

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stop CMV - The CMV Action Network
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Second Annual Stop CMV Day at Chase Field in Phoenix, Arizona

June 1, 2010 -- Stop CMV and The CMV Action Network will be sponsoring its 2nd Annual Stop CMV Day at Chase Field in Phoenix, Arizona on Sunday June 13, 2010 at 1:10pm. Chase Field is home to the Arizona Diamondbacks, who will host the St. Louis Cardinals on game day. CMV families, along with children born affected with congenital CMV, will be in attendance at the game and will be available for interviews with the press.

“This second Diamondback event has one purpose and one goal—to raise awareness about the dangers of congenital CMV,” says Heather Key, Stop CMV Phoenix Area Representative and host of the event. “This will be the first time that many spectators hear about CMV,” says Janelle Greenlee, president and founder of Stop CMV and The CMV Action Network. “The more we can mobilize this message, the more we can prevent birth defects caused by CMV.” Greenlee and Key both are mothers of daughters severely affected by congenital CMV.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that 1 in every 150 children are born infected with congenital CMV. Each year in the United States alone, approximately 30,000 children are born with congenital CMV infection. The CDC reports incidence of congenital CMV as similar to that of Autism (1 in 150), and higher than Down Syndrome (1 in 3,357), Spina Bifida (1 in 2,500), and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (1.5 in 1,000). Congenital CMV causes deafness, blindness, cerebral palsy, mental and physical disabilities, seizures, and death. CMV is present in saliva, urine, tears, blood, mucus, and other bodily fluids and is most commonly found among healthy infants, toddlers, preschoolers and children who contract and carry the virus. CMV poses a major risk to pregnant women, especially mothers, daycare workers, preschool teachers, therapists, and nurses.

Since 2003, Stop CMV has been working to foster congenital CMV awareness via internet and public awareness campaigns. The mission of Stop CMV and The CMV Action Network is to prevent and eliminate congenital CMV and to improve the lives of all people affected by congenital CMV. Stop CMV and The CMV Action Network have over 100 Area Representatives and Parent Coaches in the United States. To contact an Area Representative near you, please visit www.stopcmv.org/contacts.php. If you do not see your area listed, please contact reps@stopcmv.org for assistance. For more information about Stop CMV and The CMV Action Network, please contact press@stopcmv.org.

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