



About the Boys

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) is an inherited genetic disorder that affects only boys. Nearly all boys with DMD die by the age of 20. DMD is a progressive disease that weakens and wastes the muscles of a boy's body, and causes respiratory and/or cardiac complications that lead to death.

The Jett Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to generate awareness of DMD and raise funds for research to find a cure for this deadly disease. Thousands of boys across the US are afflicted with DMD. The Jett Foundation is working to help boys like Jett McSherry, Charlie and Ryan Driscoll, and Joey Chorzewski battle this disease and lead normal lives.

Jett McSherry

The Jett Foundation, established in 2001 by Christine and Stephen McSherry, was named for their son Jett. Jett was five years old when he was diagnosed with DMD. He is now over ten years old, and is leading a fairly active and social life despite the limitations of his disease. Each day, he takes steroids to help decrease the inflammation of his muscles. He wears leg splints at night, enjoys a limited diet enhanced with vitamins and nutritional supplements, and follows a steady routine of physical, occupational, and speech therapy. His condition is monitored throughout the year by a team of cardiologists, orthopedists, and pulmonologists. According to his mother Christine, "He does all of this with the patience and goodness of a saint. We are blessed to have such a special, heroic boy in our lives. He reminds us daily just how precious life really is." The McSherrys have banded with other families whose sons are afflicted by DMD to advocate and raise funds for DMD research.

Charlie and Ryan Driscoll

On June 27, 2004, Jenny and Sean Driscoll received devastating news that their beautiful six-year-old son Charlie had been diagnosed with DMD. Three days later, as they struggled to come

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to terms with Charlie's diagnosis, they were struck by a second devastating blow – their other son, four-year-old Ryan, was also diagnosed with the same disease. In just three short days the world around them had forever changed.

Charlie and Ryan are two precocious little boys; that has not changed. Each morning they head off to school with backpacks on. They play at recess with friends, trade baseball cards, and enjoy play dates at their buddies' houses. Art classes, swimming lessons, and ski trips fill their every afternoon and some of their weekends. At the end of the day, they take the family dog Gracie for walks or simply enjoy cookouts on the beach during the summer months.

Charlie and Ryan face challenges that are so different from other boys. Sessions with physical therapists, trips to Canada to meet with doctors, new combinations of different medicines – all of this sets them apart from other children. However, Charlie and Ryan are individuals made up of much more than a diagnosis or a disease. They are boys with spirit. They are brothers with hope. They are friends forever and this will never change.

Joey Chorzewski

Joseph Colin Chorzewski was diagnosed with DMD when he was three years old. He is now five, and like other boys his age, loves to go for walks, go to the beach, ride his bike, visit his cousins, and play with his friends. He loves going to Daniel Webster School in Marshfield (MA) every day, and is a happy, smart, and outgoing boy.

Because of his condition, Joey receives physical and occupational therapy three times a week. He also makes frequent trips to the Children's Hospital and never complains about it. Joey dreams of becoming a doctor, so he can help people who are sick. He is a brave boy who gives everyone around him strength and hope.

The Jett Foundation is a non-profit organization based in Massachusetts that is committed to increasing the awareness of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, and raising money for research to develop new treatments and find a cure.

**For more information about the Jett Foundation,
please call 1-877-FLY-JETT or visit www.jettfoundation.org.**