

The Sarah Jane Brain Project™

February 7, 2012

Alliance on Youth Sports Safety Crisis
National Athletic Trainers' Association
2952 Stemmons Freeway #200
Dallas, TX 75287

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Sarah Jane Brain Foundation, I would like to lend our support to the Youth Sports Safety Alliance. SJBF is proud to join the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) and other leading health care and support organizations to bring into focus the need for additional attention and action required to keep our youth safe.

The Sarah Jane Brain Foundation's mission is to create a model system of care for children and young adults suffering from all Pediatric Acquired Brain Injuries in order to advance our knowledge of the brain fifty years over the next five years. SJBF has called for increased safety in youth sports, teaming up with the American College of Sports Medicine by launching the Zackery Lystedt Brain Project. The Zackery Lystedt Brain Project's mission is to advance three core principles across the country through public awareness, education and training, legislation and advancing research to prevent, identify and treat these sports-related brain injuries. The three core principles established in the Zackery Lystedt Law are to: 1) educate youth athletes 2) identify and protect youth athletes 3) medically evaluate and clear all youth athletes who are removed because of suspected brain injury

Many states are now using the Zackery Lystedt Law as a model for their own legislation. SJBF and several of its over 200 advisory board members drafted the Pediatric Acquired Brain Injury Plan which would fund a 2.9 billion dollar initiative to create an evidence-based system of care for pediatric acquired brain injury including those suffered from sports-related activities.

We thank you for your leadership on this issue, and we look forward to working with you to make sure increased safety in youth sports, play a more prominent role in the future.

Sincerely,

Patrick Donohue, Esq.
Founder
The Sarah Jane Brain Foundation