



-FACT SHEET-

In 2004, NJ Center for Tourette Syndrome & Associated Disorders, Inc. (NJCTS) received funding from the State of New Jersey to create a Center of Excellence that would provide programs and services to support families while utilizing collaborative relationships to educate the public, medical professionals and educators to ensure individuals with Tourette Syndrome and associated disorders are accepted, contributing members of their communities while supporting innovative research to develop diagnostic and treatment therapies and, ultimately, a cure.

Tourette Syndrome (TS) – An inherited neurobiological disorder characterized by the childhood onset of uncontrollable vocal and physical tics. 1 in 50 children exhibit symptoms of TS or other tic disorder. 83% of children living with TS have also been diagnosed with associated mental health disorders such as ADHD, OCD, Anxiety Disorders, and Learning Disabilities.

NJCTS provides:

- Medical referrals for medical diagnosis, treatment and psychological services
- Training to the next generation of medical professionals.
- Education outreach including faculty trainings and peer presentations
- Youth development opportunities and advocacy training
- Family connections through a retreat weekend and outreach events
- Educational webinars
- Research into the cause and treatment of TS

In 2007, NJ Center for Tourette Syndrome and Associated Disorders (NJCTS), in partnership with Rutgers University, established the NJCTS Cell & DNA Sharing Repository. The repository is the world's first sharing resource of clinical data and genetic samples from which all qualified scientists could draw for their research.

In 2014, NJCTS partnered legendary goalkeeper and TS advocate Tim Howard to launch the NJCTS Tim Howard Leadership Academy, a four-day intensive program for high school students diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome held at Rutgers. The Academy provides a positive, respectful, safe, and accepting environment centered on self-empowerment, self-leadership, self-advocacy, and resilience.