



SFA Spotlight - May 2017

Welcome to our 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 [contact us](#).



Bert's Blog

This post was written by Bert E. Thomas IV, PhD, MBA, former CEO of the Sarcoma Foundation of America. Bert wanted to share a few thoughts as his time at the SFA came to a close.

We thank Bert for his years of service to the sarcoma community and wish him well as he moves on to his next adventure!

Over the last three years it has been my privilege to serve the sarcoma patient community through my role at the SFA. I have met so many amazing patients, caregivers, doctors and researchers in that time. I have been moved by the challenges that each face, the perseverance that they demonstrate in their individual and collective efforts to achieve better patient outcomes, and the hope and optimism that the sarcoma community exudes in their pursuit to find the cure.

[Read more...](#)

SFA Awards Half a Million Dollars in Research Funds

The SFA is proud to announce that it has awarded \$500,000 in research funds to deserving scientists at institutions across the United States as part of our 2017 SFA Research Grant program. Ten research grants, each worth \$50,000, have been

awarded to researchers who have made it their mission to study sarcoma. All proposals are peer reviewed by members of the SFA Medical Advisory Board who award the grants to the best, most promising research toward the cure for sarcoma.

Read more about this year's recipients at www.curesarcoma.org/2017/grant/.



Since its inception, the SFA has invested more than \$7 million in sarcoma research through its national grant program and collaborative research projects, including a recent PD-1 Clinical Trial. More information on SFA's research program can be found at www.curesarcoma.org/research/.

SFA Takes to Capitol Hill for Childhood Cancer Action Days



In early May, the SFA joined forces with more than 200 childhood cancer advocates in Washington, DC, to urge legislators to place a higher priority on the needs of children diagnosed with cancer. Taking part in Childhood Cancer Action Days, coordinated by the [Alliance for Childhood Cancer](http://www.allianceforchildhoodcancer.org/), the SFA took to Capitol Hill to represent the children and families impacted by pediatric sarcoma.

One of the important issues of the day was the need for action on the Childhood Cancer Survivorship, Treatment, Access, and Research (STAR) Act, the most comprehensive childhood cancer legislation ever introduced in Congress. Advocates asked Members of Congress to support the bill and build momentum for its passage. More information on the STAR Act can be found on the SFA website at <http://www.curesarcoma.org/get-involved/advocacy/>.

Charity Navigator Honors SFA with 4-Star Rating

For the third year in a row, [Charity Navigator](http://www.charitynavigator.org/) has awarded the Sarcoma Foundation of America a 4-Star Rating!

Charity Navigator is America's premier independent charity evaluator. They help charitable givers make intelligent giving decisions by providing in-depth, objective ratings and analysis of the financial health and accountability & transparency of America's largest charities. "We value being transparent as an organization and good stewards of the gifts our supporters bring to the Sarcoma Foundation of America. We are so proud to have Charity Navigator recognize us for these efforts," shared Michele Levy, MPA, CFRE, Director of Development. "We encourage you to share our rating with friends and family."



To view SFA's profile and see how we were ranked, visit www.charitynavigator.org.

Study: Sarcomas May Be Susceptible to Immunotherapy

A study by researchers at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, led by SFA grant recipient Seth Pollack, MD, has shown that two sarcoma subtypes may be susceptible to immunotherapy. "To me, these findings say that there are certain sarcoma subtypes that really lend themselves to the development of checkpoint inhibitor-based strategies," Pollack said.



Photo by Robert Hood / Fred Hutch News Service

The Sarcoma Foundation of America is proud to have helped fund this research effort.

To read more about Dr. Pollack's work, visit <http://www.fredhutch.org/en/news/center-news/2017/05/first-extensive-profiling-sarcomas-suggests-subtypes-susceptible-immunotherapy.html>.

Register Now for a Race to Cure Sarcoma Near You!



PITTSBURGH	July 8
MILWAUKEE	July 16
PHILADELPHIA	September 10
DENVER	September 16
ST. LOUIS	October 8
RICHMOND	October 14
CHICAGO	October 28
NASHVILLE	November 4
MIAMI	December 3
NEW JERSEY	TBD

**RACE TO CURE
SARCOMA™**
Sarcoma Foundation of America

Register for a race near you!
www.racetocuresarcoma.org

2017 Children's Sarcoma Artwork Contest

The Sarcoma Foundation of America is hosting a Children's Artwork Competition to kick off Sarcoma Awareness Month this July.

Pull out the arts and crafts and send us your best work! Artwork should include a

yellow ribbon and/or sunflowers. We will be collecting submissions May 1 through June 23. The winner will be announced in July and their artwork will be featured on the Sarcoma Foundation of America's 2017 holiday card and will receive an SFA goodie bag.

Find all of the details

here: <http://www.curesarcoma.org/2017-childrens-sarcoma-artwork-contest/>.



Honor a Loved One Through Memorial Giving



The Sarcoma Foundation of America honors all those individuals who ended their battle with sarcoma. Their lives are never forgotten.

Individuals and families may choose to make gifts in memory of a loved one on their birthday, an anniversary, Mother's Day, Father's Day, or an important day to them. Families of recently deceased loved ones may opt for donations "in lieu of flowers."

Your tribute gift goes to the program of your choice and is fully tax-deductible. Families can choose to create a giving page in their loved one's memory either through our [Champions for Sarcoma](#) page or by working directly with an SFA staff member to celebrate that person's life.

To learn more about [memorial and tribute giving](#), please contact us at 301-253-8687 or dedications@curesarcoma.org.



Meet the SFA: Cindy Saunders

The Sarcoma Foundation of America is growing and we want to introduce you to our staff! Meet Cindy Saunders.

Cindy Saunders started at SFA more than 10 years ago as the Administrative Assistant, but now manages the website and maintains the database as Manager of Website and Database Administration. Cindy enjoys working for SFA because she feels that she is making a difference and helping others.

Fun Fact: Cindy recently became a grandmother for the first time. She also loves computers, dogs and hard rock/metal music!

Get Involved!

Interested in hosting an event in your area?
Contact us at events@curesarcoma.org.

Looking for volunteer opportunities or other ways
to get involved? Contact us
at getinvolved@curesarcoma.org.



Upcoming Events

[June 29, 2017 - Swings for Sarcoma, Littleton, Colorado](#)

[July 8, 2017 - Pittsburgh Cure Sarcoma 5K, Allison Park, PA](#)

DONATE ♥

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