

## EVERYONE KNOWS SOMEONE AFFECTED BY STROKE

American Stroke  
Association®

A Division of American  
Heart Association



Hi, you may not know me personally, but I'm participating in an important event that I want to share with you.

I am training to run a 13 mile marathon to benefit the **American Stroke Association** and I'm looking for folks like you to sponsor me with a **donation as little as \$25**.

It's the Disneyland 1/2 Marathon on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

"Why am I doing this?" ... because, until about 2 years ago, I thought that only old people had strokes. Then I was cast in a short film about a couple who has to deal with the after affects of a stroke. I couldn't have been more mistaken. The writer and director of "Still Me", [www.brookwoodfilms.com](http://www.brookwoodfilms.com), Beth McElhenny (a woman in her 30's) was writing from experience. She suffered a stroke a few years earlier. Looking at her now, you would never know, but the memory of the trauma and the months of rehabilitation are still enough to bring tears to her eyes.

And, just last month an actor friend of mine, Manny Suarez, (a healthy man in his 40's) suffered a double stroke and died within weeks, leaving behind a devastated family, a wife and two beautiful children.

When I tell people that I'm running this Marathon for the **American Stroke Association** just about everyone said that they know someone whose life, in some way, has been affected by stroke. I realized that **everyone knows someone** and when this opportunity presented itself for me to do something, I took it.

By joining the **American Stroke Association's Train to End Stroke** program, I am helping to raise money for the **ASA**, which is teaching people about the warning signs of stroke, funding research to find ways to prevent stroke, developing guidelines for physicians to treat people with stroke, providing stroke survivors and their families a place to get answers after a stroke and much, much more!

Through TTES, I will be walking and running hundreds of miles over the next 3 months to prepare for the Disneyland 1/2 Marathon.

I am writing to ask for your support in this effort through your good thoughts and prayers and through your generous contributions to the **American Stroke Association**.

Although the event is not until August 31<sup>st</sup>, my plan is to meet (and hopefully exceed) **my fundraising goal of \$2400** by June 30th.

You may make your **tax-deductible donation** by going online to my TTES personal web page:

[http://lattes.kintera.org/tina\\_finnell](http://lattes.kintera.org/tina_finnell), and make a **donation of \$25 or more**.

Your gift will be an investment into the future of all stroke patients. Please know that 85% of each dollar raised goes directly toward research and education programs. Every single **dollar** makes a difference. You can be assured that your support will be far reaching.

I made the first donation of \$100 and will be running this event in memory of Manny, for Beth - my friend and Stroke Hero, for me and for all of you.

If you have a friend or loved one who has been affected by stroke, I would be honored to complete this event in his or her name as well. I invite you to include the person's name when you donate or send me your personal story.

**You can help me even further by forwarding this letter and sending it to anyone you know who has been affected by stroke or copying this letter and posting it on your community board at work, church, etc.**

If **everyone who knows someone donates just \$25** to help me raise funds and support me in my **Training To End Stroke**, then I will not only meet my goal, but can provide well needed funds for stroke research, education and advocacy programs.

Thank you, already, for your love and support. I look forward to this life-changing event.

Most honestly and sincerely, **Tina Gloss Finnell**

You can get more info about strokes and donate on my TTES personal web page:

[http://lattes.kintera.org/tina\\_finnell](http://lattes.kintera.org/tina_finnell)



This seal signifies that the American Heart Association - National meets the BBB Wise Giving Alliance's Standards for Charity Accountability.

The real finish line is an **end to stroke**.

