



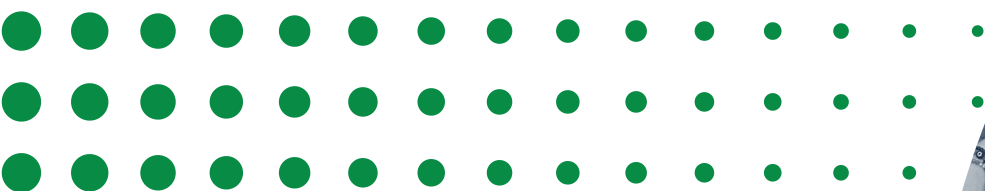
NJCTS

IMPACT 2023

Established as the nation's first Center of Excellence for Tourette Syndrome in 2004, NJCTS has made significant accomplishments that impact those living with Tourette Syndrome.

Clinical Services and Research

- In the early 2000s, the NJCTS Tourette Syndrome Clinic and Practicum Program at Rutgers University's Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology (GSAPP) was created to help give individuals and families a place they could seek treatment from knowledgeable clinicians. The TS Clinic is the nation's only university-based, stand-alone, student-clinician teaching practicum and clinic for the psychological evaluation and cognitive-behavioral treatment of TS in the nation.
- Four years into the program the TS Clinic was awarded the Rutgers President's Award for Innovation.
- Over 100 psychologists have been trained at the TS Clinic Practicum Program.
- In 2007, through a collaboration with Yale University, and funding from the state of New Jersey, NJCTS and Rutgers established the first Cell & DNA Sharing Repository. It became the world's first sharing resource of clinical data and genetic samples from which all qualified scientists could draw for their research. Prior to this, independent scientists had no access to large collections of DNA and clinical data to study TS.
- In 2011, the National Institute of Mental Health recognized the TS repository as an important federal research asset and funded its expansion. This led the Rutgers/NJCTS partnership to establish the Tourette International Collaborative Genetics (TIC Genetics) study, that includes 25 collection sites across the United States, Europe, and South Korea, in turn, making the Rutgers facility the world's largest sharing cell and DNA repository for Tourette Syndrome.
- NJCTS worked with New Jersey members of congress and helped draft and introduce the first federal legislation for TS. The Collaborative Academic Research Efforts (CARE) for Tourette Syndrome (bill H.R. 1131). This bill requires the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to expand, intensify, and coordinate NIH research on Tourette Syndrome. (This bill needs to be revisited.)





Other Collaborations

NJCTS and NYU Langone Health's Child Study Center designed a program to provide increased education, support, and treatment options to families affected by TS in New Jersey. This collaboration allows families to receive services provided through a graduate student training externship located at the Child Study Center's Hackensack, NJ office. Services, including CBIT, treatment for associated disorders, and neuropsychological evaluations, are offered at a significantly reduced rate.

Youth Development Program

- At the core of what we do is empowering youth to self-advocate. Our program takes youth across the state speaking at schools, colleges and community organizations spreading awareness of TS. NJCTS has trained approximately 70 dedicated advocates.
- The Tim Howard Leadership Academy helps youth develop self-advocacy and leadership skills and welcomes youth from all across the state who come together and share the challenges of living with Tourette Syndrome. Over the years, we have empowered over 150 young people.

Education Outreach

- With our in-service trainings at schools throughout the state, NJCTS has trained over 28,000 education professionals on Tourette Syndrome and the associated disorders
- NJCTS Medical Outreach program increases awareness among medical practitioners. Trainings educate them on the needs of families. NJCTS has educated over 10,000 health care professionals

Webinar Program

NJCTS provides webinars that focus on a variety of topics such as comorbid disorders and homeopathic treatment, school IEPs and biology of the brain. There are more than 120 webinars available on our YouTube archive.

Family Outreach

There is a certain stigma and isolation families feel living with Tourette Syndrome. NJCTS provides opportunities for families to get together and share the challenges of living with the condition. At our Family Retreat Weekend, Parent/Teen Summit and other in person gatherings, families come together and make life-long friendships. Over the years, we have welcomed hundreds of families to our Retreat Weekends.

