

# The Oley Foundation Salutes



June Bodden  
Oley Regional Coordinator  
Clearwater, Florida

★ 20 Years ★  
★ supporting the homePEN  
community in her region

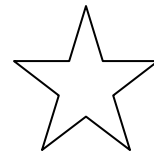
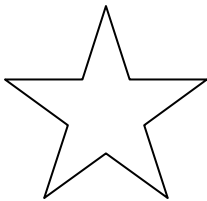
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You are cordially invited to join June  
and members of the Oley/Tampa Support Group on

**Saturday, March 1, 2008**

**10:30 a.m.**

H. Lee Moffit Cancer Center  
Room 5136  
University of South Florida  
12902 Magnolia Drive  
Tampa FL 33612



To celebrate this milestone!

Please R.S.V.P. (800) 776-6539 (Oley office) or (727) 784-9659 (June)



**Foundation**  
For Home Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition

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Contact:

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**For Immediate Release**  
**February 14, 2008**

For 20 Years, Local Volunteer Has Found Strength  
in Leading Support Group

*Networking and support are vital for people who survive  
on modern artificial nutrition therapies*

Volunteer work, faith, and a little “help from family and friends” allow June Bodden of Clearwater, FL, to adopt a positive attitude when facing the chronic medical condition that has affected her for almost 50 years. Diagnosed with Crohn’s disease—an inflammatory bowel disease—at age 15, Bodden has received the bulk of her nutrition through in-home intravenous feeding since she was 39. In 1988, Bodden and others met for their first meeting of the Oley Tampa Support Group, now celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, in order to reach out to others who were also dependent on this life-saving therapy.

In 1992 it was estimated that 40,000 Americans were relying on home intravenous, or parenteral, nutrition (HPN) to provide their bodies with nutrients and/or hydration when their digestive systems couldn’t. HPN is a long-term alternative for patients suffering from a variety of diseases, including Crohn’s, colitis, short bowel syndrome, and AIDS. Life on HPN can be lonely, however. The individual must be hooked to a pump several hours each day, and many HPNers feel deprived of social interaction when they can’t eat—not even so much as a bite of birthday cake. HPNers also risk life-threatening complications from the therapy, from liver disease to blood poisoning, in addition to the effects of their underlying disease. Yet many on HPN continue to work, go to school, and pursue hobbies.

Those in the Oley Tampa Support Group share personal experiences involving HPN and medical issues, but also other aspects of their lives. Studies on quality of life in the chronically ill have shown that a strong connection to peer support can reduce depression and anxiety. Further, networking with others who have similar health conditions can increase an individual’s sense of well-being, self-esteem, and knowledge, with the effect of improving their level of care and overall health. For 20 years, Bodden’s support group meetings have served this vital function striving to encourage each other with positive care and support, recognizing their abilities and health needs.

Bodden serves as a volunteer with the Oley Foundation, a national, not-for-profit organization based out of Albany Medical Center in Albany, NY. The Oley Foundation provides education, outreach, and psychosocial support to people who depend on long-term nutrition support therapies, including HPN and HEN (enteral nutrition, or tube feeding) for a variety of medical conditions.

You can contact the Oley Foundation at 800-776-6539 or visit their Web site at [www.oley.org](http://www.oley.org).

The 2008 support group meeting schedule: 3/1/08, 6/7/08, 9/6/08, and 12/6/08 10:00 a.m., Rm 5136 at H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, 12902 Magnolia Dr. Tampa FL.