



The Hemispherectomy Foundation Brain Matters Newsletter



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Free Individual Reading Evaluations at the

Hemi Foundation Conference and Family Reunion by Stella de Bode

The Hemi Foundation is excited to announce that Stella de Bode, Chief Scientific Officer and Director of The Brain Recovery Project, will be doing free Reading Evaluations on children who have undergone hemispherectomy at this year's Hemi Foundation Conference and Family Reunion in Baltimore. This will be a great opportunity for our families to take advantage of this wonderful service.

Please see the letter below from Stella.

Dear Families;

As you know, we have been collecting data on how our children acquire literacy skills. Reading, in particular, is a skill that has been singled out as the most significant predictor of the ability to lead independent life.

As a result of your help and participation we are very close to creating a Parental Guide accompanied by a Guide for Educators on what to expect and how to help individuals after hemispherectomy acquire reading most successfully and to their maximum capacity. The Guides will be different for different etiologies and sides of hemispherectomy.

To be fully accredited in the Literacy field I enrolled and completed my California certification as a Reading Specialist.

As such, I am in a position to recommend services to schools and educators that they are supposed to follow. Moreover, this fall we will be seeking a federal grant offering our kids 2 or 3 most promising reading interventions. We reached for the best educators at Harvard and MIT to find interventions that would use specific strengths of our kids. Depending on the needs we saw these interventions would be tailored to children who are having problems with learning to read (decoding, low-order skills) and those who can read but display difficulties with comprehension and critical reasoning as well as other higher cognitive skills.

This Reunion in Baltimore, just like last year, I would be available to test your child if s/he has spoken language and is 6 years or older. Every participant would receive a letter with strategies that can be used with IEP committees. If you are interested in participation in this and, in the future, reading interventions, please, contact me directly at sdebode@ucla.edu. You are also

welcome to participate if you have done so before and interested in your child's progress.

Much love, Stella

Stella de Bode, PhD
Chief Scientific Officer and Director
Brain Recovery Project
www.brainrecoveryproject.org



**Time is Running Out
Register NOW if you plan to attend!**

**The 2012 Hemispherectomy Foundation
International Conference and Family Reunion**

**July 6th, and 7th, 2012
at
The BWI DoubleTree Hilton Hotel
in Baltimore, Maryland**

You don't want to miss this year's conference and family reunion. We have an outstanding group of speakers from Johns Hopkins, Kennedy Krieger, UAB, and a chance for YOU to ask the doctors questions in the Doctor's Panel.



The 2012 Conference will be a good time for the kids and adults alike. Kids Camp will be available, so parents can enjoy the speakers without having to attend to the younger ones.

The conference will be a well-balanced mix of informative speakers, educational topics, and information geared specifically for families who have been impacted by Hemispherectomy Brain Surgery.

In a relaxed, family atmosphere, among other families just like yours,

you will be able to learn from others who have walked in your shoes.

You will hear from doctors, experts, and scientists who are leaders in the fields that impact your child. Most importantly, you will meet new friends and see old friends who will walk the journey with you.



Make this trip part of a family summer vacation, or come exclusively for the event, but don't miss it. This is also a great chance to schedule appointments at nearby Johns Hopkins, where your child may have had surgery.

Everyone is invited. It doesn't matter whether you are from the East Coast, West Coast, somewhere in-between, or on the other side of the world, we want you in Baltimore in July. The Hemispherectomy Foundation Team is putting together an affordable package so that everyone can make it.



Please register for the conference by printing off [The Registration Form](#), filling it out, and mailing it in.

The Hotel Hemi Foundation Rate is no longer available. You will have to pay full price if rooms are available.

BWI DoubleTree Hilton

Call (800) 222-8733.

More Information Available on :

[The Hemi Foundation Website.](#)

Your Hemispherectomy Foundation Team,
"Hope in One Hemisphere!"



Contact The Hemispherectomy Foundation

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Try it FREE today.