

# SFA Spotlight - June 2016

**As a reminder, welcome to our new newsletter!** Please be on the lookout for this newsletter every month as a way to keep you more involved and engaged with information important to the SFA community.

Please be sure to include sfainfo@curesarcoma.org in your address book. If you do not wish to receive this email on a monthly basis, please <u>contact us</u>.



### **Bringing New Therapies to Market**

From the SFA blog:

Over the past few weeks we've seen the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) make decisions regarding some investigational therapies for sarcoma. In that time, one investigational new drug received priority review status, which cuts the drug review period from 10 months to six months. Another was given fast track designation. This designation is also intended to

expedited the review process for "serious conditions with unmet medical need." Certainly sarcoma falls into that category.

#### Read more...

# THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE CELEBRATION OF LIFE A SUCCESS



On behalf of everyone at the Sarcoma Foundation of America (SFA),**THANK YOU**! <u>The Celebration of Life</u> drew in over 350 individuals from the across the New York region and raised over \$550,000! With an exceptional silent auction and entertainment provided by the **Groove Shop** and special guests **Evan Ruggiero** and **Maddy Ruff**, it was truly a night to remember. Your generous contributions will be used to fund more research, advocacy and programs that will help find a cure for sarcoma. The SFA will continue to advocate for new and novel therapies to be researched and pushed to market to make a difference.

"A Celebration of Life" honored those who have battled sarcoma, as well as those who have dedicated their lives and careers to the treatment of sarcoma patients. At this year's 14th Annual Fundraising event, we honored John H. Healey, MD, FACS, with the Sarcoma Foundation of America's Nobility in Science Award, and Advaxis Immunotherapies ™ for their work to advance an immunotherapy platform to fight osteosarcoma in pediatric patients. We also recognized this year's Compassionate Care Award recipient, Jody Pollack Roth, RN, MPH, OCN, and Courage Award recipients Nathan Greenberg, Bonnie Newman-Myers, Dennis Wai, Mike Westhoff and Jonathan Yip.

It's not too late to make your contribution in honor of this year's honorees. You can still make a tax-deductible donation to the Annual Fundraising Event, A Celebration of Life, online <u>here</u> or by contacting Michele Levy at 301-253-8687 or <u>mlevy@curesarcoma.org</u>.

### SFA Announces 2016 Research Grant Awards

The Sarcoma Foundation of America is proud to announce the recipients of the 2016 SFA Research Grants. Eight deserving scientists at research institutions across the United States have been awarded \$50,000 grants to further the study of



sarcoma. The SFA congratulations these researchers and thanks them for their dedication to finding the cure.

#### Read more ....



# NCI Announces Pediatric Sarcoma Grant Opportunity

The National Cancer Institute has announced a research project grant on gene fusions in pediatric sarcomas. According to the funding opportunity announcement, the NCI is looking for projects that create a "better understanding of the molecular pathways activated by chromosomal translocations in pediatric sarcomas," that

could "potentially lead to novel therapeutics."

For more information, please visit the grant announcement.

### Be a Part of the Cancer Moonshot

The Sarcoma Foundation was honored to be invited to participate in conference call with Vice President Joe Biden on the work being done as a part of the Cancer Moonshot initiative. During the call, he announced that a Cancer Moonshot Summit will be held in Washington, DC, on June 29, 2016. He also encouraged patients and



advocates to share their ideas and thoughts about what should be included in the Moonshot effort.

These ideas will be considered by the working groups and the Blue Ribbon panel that have been appointed to help guide this process. They will be meeting and working to discuss research priorities over the next few months.

<u>Contribute your research ideas for consideration by the National Cancer Moonshot</u> <u>Initiative</u>.



The Sarcoma Foundation of America joined with hundreds of advocates from across the country for the 5th Annual Childhood Cancer Action Days. The childhood cancer community, including patients, families, caregivers, friends, and advocacy organizations, went to Capitol Hill to urge Congress to increase funding for the National Cancer Institute and to support and pass the <u>Childhood Cancer STAR Act</u>.

## **Upcoming Events**

Check our Upcoming Events section on our

website frequently for more ways to get involved.

Learn more about events like the <u>6th Annual</u> <u>Pittsburgh Cure Sarcoma 5K Run/Walk</u>, to be held on July 9, 2016.

Interested in getting involved? <u>Please let us</u> know.



# DONATE 🎔

Sarcoma Foundation of America | 9899 Main Street, Suite 204, Damascus, MD 20872 301-253-8687 | info@curesarcoma.org | www.curesarcoma.org

STAY CONNECTED:

