



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Connection Team Supports Food Allergy Awareness Week

*Life-threatening food allergies affect as many as 32 million Americans,
including 6 million children*

West Chester, OH – The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Connection Team (FAACT) encourages citizens across the nation to get involved with Food Allergy Awareness Week, May 10-16. Anyone can participate - simply learning a few “FAACTs” about food allergies and sharing them with family, friends, and caregivers could save a life.

Food allergies affect as many as 32 million Americans, including almost 6 million children. Food allergies can be life threatening – and are on the rise. The prevalence of food allergies appears to be increasing among children under the age of 18. A [May 2013 report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) estimated that “between 1997 and 1999, food allergies affected about 3.4 percent of American children. By 2009 to 2011, that number rose to 5.1 percent – an increase of 50 percent in just over a decade.” That is two students in every classroom across America – and there is no cure for food allergies. The only way to prevent an allergic reaction is to avoid trigger foods.

That’s why it is so important for every member of the community to know what food allergies are and recognize a potentially life-threatening reaction called anaphylaxis. The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Connection Team is committed to raising awareness about food allergies and anaphylaxis in schools, restaurants, hotels, catering venues, amusement parks, and local communities across the country.

In addition, FAACT’s Web site contains a food allergy [Education Resource Center](#) with numerous free materials for schools and families.

“Our goal for Food Allergy Awareness Week is to encourage all citizens to recognize the value and importance of food allergy management, anaphylaxis prevention, and awareness,” stated Eleanor Garrow-Holding, President and CEO of FAACT. “Families and schools are important partners in this effort. We urge everyone to get involved and work together in their communities to create safer environments for individuals with food allergies.”

This starts with a visit to FAACT’s [Web site](#) and our free [Education Resource Center](#).

Ways to get involved include:

- Participating in [FAACT's Change for FAACT Campaign](#)
- Downloading [free educational materials](#) and sharing them with school staff and family members.
- Contacting FAACT to learn more on how to obtain stock epinephrine for your school.
- Becoming a better advocate by educating yourself about food allergies and anaphylaxis with [10 FAACTs to Know About Food Allergies](#) poster.
- Sharing FAACT's information in local communities. [Click here](#) to order bookmarks and posters today.
- Informing your school about FAACT's [Food Allergy Curricula Program for Schools](#), a complete program for teachers to educate children about food allergy awareness and safety.

About The Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Connection Team (FAACT)

FAACT's mission is to educate, advocate, and raise awareness for all individuals and families affected by food allergies and life-threatening anaphylaxis. FAACT is also your voice for food allergy awareness, from keeping children safe at school to dealing with workplace issues or simply taking the family out for a bite to eat. Managing a food allergy on a daily basis involves constant vigilance. FAACT is here to support you in managing your food allergies – today, tomorrow, and into the future. For more information, please visit us at www.FoodAllergyAwareness.org or call (513) 342-1293, and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#).

Resources:

- [Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Connection Team](#)
- [FAACT's National PSA Campaign: "Accurately Diagnosing & Managing a Food Allergy"](#)
- [Food allergy statistics from FAACT](#)
- [The American Academy of Pediatrics, "Management of Food Allergy in the School Setting"](#)
- [The American Academy of Pediatrics, "The Prevalence, Severity, and Distribution of Childhood Food Allergy in the United States"](#)

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FAACT is able to consult on news stories and provide medical experts, spokespersons, and subjects while supplying up-to-date information on food allergies and anaphylaxis for your future media needs.

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