



# Proud to Be an SBA Member & Friend

## Michael's Cause

Sgt. Robert Capolongo, a 14-year veteran assigned to the Intelligence Division, and his wife Theresa, a nurse at Staten Island University Hospital, had their lives turned upside down when one of their three children, 5-year-old Michael, was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy in November 2010.

Duchenne, which afflicts 1 in 3,500 boys, is the leading fatal genetic childhood disease in the world. It is caused by the body's inability to make a protein called dystrophin, which is an essential ingredient in muscle cells and acts as a shock absorber. Without the protein, the muscles become increasingly weak and eventually die.



As the Capolongo family hopes and prays for a cure, they have created a foundation called "Michael's Cause" to raise awareness, as well as desperately needed research funding for Duchenne. The organization's first Spring for a Cure dinner dance was held in Staten Island on March 30.

More information can be obtained at [www.michaelscause.org](http://www.michaelscause.org) or donations can be mailed to Michael's Cause, PO Box 120323, Staten Island, NY 10312.

*Robert & Theresa Capolongo with their lovely children,  
Victoria Rose, Bobby & Michael.*