

## RapidSOS and Danny Did Foundation team up to provide enhanced access to emergency services for families

- 240 million<sup>1</sup> 9-1-1 calls are made every year in the U.S.; over 70%<sup>2</sup> are from mobile phones, which fail to provide exact location to emergency dispatchers
- There are an estimated 200,000 new cases diagnosed in the U.S. each year<sup>3</sup>
- Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) has been estimated to account for 15-20% of all cases of death in people with epilepsy<sup>4</sup>
- Haven represents a transformation in access to emergency services – from a phone call solely dependent on voice to a robust data connection for voice, text, medical/demographic data

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – New York, New York (August 1, 2016).**

[RapidSOS](#), an advanced emergency technology start-up revolutionizing personal safety and family security, has announced a partnership with the Danny Did Foundation, a Chicago-based nonprofit that assists families who face epilepsy. The partnership will provide the RapidSOS Haven mobile app free for one year to people who access the app via Danny Did. Haven is designed to enhance communication with emergency services and providing unprecedented family connectivity. It sends important data to 9-1-1 to aid in fast emergency response and better situational awareness for first responders.

Through its partnership with Danny Did, RapidSOS aims to support those with epilepsy and their families by connecting them to loved ones and providing peace of mind that emergency help is one touch away. With one tap on Haven, the app connects the user with the nearest dispatch center anywhere in the contiguous U.S., while providing a voice connection and a data pipeline to 9-1-1, to transmit:

- GPS location
- Type of emergency
- Relevant medical and demographic data
- Text messages: Haven speaks the text message if the dispatch center does not have the capability to receive texts. Currently works one-way (user to 9-1-1); two-way coming in future

“We’re very excited to partner with the Danny Did Foundation to support a community of families who live with more pressing and complicated medical needs than most,” said RapidSOS co-founder and CEO Michael Martin. “Haven provides confidence to people with epilepsy and their families that they can reach emergency help quickly and reliably wherever they are.”

When setting up the app, users enter medical conditions, allergies, and medications, so that if an emergency occurs, life-saving information is communicated directly to 9-1-1. Additionally, after an alert has been triggered, Haven notifies emergency contacts, so that family and friends are informed.

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<sup>1</sup> National Emergency Number Association. <http://www.nena.org/?page=911Statistics>

<sup>2</sup> National 911 Program. *Review of Nationwide 911 Data Collection*. <http://www.911.gov/pdf/current911datacollection-072613.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Danny Did Foundation. <http://www.dannydid.org/epilepsy-sudep/>

<sup>4</sup> Danny Did Foundation. <http://www.dannydid.org/epilepsy-sudep/about-sudep/know-the-facts/>

The Haven app also includes access to RapidSOS' Family Connect feature. For the first time, people can call 9-1-1 on behalf of a loved one, transmitting their loved one's location and relevant data directly to the dispatch center closest to them. Additionally, Family Connect allows users to share their location with loved ones, see family members' real-time locations without the distraction of a phone call or text, and easily ask family and friends for help. A user can choose who can see their location and when it is shared, ensuring privacy and control.

"This partnership between RapidSOS and the Danny Did Foundation is another resource that can help to minimize the risks that accompany seizures," said Tom Stanton, Executive Director of the Danny Did Foundation. "Early intervention when a seizure occurs is often critical. We want families and first responders to have the comprehensive information and tools that they need to treat and respond to seizures."

RapidSOS is offering Haven for free for one year to those associated with the Danny Did Foundation, when they sign up [here](#). The Haven app is available for iPhone and Android devices and works anywhere across the contiguous U.S. and Hawaii, with one touch emergency calling in over 250 countries and jurisdictional territories. For more information about RapidSOS and the Haven app, visit [www.rapidsos.com](http://www.rapidsos.com).

### **About RapidSOS**

RapidSOS was formed in 2012 by a team of M.I.T., Harvard, and Stanford grad students who had personal experiences with the challenges of the existing emergency communication infrastructure. Working closely with the 9-1-1 community, tech and telecom companies, and leading investors, RapidSOS is developing technology to predict and preempt emergencies before they occur, dynamically warn people in harm's way, and ensure that first responders are one touch away globally. Learn more at [www.RapidSOS.com](http://www.RapidSOS.com).

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### **About the Danny Did Foundation**

Founded by Chicago parents Mike and Mariann Stanton in 2010 after the sudden death of their four-year-old son Danny, the Danny Did Foundation's primary mission is to prevent deaths caused by seizures. The Foundation advances public awareness of epilepsy and Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP), strives to improve communication about SUDEP between medical professionals and families impacted by seizures, and advocates for the mainstream acceptance and use of seizure detection and prediction devices that may assist in preventing seizure-related deaths. Epilepsy affects nearly 3 million people in the United States and 65 million people worldwide. **One in 26 Americans** will develop epilepsy during their lifetime. But what few people understand, including many people impacted by the disorder, is that seizures can be fatal. More people die as a result of seizures than from fires and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) combined. The causes of death can vary and include drowning, other accidents and status epilepticus (prolonged seizures). In addition, thousands of deaths occur annually from SUDEP, a fact that is little known and too rarely addressed in public and in medical circles. The name of the Danny Did Foundation originates from the last line of Danny Stanton's obituary, written by his dad: "*Please go and enjoy your life. Danny did.*"

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