

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lori O'Driscoll
O: 203-880-9456
C: 203-249-3733
Lori.o@dravetfoundation.org

Counting Crows to perform at Dravet Syndrome Foundation Benefit

SAN FRANCISCO, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011 – The Wood Family of San Francisco, along with the Dravet Syndrome Foundation (DSF), will be hosting *Piper's Song, Concert For A Cure to Benefit the Dravet Syndrome Foundation Featuring Music by the Counting Crows* on Sunday, November 20, 2011 at the Regency. Total attendance limited to 300 guests for this very special event.

The mission of the event is to raise awareness of Dravet syndrome and related childhood epilepsies, and to raise funds both for research and family grants. Piper Wood (daughter of Ashley and Tim Wood) had her first seizure at 5 ½ months old and was diagnosed two years ago with Dravet syndrome. The Woods are passionate about their dedication to find a cure. Ashley explains that for the Wood family, "Being involved in fundraising for Dravet is essential and necessary for Tim and me. Dravet syndrome is a rare and serious condition and one of the ways we cope is by taking action. It is up to the Dravet community to keep providing extra financial resources to families and professionals striving with us to find a cure." Tim Wood is a lifelong friend of Dave Bryson, co-founder of the Counting Crows, and the band has generously donated their time for this event.

Dravet (Dra-vay) Syndrome, also known as Severe Myoclonic Epilepsy of Infancy (SMEI), is a rare and catastrophic form of childhood epilepsy for which there currently is no cure. Seizures begin in the first year of life of an otherwise typically developing child, persisting in frequency as they get older. Seizure control is difficult, with many seizure types resistant to current medical therapies. Developmental delays often appear during the second year of life, although the course and severity varies among affected children. Dravet syndrome has no geographic or ethnic boundaries.

The Dravet Syndrome Foundation (DSF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to aggressively raising research funds for Dravet syndrome and related epilepsies, while providing support to families and children affected. Since its inception in October 2009, the DSF has awarded close to \$1,000,000 in Research Grants and nearly \$20,000 in Patient Assistance Grants.

Piper's Song, Concert For A Cure will give people the opportunity to show their support for Piper and other children facing the considerable challenges of seizure disorders. Tickets begin at \$250 and will be available at www.PipersSong.org beginning October 1, 2011. Those interested in sponsorship and volunteer opportunities, please contact events@dravetfoundation.org. For more information about Dravet syndrome and the Dravet Syndrome Foundation please visit www.dravetfoundation.org.