



To Whom It May Concern:

On October 22, 2011, Southern California Families will come together for a combined event. The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual SoCal Rett Family Picnic and 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual SoCal Strollathon will take place at El Dorado Park in Long Beach, CA. Proceeds from this event will go to the International Rett Syndrome Foundation (IRSF) to fund research and family support. By adding the Strollathon component we hope to increase the success of the event and raise even more awareness of this disorder.

Statistics now show that once every 2 hours a child is born with Rett. Rett is a debilitating neurological disorder that occurs almost exclusively in girls. It is caused by a random gene mutation and every baby girl born has an equal chance of acquiring it. There is typically a period of apparently normal development then those diagnosed with this syndrome experience severe problems with walking, talking and using their hands. They may also suffer from other complications such as seizures, scoliosis, GI problems and breathing abnormalities. In spite of these challenges these children are bright, cheerful and loving.

Thanks to the support of events like this, researchers have made amazing progress. IRSF is poised and ready to partner with these scientists to take the next crucial steps in finding a cure and treatments for Rett Syndrome. You can play a central and direct role in helping us reach our goals.

Please consider supporting us by sponsoring this event with a monetary donation or by donating items for the event or prizes for our drawing. For more information about Rett Syndrome please visit [www.rett syndrome.org](http://www.rett syndrome.org). IRSF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization (*Federal Identification #31-1682518*). All questions and concerns may be referred to **Sherri Brady at (562)619-0109 or sbrady0457@charter.net**.

Thank you for your consideration,

Paige Nues  
Director of Family Support

Sherri Brady  
IRSF SoCal Regional Rep