of hydrocephalus and the important work of the Hydrocephalus Association for our entire community. For more information on how you can support HA's research initiative please e-mail hope@hydroassoc.org.



Honorees

2013 VISION AWARDS



PAUL GROSS
INSPIRATION

Paul Gross has played a critical role in the design and development of HA's research initiative, devoting time and securing significant resources to advance his work. He and his wife, Lori Poliski, who have two children - one with hydrocephalus - co-founded the Hydrocephalus Support Group and the Hydrocephalus Research Guild in their home state of Washington. Mr. Gross is one of 18 members of the NIH NINDS Advisory Council which helps set the strategy for the largest funder in brain science.



MARION WALKER, M.D.
SERVICE

Since 1976, Dr. Marion Walker has devoted his career to meeting the needs of the pediatric hydrocephalus community. As one of the founding members of the American Board of Pediatric Neurological Surgery and past president of the American Society of Pediatric Neurosurgeons, Dr. Walker is highly regarded by peers and is an inspiration to the next generation of neurosurgeons.



RUSSELL & EMILY
FUDGE
LEADERSHIP

Russell and Emily Fudge were introduced to hydrocephalus in 1981 when their son, Gerard Swartz Fudge, was diagnosed at age 11. As an outgrowth of their determination to learn more about the condition, they joined forces with other parents to establish the Hydrocephalus Association in 1983. During the association's formative years, Emily, Russell and fellow co-founder Cynthia Solomon worked tirelessly, with the help of many committed volunteers, to increase the amount of information available about hydrocephalus. Their tenacity in identifying and building a collaborative community - of parents, patients, medical professionals and industry members - evolved into an international force providing support, education, advocacy and research.

Milestones

2003 Hydrocephalus Database Project begins with the intent of identifying and tracking key issues facing individuals and families living with hydrocephalus.

2004 Emily Fudge retires as Executive Director.

2005 First NIH-sponsored workshop on hydrocephalus, Hydrocephalus, Myths, New Facts, Clear Directions, is presented with significant input from HA.

2006 First National Advocacy Day held in Washington, D.C. in conjunction with our 9th National Conference on Hydrocephalus, held in Baltimore, Maryland.