



**Presented by**



### **What is SMA?**

Spinal Muscular Atrophy is the number one genetic killer of children under two years old. The child inherits the defective gene which does not produce a protein that is essential to the survival of motor neurons in the spine that are necessary to communicate with voluntary muscles. The muscles are not used by the child and they atrophy causing severe weakness. Typical symptoms are weakness in legs, hips, torso, arms, neck, and even swallowing. There are three severities of SMA Type 1 (most severe), Type 2, and Type 3 (least severe). SMA children are very bright and able to learn, but life span and quality of life is shortened and extremely difficult. Death is usually caused by complications with their lungs because SMA children have weak coughs and lung capacity. Spinal Muscular Atrophy occurs in approximately 1 in 6,000 births, and one in forty people carry the gene that causes SMA.

### **Who is Stop SMA?**

Stop SMA is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501c3 created by friends and family of those with SMA. We were formed and operate in Mississippi with an all-volunteer staff thus keeping our overhead expenses minimal. Your donation to Stop SMA will assist us in our efforts to raise awareness and funding for SMA research and is TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

### **Our Mission**

Our mission is to promote SMA awareness and increase community involvement resulting in monetary investments toward leading research.

### **Our board members are:**

Toby Butler  
Jessica Eubanks  
Matt McDonald  
Mark Stanton  
Glen Silverman  
Blake Watson

Dr. Clyde Muse  
Jess Hinton  
Jason Pope  
Darryl Sims  
Brad Stevens

Heatherly Edgar  
Mary Margaret Hickman  
Tobi Miller  
Sharon Silverman, Ph.D.  
Laura Walters  
Jason Webb

Ex Officio Members: Dr. Jay Allen, Jackie Granberry, Cortney McDonald, Russell Shaw

**Honorary Board Member: Gregg Harper**

**Dee Horton 601-906-6874**  
**Jeff Horton 601-988-4146**

**Stop SMA**  
**P.O. Box 320939**  
**Flowood, MS 39232**

**[www.stopsma.org](http://www.stopsma.org)**  
**Donations are**  
**Tax Deductible**



## Our Event

The month of August is SMA Awareness Month, so Stop SMA is planning to have its biggest fundraising event August 2, 2014. This is our fifth year holding this unique, fun event. Last year we had an estimated 850 people in attendance.

Where: Clyde Muse Center, Hinds Community College, Pearl, MS  
When: Saturday August 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Time: Show starts at 7pm, doors open at 6pm  
Tickets: \$45 to \$55 available on [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com) or [laughawaysma.org](http://laughawaysma.org)  
Type: Clean/Corporate Comedy  
Comedians: Henry Cho and Friends

### Henry Cho

- Fifth year entertaining at Laugh Away SMA
- Nationally known comedian
- Comedy Specials on Comedy Central and GAC
- Appeared in many movies like *McHales Navy* and TV shows like *Designing Women*
- Multiple appearances on *The Tonight Show*
- Toured with Reba McEntire, LeAnn Rimes, Vince Gill, Amy Grant, Brooks & Dunn, and Martina McBride

### Comedians that have performed at Laugh Away SMA

- 2014 Tom Wilson - Best known for his role as Biff in the *Back to the Future* movies
- 2013 Jon Reep - Best known for his supporting role in the TV Series *Rodney* and Dodge Hemi Truck commercials. Winner of NBC's Last Comic Standing
- 2012 – Brian Regan – Multiple one hour comedy specials and widely recognized as the best standup comedian around.
- 2011 – Ralph Harris – Best known for his TV series *On Our Own* and finalist of NBC's Last Comic Standing.

Once again we will have two of the best comedians in the country here with us August 2<sup>nd</sup> to help Stop SMA.

### Some feedback from last year's event:

"Our family absolutely loved the Stop SMA Comedy Night. There aren't many events that parents can enjoy with their teenage children. Any time that you can share a laugh with them, is just a good time. Henry Cho was hilarious!" - Kelly Cranford, Instructor at Hinds Community College

"Our family had a great time at Laugh Away SMA. We can't wait to go again. This is a very special cause and event. Henry Cho was terrific and the entire show was perfect." - Mark Baker, Attorney, Brandon

"Sponsoring Stop SMA events has been very rewarding. The progress this charity is making is encouraging and the Laugh Away SMA event was pure awesomeness! Sponsor or donate NOW, the cure is close..." – Jess Hinton, Allstate Insurance, Brandon

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To Sponsor, please make check out to Stop SMA  
Mail to P.O. Box 320939, Flowood, MS 39232



## Sponsorship Package

### Gold Level

- 👉 Donate \$1,000
- 👉 20 tickets to the event **(If you are not going to use your allotment of tickets, please call Jeff Horton at 601-988-4146. We want to avoid having empty seats. Thank you so much.)**
- 👉 Business name/logo displayed on event promotion material, flyers, brochures
- 👉 Business name on banner in Foyer
- 👉 Business name/logo prominently displayed on t-shirts
- 👉 Business name/logo displayed with business link on Stop SMA website and Facebook page (over 3,100 fans so far)
- 👉 Full page ad in event Program
- 👉 To Sponsor please make check out to Stop SMA and mail to P.O. Box 670, Raymond, MS 39154

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship amount: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*My signature indicates authorization to make this commitment on behalf of myself and/or my company, if applicable.*

Stop SMA contact (name and number): \_\_\_\_\_

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### Gold Level Sponsorship

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone/Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*My signature indicates authorization to make this commitment on behalf of myself and/or my company, if applicable.*

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