

# Why Your Support Is So Important

**Cody Dietz** is alive, in part, to the funding of research by the American Heart Association. Cody suffered a massive stroke at the age of 17. He is now 20 and continues therapy to this day. Cody had to re-learn everything. It was projected it would take him a year to relearn how to speak again—he began speaking in one month!

The AHA is deeply committed to research. Only the federal government funds more cardiovascular research than the AHA. In 2008–09, the AHA spent over \$142.7 million on research, which represents more than 21% of our overall expenses for the year. The AHA has invested more than \$3.2 billion in research since 1949, and about \$1.4 billion in just the last decade. There is still more that can be done. Please join Cody in supporting the 2011 York, PA Heart & Stroke Walk this year!

