

Jon E. Nadherny/Calciano

Symposium

17 Years of Serving the Community

'n October 1995 the Calciano family suffered the tragic loss of their loving son/brother, Jon, to suicide at the age of 23. Jon had just graduated from UC Davis in Agriculture/ Economics, yet he struggled with depression.

In the difficult months that followed, the memories of Jon's compassion, kindness, and sensitivity inspired Ms. Calciano, his mother, to learn what could be established to prevent other families from enduring this catastrophic loss.

"Heartbroken, yet committed, I decided to take action by addressing the challenging issues in adolescent mental health by holding an annual educational symposium to educate and empower, and enrich professionals, parents, and the community," said Ms. Calciano, founder of the Symposium, and a member of Dominican Hospital Foundation Board.

"The Symposium is an event organized by a volunteer advisory board and sponsored by private donations, as well as earnings from an endowment formed by the Calciano family and their supporters. Many of our speakers donate their time. It truly is a community event," said George Jarrow, symposium director and director of behavioral & health services at Dominican Hospital.

This year's topic is titled *The Spectrum - From* Autism to Asperger's. "Autism spectrum



Linda Calciano, Founder of Symposium, and George Jarrow, Symposium Director.

disorders are the fastest growing serious developmental disorder in the U.S., increasing by almost 120 percent in the last decade," said Dr. Cheryl Bowers, a local neuropsychologist, and a specialist in cognitive and neurodevelopmental disabilities. "It also is a disorder that can cause significant social, communication, emotional, and behavioral challenges. Early identification improves access to services and later outcome during a child's critical developmental period."

Save the Date

17th Annual Jon E. Nadherny/Calciano Memorial Youth Symposium

The Spectrum - From Autism to Asperger's Friday, March 6, 2015

Featuring: Dr. Doreen Granpeesheh, Dr. Susan Bookheimer and Dr. Liane Holliday-Willey

For more information visit www.supportdominican.org. Can't attend? You can contribute by sponsoring a student or donating to the Symposium at www.supportdominican.org e-mail Anastasia.Elgina@dignityhealth.org.