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## ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

### **The Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota Announces 2011 Midwest SEIZURE SMART Conference** *Conference features experts in the field of epilepsy and draws participants from across the U.S.*

**St. Paul, MN – June 9, 2011** – The Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota announces its Midwest SEIZURE SMART Summer Conference on July 21, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center. The Midwest SEIZURE SMART Conference draws participants from across the country and is the largest gathering of its kind in the region.

Participants gain access to national and local experts in the field of epilepsy, exclusive education materials and a place to connect with others living with seizures. The conference features a number of leading epilepsy experts, including keynote speaker Kimford Meador, M.D., Director of the Emory Epilepsy Center and Professor of Neurology at Emory University in Atlanta, GA.

Featured speaker and author, Paulette George, shares her family's journey through the violent storms of having a child with epilepsy and autism. George's book, "Good Morning Beautiful," chronicles her daughter Christina's seizure management journey.

Conference topics include: cognitive issues and epilepsy, the latest research and studies around epilepsy, depression related to epilepsy and more. The Midwest SEIZURE SMART conference is designed to educate, connect and empower people affected by seizures. For a complete summer conference schedule, visit [www.efmn.org](http://www.efmn.org).

Registration is \$30 and can be done online at [www.efmn.org](http://www.efmn.org) or by calling toll-free 1.800.779.0777, ext. 2310. The conference includes parking, continental breakfast and lunch, plus educational materials. Financial assistance is available to those who qualify.

Four Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are offered at no additional charge to teachers, social workers, nurses, pharmacists and nursing home administrators. Conference sponsors: Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare, Mayo Clinic and Essentia Health.

#### **About the Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota**

The Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota (EFM) leads the fight to stop seizures, find a cure and overcome the challenges created by epilepsy. One in 10 adults will have a seizure in their lifetime, and 60,000 Minnesotans and North Dakotans have epilepsy (a neurological disorder of the brain). EFM programs and services cover all of Minnesota and Eastern North Dakota. For more information, visit [www.efmn.org](http://www.efmn.org).

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#### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**

- **Interview:** Vicki Kopplin, Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota: [vkopplin@efmn.org](mailto:vkopplin@efmn.org).
- **Interviews:** Dr. Kimford Meador of Emory University; Dr. Ilo Leppik of MINCEP Epilepsy Care; Dr. John Garcia of Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare. Author Paulette George ([www.paulettegeorge.net](http://www.paulettegeorge.net)).
- **Photos available upon request.**