

Benesch Attorney Frank W. Carsonie Elected To Lead Crohn's & Colitis Foundation Of America, Central Ohio Chapter

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The Central Ohio Chapter of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA) announced today that Frank W. Carsonie has been elected President of the chapter's board of directors. CCFA is a non-profit, volunteer-driven organization dedicated to finding the cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. Carsonie will begin his tenure on October 1, 2004.

In this position, Carsonie will oversee educational and support programming for the Central Ohio area designed to provide a support network and help people live with these diseases. Carsonie also will also lead and grow the organization's fundraising to support research, education and outreach services.

Carsonie is a partner with the law firm Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP. Carsonie is a member of the firm's Health Care and Corporate and Securities Practice Groups and he advises and counsels clients in transactional, regulatory and operational matters. He is also an adjunct professor at Franklin University, recipient of Business First's "Forty Under 40" recognition and was recently named to the 2005 class of Leadership Columbus.

"We are excited to have a leader of Frank's caliber willing to guide our efforts," said Kim Houf, development manager. "Under his leadership, we expect to exceed our financial and support goals."

"The time I have spent with this organization as a board member has prepared me for the role of president," said Carsonie. "I look forward to growing the organization's financial base which, in turn, will allow us to continue to offer a broad scope of services locally and to provide critical support to the national effort of finding a cure for these debilitating diseases."

About CCFA The mission of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America, which was founded in 1967, is to cure and prevent Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis through research, and to improve the quality of life of children and adults affected by these digestive diseases through education and support. Of the one million Americans who suffer from these diseases, approximately 100,000 are children under the age of 18.