



CELIAC SUPPORT GROUP OF SARASOTA-MANATEE

www.sarasotamanateeceliacs.com

3391 Hadfield Greene
Sarasota, Florida 34235
941.342.3413

The **Celiac Support Group of Sarasota-Manatee** will hold its first community awareness event and fundraising **WALKATHON** to benefit important medical research at the **Center for Celiac Research of the University of Maryland** (Visit www.celiaccenter.org). The event will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at Sarasota's beautiful Payne Park.

To make this event successful we need help from friends and friendly businesses in our community.

Celiac Disease is a genetic disorder that affects children and adults. About one of every 100 Americans suffers from it. People with celiac disease are unable to eat foods containing gluten, which is found in wheat and other grains. These grains set off an autoimmune reaction that damages the small intestine and causes illness. Untreated (consuming the offending foods) celiac disease can be life threatening; there is no cure.

Since 2001, our celiac support group has developed a reputation as the primary community resource for current information.

Support for our group has come from Sarasota and Manatee gastroenterologists, other specialists and health professionals; Sarasota Memorial Hospital, Sarasota Herald Tribune, Bradenton Herald, Pelican Press, Sun Herald newspapers in Venice and south Sarasota County; Natural Awakening and West Coast Woman; The Granary, Richards Whole Foods, Good Earth, Publix, Whole Foods Market, Sweet Bay, Wal-Mart, and Island Ice Cream and More Gluten-Free Bakery.

Please support celiac research as a sponsor in one of these categories:

Silver Donor –	\$100.00 – \$299.00
Gold Donor –	\$300.00 – \$599.00
Platinum Donor –	\$600.00 – \$999.00
Diamond Donor –	\$1,000.00+

Sponsors will receive recognition at our meetings, on our web site and at the event. Early donors will be listed on Walkathon T-shirts. **Tax-deductible checks should be made payable to “Center for Celiac Research, University of Maryland,” and mailed to the address noted above.** We hope we can count on your support.

Amy Eliezer, President