

A Special Message from **Clint Black** to help **Reverse Rett Syndrome**

Hi I'm Clint Black.

Have you heard of Rett syndrome?

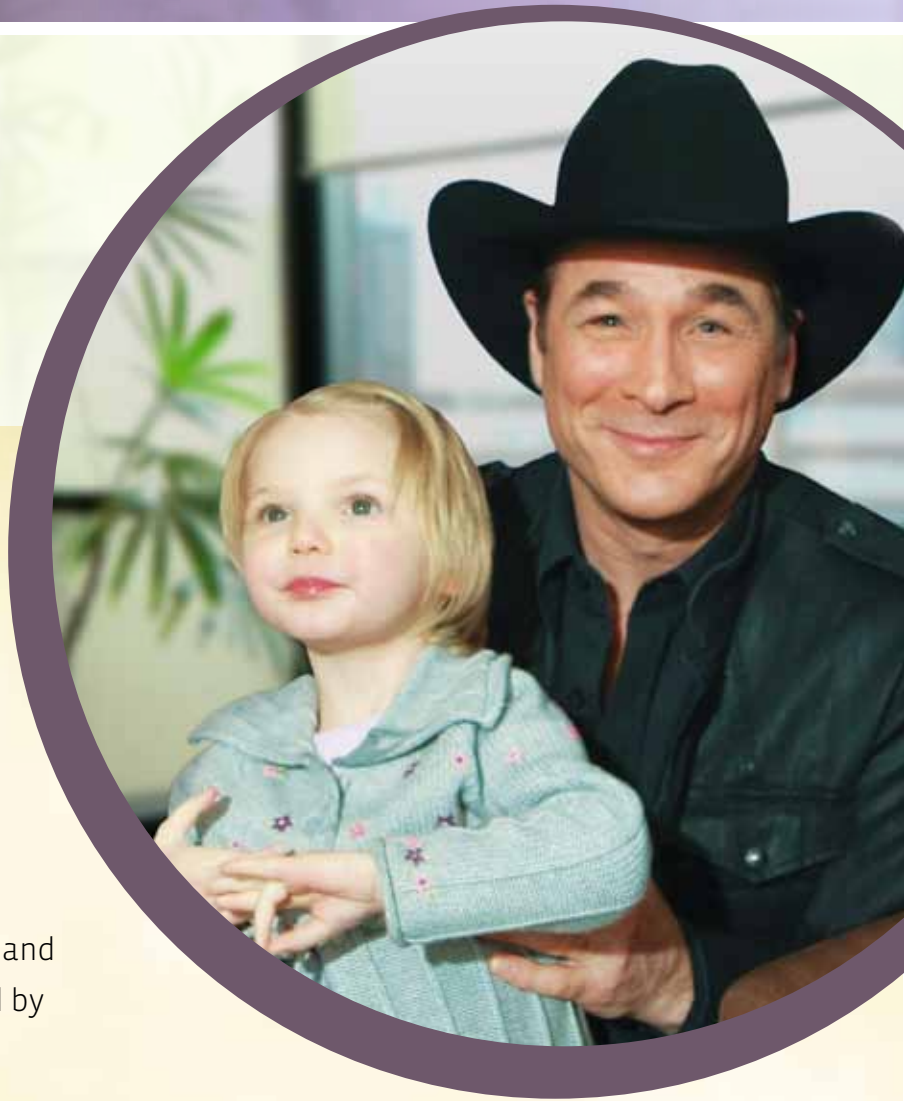
I hadn't, until my niece Cortney was diagnosed with it. In 2003, Cortney lost her battle with Rett syndrome.

Rett syndrome strikes without warning. A girl with Rett syndrome starts out as a happy and healthy baby. Then, around 6-18 months of life, something goes terribly wrong. She loses the ability to speak, she can't use her hands to play with toys or even feed herself, and she may lose the ability to walk.

IRSF is working to accelerate treatments and a cure while supporting families affected by this devastating disorder.

Your help is urgently needed.
Visit **rettsyndrome.org**, or call
1-800-818-RETT(7388) to find out
how to participate.

Your help is our hope.



*Clint Black, Chair,
Research to Reality Campaign,
with Riley (RTT)*

To learn more about the International Rett Syndrome Foundation, to donate or volunteer, visit **rettsyndrome.org** or call **1-800-818-RETT(7388)**.

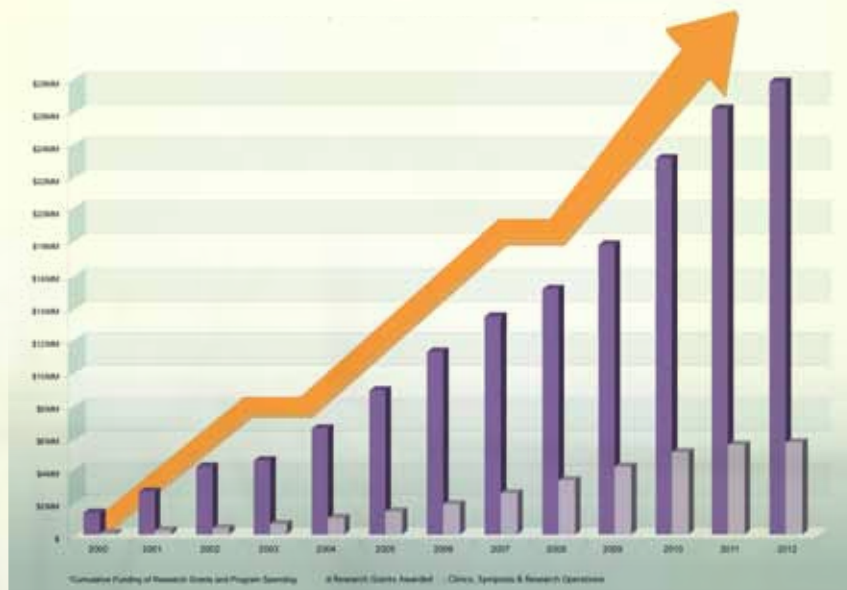


“Won’t you please join me in supporting the exciting research on the horizon that can help reverse Rett syndrome, by sponsoring the Research to Reality Campaign today?”

—Clint Black



IRSF Research Programs Funded \$28M



Research Works

We now have an unprecedented opportunity to fund crucial new research that could positively impact millions of lives. The gene that causes Rett syndrome has been discovered, and recent research has shown Rett syndrome is reversible in mice.

Rett Syndrome Symptoms

Rett syndrome is a genetic neurological disorder that affects girls between 6–18 months of age. This regressive disease leads to lifelong handicaps, including loss of speech and voluntary muscle control, and is often misdiagnosed as autism or cerebral palsy. Symptoms range from mild to severe, and almost always include:

- Developmental regression or plateau
- Near constant hand claspings or wringing
- Severe communication impairment
- Breathing problems
- Digestive issues
- Floppy arms and legs
- If able to walk, then with a shaky, unsteady gait; or, toe-walking
- Scoliosis
- Seizures
- Slowing head growth
- Abnormal sleep patterns
- Transient loss of social engagement
- Poor circulation that can lead to cold and bluish arms and legs
- Anxiety



Your help is our hope.

IRSF’s Research to Reality Campaign is helping to raise the critical funds needed for drug discovery efforts, as well as pre-clinical and clinical trials.