



National Eating Disorders Association

603 Stewart Street, Suite 803 ~ Seattle, WA 98101

Mission: To support those affected by eating disorders and be a catalyst for prevention, cures and access to quality care.



The Child Performer Advisory Board of the NY Department of Labor, December 18, 2008

NEDA Salutes Activists, Supporters and Friends around the Country

Several years ago the theme of our conference was “It Takes a Team,” and as we enter a new year we are reminded once again that to successfully win the fight against eating disorders, it surely takes a team. NEDA is proud to serve as a conduit and clearinghouse, to provide information and materials for all the wonderful activists, supporters and friends around the country. But it is the work on the ground by caring individuals, state and local organizations that touches the people, and the soul. That is why as we enter the New Year, we salute all of you in your work: from individuals and groups to allied affiliations and coalitions.

There is always more work than can be done, but at the end of the day we stand on our common ground; making strides for individuals and families whose lives are linked by eating disorders.

In the New Year ahead, as we all shoulder these unprecedented economic conditions, we at NEDA fully recognize the significance of that conference theme. Its message is ringing even louder as we continue our collaborations for change.

One such example is the newly created **Child Performer Advisory Board of the NY Department of Labor** that held their first meeting on Thursday, December 18th, in response to the NYS Bill Number A4250A. It is hopeful that this board’s recommendations will be implemented by the Department of

Labor to help in the prevention and early intervention and treatment for minors in modeling careers and the performing arts who may be affected by eating disorders.

This Advisory Board is *yet one more* wonderful collaborative effort within the eating disorders field. Participants include NEDA Ambassadors Emme and designer Bradley Bayou; NEDA CEO Lynn Grefe; Ophelia's Place Founder and NEDA Network Member, Mary Ellen Clausen; representatives of NY's Comprehensive Care Centers for eating disorders, including Sondra Kronberg, Director of NEDA Long Island, Dr. Mary Tantillo, Dr. Julie Morrison, Dr. Evelyn Attia; Dr. Drew Anderson of SUNY Albany, and Dr. Keith Ayoob of Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

NEDA is grateful to all the Advisory Board members and welcomes new friends: Deborah Allton-Maher, American Guild of Musical Artists; Bob Boyette, Broadway Producer; Mary Daly, New York State Department of Education; Nancy Fox, Screen Actors Guild; Dr. Stewart Gabel, New York State Office of Mental Health; Dr. Linda Hamilton, Psychologist; Dr. Stanley Hertz, physician; Tamara Markowitz, Tamara Markowitz Talent; Barbara Metzger, New York State Department of Health; Rachel Moore, Executive Director, American Ballet Theater; and Alan Simon, President of On Location.

The board of directors, staff and volunteers of NEDA gratefully acknowledge all the various local and regional organizations working for change. We honor you and thank you. Additionally, many individuals are also collaborating with NEDA's States for Treatment, Access and Research (STAR) program to roll out the Patient's Bill of Rights. To our NEDA Network members and STAR State Leaders, we salute you! Of course we also thank all of our national partners for their efforts – the Academy for Eating Disorders (AED), International Association of Eating Disorder Professionals (IADEP), the National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders (ANAD) and the Eating Disorder Coalition (EDC).

We look forward to continued progress in the field that will lead to lasting change for individuals and families.

Sincerely,

The Board and Staff of the National Eating Disorders Association