

## **The FPIES Foundation Celebrates 3rd Anniversary with announcement of first annual ‘Global FPIES Day’ October 14th designated day to raise FPIES Awareness**

**August 25, 2014** - The FPIES Foundation is excited to celebrate its third anniversary of empowering, educating and helping families navigate Food Protein- Induced Enterocolitis Syndrome (FPIES).

The Foundation is planning a week-long celebration leading up to August 31, 2014. This past year was packed with numerous accomplishments, big and small. The FPIES Foundation achieved its goal of launching a first-of-its kind FPIES Patient Global Registry. The registry is a ground-breaking opportunity to directly bring families affected by FPIES together with doctors and researchers interested in learning more about this rare allergy.

Now, just in time for our anniversary, we are excited to announce that October 14th has been successfully established as Global FPIES Day. Global FPIES Day honors families by giving the opportunity to bring specific awareness to what FPIES is to the general public.

“There are days to recognize other food allergies and rare diseases but FPIES is unique and the children are extraordinary. They deserve this day just for them,” says Joy Meyer, Executive Director of the FPIES Foundation. Meyer says, “October 14th was chosen specifically because the first research paper to mention the features of FPIES was published in October.”

FPIES is a rare and often difficult diagnosis. It is a delayed food allergy affecting the gastrointestinal tract, typically diagnosed in infants and young children. Classic symptoms of FPIES include profound vomiting, diarrhea, and dehydration. These symptoms can cause severe lethargy, change in body temperature and blood pressure, and often lead to hospitalization.

Unlike typical food allergies, symptoms may not be immediate and do not show up on standard allergy tests.

In addition to establishing the [FPIES Patient Global Registry](#) and Global FPIES Day, the Foundation also achieved this year:

- Free Educational Webinar, “[Advocating for your child in the Healthcare System](#)” made possible through our partnership with ThriveRx
- Launching ‘[The Kids Spot](#)’ within the FPIESFoundation.org. Just for kids, older FPIES children and their siblings find support in a fun, interactive way that shows them they are not alone.
- “[FPIES Be the Voice](#),” “[FPIES Share how you Care](#),” and “[Love your FPIES Selfie](#)” social media campaigns. Hundreds of families helped us raise awareness in conjunction with [Rare Diseases Day](#) and [Food Allergy Awareness Week](#)
- Newly designed [FPIES Awareness Flyers and Cards](#)
- Participant in Free Allergy Day [at Boston’s Franklin Park Zoo](#) and the [Food Allergy Support Group of MN Food Allergy Resource Fair](#)
- FPIES Foundation supported teams [raising awareness](#) in the Food Allergy community by participating in various FARE walks nationwide.
- Social media outreach through [Facebook/Twitter/Pinterest](#) and the [FPIES Foundation blog](#)
- Top-rated Non-Profit award from [Great NonProfits](#), a distinction given to less than 10 percent of eligible non-profits.
- FPIES and The FPIES Foundation prominently featured in article’s in “[Big Y’s Dietitian’s Corner](#)” and “[Today’s Dietitian](#).”
- Participation in [Feeding Tube Awareness Day](#), [Rare Diseases Day](#) and [Food Allergy Awareness Week](#)

The work does not stop here. The FPIES Foundation is excited for the year ahead and plans additional announcement in the coming weeks about our latest efforts in raising FPIES Awareness.



Educate. Support. Empower.

The FPIES Foundation  
[www.thefpiesfoundation.org](http://www.thefpiesfoundation.org)  
[contact@thefpiesfoundation.org](mailto:contact@thefpiesfoundation.org)



[WWW.THEFPIESFOUNDATION.ORG](http://WWW.THEFPIESFOUNDATION.ORG)

**The FPIES Foundation is an Incorporated 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Foundation.** It is a collaborative effort of several families affected by FPIES whose relentless journey has sparked the desire to help other families find their way. FPIES is often under recognized and poorly understood. The organization's founders identified a dire need for tangible support resources for both the affected families and the medical community. The FPIES Foundation is committed to providing a credible and interactive support resource for this rare, oftentimes isolating diagnosis. It strives to make the everyday lives of FPIES children and their families easier.