



*Accelerating
the Search
for a Cure*

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MYELOMA FOCUS

Newsletter of the
MMRF

6th Annual Chicago Awards Dinner Raises Over \$700,000 for Drug Development

The 6th annual Chicago Awards Dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel in Chicago, where over 400 people gathered Wednesday, May 16, to support the MMRF's mission of accelerating a cure for multiple myeloma, raised over \$700,000.00. "These funds will provide the much needed fuel to speed patient treatments and find a cure for multiple myeloma, by funding critical research and catalyzing collaboration among research centers and industry," said Kathy Giusti, MMRF's Founder and CEO.



(L-R) Karen Andrews, Scott Hamilton, Bonnie Hunt, and Kathy Giusti

Scott Hamilton, Olympic Gold Medal Winner and two-time cancer survivor, was enthusiastic and inspiring as he presented the evening's keynote address. Scott is a constant reminder that with fortitude and determination, anything is possible.

"I fell in love with the MMRF a few years ago after attending one of their events. Meeting Kathy and feeling her passion, drive, and energy; and seeing just how innovative and groundbreaking this organization is, I knew that I wanted them as an example in my life and to have them be a part of my efforts making a difference in the cancer community," said Scott Hamilton.

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Friends for Life Fall Gala

Saturday, October 27, 2007
Greenwich Hyatt Greenwich, CT

MMRF to Honor
Lance Armstrong & Robert Wolf



Robert Wolf, Chairman & CEO
UBS Americas
Event Chair, Corporate Leadership
Award Recipient



Lance Armstrong
Fall Gala Honoree
Spirit of Hope Award Recipient

For more information, contact Anne Walker at (203) 652-0205
or email: walkera@themmrf.org

MMRC

MMRC Launches New Validation Team



Suzanne Trudel, MD

With more than 100 compounds in development for multiple myeloma, it is of critical importance to identify and prioritize those compounds that show the most potential in treating the disease. One of the most effective ways to accomplish this is through pre-clinical validation, the

process of testing a compound's activity in various biological models of the disease, such as fresh myeloma tissue, myeloma cell lines, and animal models. Few laboratories in the United States have the capability or expertise to validate a treatment for myeloma, and optimal validation methods are not widely known.

With the launch of its new Validation Team, the MMRC is taking a lead role in meeting this challenge. The MMRC Validation Team includes Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Mayo Clinic, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, and University Health Network (UHN). Suzanne Trudel, MD, of the UHN, is Team Leader.

The MMRC Validation Team will focus its efforts on validating novel and combination treatments for myeloma with biological models of the disease. The Team will also work to develop improved models that more accurately mimic the disease, as well as define the best manner in which to conduct multiple validation studies.

“By advancing the science of compound validation, we will follow only the most promising drug leads and reduce the time spent on drugs that are destined to fail,” said Dr. Trudel. “Ultimately, this will ensure that the drugs we bring to the clinic are likely to be more effective treatments.”

**For more information log on to
www.themmrc.org**

Patients: How You Can Help

If you are a myeloma patient being treated at one of the following centers, please consider contributing a tissue sample to the MMRC Tissue Bank during your bone marrow biopsy.

For more information about contributing a tissue sample, contact **Bunmi Mfuko**, Tissue Bank Coordinator at mfukob@themmrc.org

- ◆ Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- ◆ H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute
- ◆ Mayo Clinic Cancer Center
- ◆ City of Hope National Medical Center
- ◆ Emory University
- ◆ Hackensack University Medical Center
- ◆ Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center
- ◆ Roswell Park Cancer Institute
- ◆ Saint Vincent Catholic Medical Centers of New York
- ◆ University Health Network (Princess Margaret Hospital)
- ◆ University of Chicago
- ◆ University of Michigan
- ◆ Washington University

MMRC & Semafore Partner for Pre-Clinical Validation Study

SEMAFORE
PHARMACEUTICALS

The MMRC has partnered with Semafore to evaluate the activity of SF1126, a novel PI3 kinase inhibitor, on multiple myeloma in vitro and in vivo models. Researchers at Consortium member institutions Emory University and Mayo Clinic will also evaluate the activity of the compound in combination with other therapies, including Velcade®. These data will potentially provide rationale for the clinical development of this novel compound.

MMRC

MMRC Currently Enrolling Patients In Four Trials of Novel Agents

Phase II Trial of LBH589

The MMRC is participating in a Phase II study of LBH589, a novel oral therapy developed by Novartis Pharmaceuticals. LBH589 is part of a promising class of drugs called histone deacetylase inhibitors or HDAC inhibitors. HDAC inhibitors may play an important role in helping to slow or stop the growth of multiple myeloma cells.

This trial, known as ALPHA-MM, is open to patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma, who have received at least two lines of therapy, and whose disease progressed on their most recent therapy.

This trial will enroll patients at 58 clinical sites in eight countries, including the following MMRC Institutions:

| | |
|---|--|
| City of Hope National Medical Center | H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute |
| Dana-Farber Cancer Institute | Mayo Clinic |
| Emory University | University of Chicago |
| Hackensack University Medical Center | University of Michigan |
| | Washington University |

Phase I Trial of Velcade® and Zarnestra®

The MMRC is facilitating a new Phase I clinical trial of Velcade® and Zarnestra® in combination. This trial is open to patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma.

The following MMRC Member Institutions will enroll patients for this trial:

City of Hope National Medical Center
Emory University
University of Toronto in Toronto, ON

Phase I Clinical Trial of TKI-258

The MMRC's Phase I study of TKI-258 is being conducted in partnership with Novartis. TKI-258, an orally available compound that inhibits fibroblast growth factor receptor 3 (FGFR3), as well as several other growth factor receptors. As such, TKI-258 may hold promise in treating myeloma patients known to express FGFR3.

This trial is currently enrolling patients at four MMRC Member Institutions:

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Emory University
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center
Mayo Clinic - Scottsdale

Phase I Trial of NPI-0052

The MMRC and Nereus Pharmaceuticals have begun patient enrollment for a Phase I clinical trial of NPI-0052. This trial is open to patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma.

The following MMRC Member Institutions will be enrolling patients for this trial:

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Ohio State University
Roswell Park Cancer Institute
University of Chicago

For more information about MMRC clinical trials, contact Sandra Wear at wears@themmrc.org

Scientific Agenda

MMRF & MMRC Advance 2007 Scientific Agenda

The Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation (MMRF) and Multiple Myeloma Research Consortium (MMRC) are pleased to announce it has updated for 2007, the Multiple Myeloma Scientific Agenda. The Scientific Agenda is a three- to five-year plan to bring new and combination therapies to patients as quickly as possible.

“Our innovative Scientific Agenda not only guarantees that the MMRF and MMRC maximize its research investment, but ensures that the research we pursue will have the most meaningful impact on patients’ lives,” said Kathy Giusti, Founder and CEO.

The MMRF and MMRC undertook a rigorous process in updating the Scientific Agenda for 2007 to prioritize key research areas offering the most progress potential. This thorough and systematic process included extensive one-on-one interviews and collaborative tele-conferences with technology pioneers and, most recently, a Roundtable. The Roundtable was held in New York, NY and was comprised of an extraordinary assembly of academic scientists, industry, and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).



Gary Kelloff, PhD and Andrezej Jakubowiak, MD



Luca Rastelli, PhD; Maher Albitar, PhD; and Kathy Giusti

The MMRF and MMRC worked with Roundtable participants at these proceedings, to identify several high-impact programs that will guide the MMRF and MMRC as they continue to advance their research strategy. These programs include a focus on proteomics, imaging, and new validation models to accelerate each step in the drug development process and represent the MMRF’s short-, medium, and long-term commitment to bringing new treatments

to patients. The MMRF and MMRC will initiate several of these programs in the months to come through special Requests for Applications (RFAs).

The MMRF and MMRC extend its sincere appreciation to all those who helped advance this year’s Scientific Agenda planning process. Particularly we wish to acknowledge the Workshop Group Chairs, and all those who participated in the one-on-one interviews, and in the Roundtable.



(L-R) Working Group Chairs Michael Palladino, PhD; Jeff Trent, PhD; Lance Liotta, PhD; and Ken Anderson, MD; Kathy Giusti; Anne Quinn Young; Working Group Chairs David Parkinson, MD and Sagar Lonial, MD

Clinical Trials

MMRF Launches Navigator Program Matching Patients to Clinical Trials

The MMRF is proud to announce the launch of the MMRF Navigator Program, which will match patients to appropriate clinical trials. This highly personalized service is powered by EmergingMed and is available free to patients, physicians, and caregivers.

The Navigator Program represents an upgrade of myelomatrials.org and the Clinical Trials Monitor, the first-ever comprehensive myeloma-focused web-based search engine that debuted in 2002. Nearly twice as many trials will be listed and enhanced search criteria now make it easier for patients and visitors to learn about available clinical trials. A simple questionnaire for patients to fill out will assist in identifying specific studies for which they may be eligible. EmergingMed Clinical Trial Specialists are available to help patients understand their options and to facilitate contact with the team and the site conducting the trials. All submitted information is kept strictly confidential.

“The program exemplifies the MMRF’s commitment to accelerating the development of new therapies -- for myeloma and cancer overall,” notes Anne Quinn Young, MPH, MMRF’s Program Director. “We anticipate that clinical trial participation will increase, and trials will be completed more quickly.”

To Access the MMRF Navigator Program

On the Internet visit www.myelomatrials.org

By phone call (800) 506-9044

Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM EST

(except holidays) to speak with a
Clinical Trials Specialist

Industry Update

Survival Advantage Suggested with Revlimid & Low-dose Dexamethasone Regimen

Preliminary results from the Phase III Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) E4A03 trial in patients with newly diagnosed myeloma suggest a survival advantage with the use of Revlimid® (lenalidomide, Celgene) in combination with a low-dose of dexamethasone when compared with Revlimid plus the higher, standard-dose of the steroid.

The purpose of the study, which enrolled 455 patients, was to determine if the low-dose dexamethasone regimen would offer similar response rates and lower toxicity than the standard-dose regimen. Patients received Revlimid plus standard-dose dexamethasone (40 mg/day on days 1-4, 9-12, and 17-20) or low-dose dexamethasone (40 mg/day on days 1, 8, 15, and 22) for a total of 4 cycles.

The ECOG reported in April of this year, that its Data Monitoring Committee’s review of the preliminary results

found that overall survival at one year was better in the low-dose dexamethasone arm as compared to the high-dose arm (96% vs. 86%). Additionally, there were fewer side effects associated with the low-dose dexamethasone regimen. The result is that patients have been asked to switch to Revlimid plus low-dose dexamethasone.

Following the release of those results, a large randomized Phase III study of Revlimid-dexamethasone being conducted by the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG), was closed to enrollment. The study was designed to evaluate the safety and efficacy of standard-dose dexamethasone versus Revlimid plus standard-dose dexamethasone in patients with newly diagnosed myeloma who are not candidates for transplant. All patients will be offered the opportunity to receive Revlimid plus low-dose dexamethasone.

Ask The Expert



James Berenson, MD

In this issue's **Ask the Expert**, we feature James Berenson, MD, Medical & Scientific Director of the Institute for Myeloma & Bone Cancer Research, Los Angeles, CA.

Dr. Berenson, what treatments are appropriate for myeloma patients with impaired kidney function?

The kidneys help eliminate waste products from the blood, so kidney (renal) dysfunction can pose a problem with medications that are broken down and removed from the body in this manner. Renal dysfunction is common in patients with myeloma. Up to half of newly diagnosed patients experience renal impairment and up to 13% experience severe impairment and require dialysis.

Fortunately there are a lot of new treatment options for myeloma that can be used in patients with renal dysfunction. In fact, due to their effect on the disease itself, some myeloma treatments actually help reverse renal failure.

Velcade® (bortezomib, Millennium) can be safely used in patients with poor renal function, including patients on dialysis, without the need for dose adjustment. No significant difference in efficacy or side effects was seen between patients with and without renal dysfunction in Phase II clinical trials. Data from an NCI-sponsored pharmacokinetic study in cancer patients with impaired renal function show that Velcade clearance appears independent of renal function. However, it is recommended that patients with renal impairment be closely monitored for toxicities when treated with Velcade.

Thalomid® (thalidomide, Celgene) can also be used in patients with renal dysfunction and no dose adjustment is necessary in patients on dialysis.

Revlimid® (lenalidomide, Celgene) is substantially eliminated from the body through the kidneys, so the risk of toxicity may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. This requires care in dose selection and monitoring of renal function. Patients with creatinine levels >2.5 were excluded from Revlimid clinical trials, but ongoing studies should help determine optimal dosing in patients with impaired renal function. Preliminary data show that the combination of Revlimid and dexamethasone is equally effective regardless of renal function. However, patients with renal impairment tended to have lower baseline platelet counts and were at greater risk of low platelet counts.

Although rare, long-term use of bisphosphonates (Aredia® [pamidronate] or Zometa® [zoledronic acid], Novartis) at higher doses or infusion of these agents in shorter time periods than recommended can affect the kidneys. If I am trying to preserve renal function in newly diagnosed patients with severe kidney problems from myeloma, I tend to hold off using bisphosphonates until the kidney function has improved from the myeloma treatment unless there is evidence of extensive bone destruction or hypercalcemia (high levels of blood calcium). In the case of hypercalcemia, Zometa should be used to quickly remove excess calcium since it has been shown to be more effective than Aredia in normalizing calcium for cancer patients with this problem. However, Aredia should be used in cases of severe renal impairment since Zometa has not been evaluated in this patient population. Both bisphosphonates can be used in patients already on dialysis without dose adjustments.

“Fortunately there are a lot of new treatment options for myeloma that can be used in patients with renal dysfunction.”

-James Berenson, MD

The MMRF Thanks the following corporations for their support of
Myeloma Focus

AMGEN



MILLENNIUM

You Need To Know

Upcoming Institutional Insights Programs

September 17-18, 2007 :: Boston, MA

Patient/Caregiver Program
September 17: 4:30 - 8:00 PM

CME Program
September 18: 12:00 - 4:00 PM

Co-Chairs: Ken Anderson, MD and Paul Richardson, MD
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

October 4-5, 2007 :: Philadelphia, PA

Patient/Caregiver Program
October 4: 5:00 - 8:00 PM

Clinician CME Program
October 5: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Chair: Edward Stadtmauer, MD,
University of Pennsylvania

November 2-3, 2007 :: Palo Alto, CA

Patient/Caregiver Program
November 2: 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Clinician CME Program
November 3: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Chair: Steven Coutre, MD,
Stanford University

For more information,
please contact Sara Tyghter at
tyghters@themmr.org or
at (203) 972-1250, or visit
www.multiplemyeloma.org/medical_programs

A Telephone Education Series for Patients

September 6, 2007

Treating Patients with High-Risk Myeloma
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM EST

Bart Barlogie, MD, PhD
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Little Rock, AR

Rafael Fonseca, MD
Mayo Clinic
Scottsdale, AZ

November 15, 2007

Maximizing Upfront Response to Therapy
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM EST

Robert Z. Orlowski, MD, PhD
UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center
Chapel Hill, NC

S. Vincent Rajkumar, MD
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN

To Register
Email: myeloma@cancereducation.com
Tel: (877) 264-4949, option 1
Web: www.cancereducation.com
Click on **New Programs**
Select teleconference

WebCast: Update from ASCO and IMW

The MMRF will webcast highlights from the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) annual meeting in Atlanta and the International Myeloma Workshop (IMW). Exciting new data on treatments such as Revlimid, Velcade, stem cell transplant, and the emerging role of genomics will be presented. The webcast will be live on the MMRF website, stay tuned at www.multiplemyeloma.org

ASCO Faculty: Drs. Nikhil Munshi (Dana-Farber Cancer Institute) and Vincent Rajkumar (Mayo Clinic)

IMW Faculty: Drs. Meletios Dimopoulos (University of Athens) and Sagar Lonial (Emory University)

Raising Funds for Research

6th Annual Chicago Awards Dinner

continued from page 1

Bonnie Hunt, actor, director, former oncology nurse, and longtime MMRF friend, reprised her role as mistress of ceremonies and juxtaposed her witty humor with seriousness, to shed light on this disease and drive home the importance of research and the Foundation. “We are so seldom humbled to that real part of our hearts -- that place that helps us realize how fragile life is. I bless the day that I met Kathy Giusti; knowing her has been a gift and a source of inspiration,” said Bonnie Hunt.

Scott Hamilton and Bonnie Hunt were joined by an extensive list of Dinner Chairs for the event, including: Pam and Joe D’Amico, of the Damico Family Foundation; Jane and Bob DeBaun; Brian J. Feltzin of Sheffield Asset Management,



(L-R) Karen Andrews, Jennifer Campbell, and Kathy Giusti



(L-R) Al Heller with Dave Purcell

LLC; Joseph M. Hogan of GE Healthcare; Becky & Lester Knight; Michael D. O’Halloran of Aon Corporation; William A. Osborn of Northern Trust Corporation; Edward J. Phillips of Edward and Leslye Phillips Family Foundation; David P. Purcell of Continental Advisors, LLC; Philip J. Purcell of Continental Investors, LLC; Michael J. Sacks of Grosvenor Capital Management, LP; and Pat and Bill Wilson.



Scott Hamilton and Bonnie Hunt with Jane and Bob DeBaun and family



Brian Feltzin accepts award for his efforts to raise funds and awareness, presented by Scott Santarella

Raising Funds for Research

Friends for Life Gala

Lance Armstrong & Robert Wolf to be Honored at Friends for Life Gala

The MMRF is proud to announce that Tour de France champion and cancer survivor **Lance Armstrong** will receive the “Spirit of Hope” Award at this year’s Friends for Life Fall Gala, being held in Greenwich, CT on October 27, 2007.



Council and is one of the nation’s leading business executives.

The MMRF Friends for Life Fall Gala is a black-tie affair with more than 800 guests, including prominent business leaders and celebrities. Previous

“Lance Armstrong’s perseverance and vision continue to inspire the MMRF’s efforts to accelerate cancer research and bring better, more effective treatments to patients as quickly as possible. I am thrilled to honor Lance Armstrong at this exciting event” said Kathy Giusti, MMRF’s Founder and CEO.

guests have included News Anchor **Katie Couric**, **General Norman Schwarzkopf**, New York Yankees Pitching Coach **Mel Stottlemyre**, Olympian **Scott Hamilton**, and Grammy-award winning jazz musician **Diana Krall**. **Deborah Norville**, host of *Inside Edition*, will once again serve as our Mistress of Ceremonies.

The MMRF is also thrilled to announce that **Robert Wolf**, Chairman & CEO of UBS Americas, will serve as Event Chair, and be this year’s recipient of the MMRF’s “Corporate Leadership Award”. Robert serves on the MMRF Leadership

If you would like to attend this inspirational and celebratory evening along with **Geraldine Ferraro** and **Ann Curry**, please visit www.multiplemyeloma.org.

Consider an IRA Transfer Donation

by George Fabian

I was diagnosed with multiple myeloma in 2000, and yet, against the odds, I am still here and living a very full life. Without the MMRF, the therapies that have helped me would not have been developed or received fast-track approval from the FDA. That’s why I count my blessings and donate to the MMRF whenever I can.

Last year I decided to make a substantial donation to support the foundation’s efforts. My financial advisor suggested an IRA rollover. According to a special provision, valid only until the end of 2007, anyone 70½ and older can transfer up to \$100,000 directly from an IRA to charitable organizations. The amount of the donation counts towards the mandatory IRA distribution, eliminating the penalty that the IRS imposes on people who do not take their required amount. At the same

time, the donation is tax-free, reducing the amount of income tax paid on the distribution.

I encourage others to consider an IRA rollover as a way of supporting the MMRF. It helps you meet your mandatory IRA distribution requirements and reduces your tax burden. At the same time, it gives you the chance to see your donation at work during your lifetime, and it allows the MMRF to accelerate the development of new myeloma therapies.

To support the MMRF and for more information on making an IRA transfer, please contact Brian Porter at porterb@themmrf.org or visit www.multiplemyeloma.org and donate on line.

Please consult with your personal tax, investment or legal advisor before making decisions regarding charitable contributions.

Raising Funds for Research

Why I Support the MMRF

by Bill Schuett



As a myeloma patient, the MMRF and the research it enables, represent my greatest hope for life-saving new treatments. There are five concrete reasons why the MMRF brings me such hope:

1. Commitment to Drug Development

As a patient-led organization and the world's number-one funder of myeloma research, the MMRF leads the way in the development of novel therapies. The foundation's efforts have already contributed to the development and approval of three new therapies, Velcade, Thalomid, and Revlimid. The MMRF's commitment to drug development gives me hope that new therapeutic regimens will be available if and when I need them.

2. Fiscal Responsibility

Knowing that 95% percent of all funds raised by the MMRF go toward research and related programming, assures me that my gifts will directly support the

development of new therapies. Just as importantly, this efficiency extends to the research grant program. When funding an individual or institutional researcher, the MMRF requires that no more than 10% of its grant funds be applied to indirect costs. I know that this level of commitment that the MMRF requires is unparalleled.

3. Expert Peer Review

The MMRF employs a comprehensive peer-review process, which has been recognized and approved by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) as being as stringent and unbiased as its own process, insuring that only the most promising projects are supported. MMRF grant recipients also undergo an ongoing peer review to make sure that they are achieving their expected milestones and deliverables.

4. Portfolio of Research

I am particularly impressed by the MMRF's portfolio approach to research, which incorporates short-, mid-, and long-term components. In the short term, MMRF-supported clinical trials offer patients like me the promise of a pipeline of new therapies. The ongoing validation and prioritization of new targets and therapies assures me of a steady stream of effective new treatments. Finally, the MMRF's emphasis on genomics offers the longer-term opportunity to identify critical new targets that may lead to individualized treatment regimens.

5. Emphasis on Collaboration

Also important to me is the way the MMRF, through its 13-member

consortium, is driving collaboration to accelerate the development of new treatments. I believe that only by sharing information and working together will a cure for multiple myeloma be found.

The MMRF's patient-focused model of collaborative research is being applied to a number of diseases, including other cancers, multiple sclerosis, and autism. In addition, therapies developed with the support of the MMRF have the potential for use in treating other diseases. It is gratifying to know that my donations to the MMRF drive progress, not only in myeloma research, but in medical research as a whole.

Questions to Ask When Funding Medical Research:

- Q: What specific research will my gift fund?**
- Q: How much of my gift will go to research, and how much to overhead?**
- Q: What accreditations has my funded organization received?**
- Q: What process exists to evaluate and prioritize proposed research initiatives?**
- Q: What feedback will I receive regarding the use of my gift and progress made as a result?**

Raising Funds for Research

Laugh for Life

MMRF
Laugh
for Life



The 5th Annual Laugh for Life event raised \$500,000 for myeloma research. This two night comedy event was held at Carolines on Broadway in New York City. The line-up on Monday night included the evening event's Honorary

Chairman, Geraldine Ferraro and the event's Honored Guest, Dr. David Siegel from The Cancer Center at Hackensack University, and Corporate Chairman, Keryx Biopharmaceuticals. Tuesday night's line-up brought Honored Guest, Dr. Sundar Jagannath, St. Vincent's Comprehensive Cancer Center, joined by Event Chairman, Dr. Ruben Niesvizky, Weill Cornell and New York Presbyterian.

This event has such an amazing history. Founded by three sisters, Carol Goldschein, Sue Korn, and Cindi Stern after

Carol's diagnosis with multiple myeloma. Laugh for Life has grown from a small grassroots event attended by close family and friends to a premier, highly anticipated fundraiser that reaches the entire New York Tri-State Area myeloma community. Unlike most charitable events, Laugh mixes an inspiring speaking program with a hysterical comedy show that appeals to all.

Special thanks to the Executive Committee: Heidi Sandreuter and Rose Leventhal, and to the Committee Chairs: Hayley Korn and Adam Kaye, Laurie and Jonathon Soler, Sandy Samberg, Vera Thomas, Shirley Yohalem, and Susan Blum for their tireless efforts in making Laugh for Life the success that it has grown to be.



(L-R) Sue Korn with the Honorable Geraldine Ferraro and Michael Weiss, Corporate Chairman



Honored Guest, Dr. David Siegel



Dr. Ruben Niesvizky, Sue Korn, Carol Goldschein, Scott Santarella, and Dr. Sundar Jagannath

**Start Your Own Fundraiser
It's As Easy As**



Visit www.grassroots.multiplemyeloma.org to get started today.

Raising Funds for Research



Boston Race for Research

This year marked the 5th annual Race for Research walk/run in Boston, MA. There were 1,200 participants that came out on Saturday, May 12th to help celebrate the advances being made in myeloma research and helped to raise \$300,000.

Among those that attended were Honorary Event Chairman, Dr. Ken Anderson, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; Dr. Deborah Dunsire, President and CEO of Millennium Pharmaceuticals; and Pierre Woods and Willie Andrews of the New England Patriots. Special thanks to our top fundraisers and to all those who helped raise funds and awareness through this important event.



The Boston walk/run, a family-friendly event attracted many youngsters from the Markham Team



Team Hope – a new team to the Race for Research-Boston event helped to raise important funds and awareness for myeloma research



Jeff's Juggernauts, long-time supporters of the MMRF Race for Research-Boston, reunited for this year's event



Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc., National Sponsor of the Race for Research series and Flagship Sponsor of the Race for Research-Boston, showed their strong commitment to myeloma research with a 125 participating employee team

Contact Amelia Lewis,
Race Manager, at
lewisa@themmrf.org
to get involved
with future Race for
Research walk/run events.

Raising Funds for Research

San Francisco Race for Research

The 6th annual MMRF Race for Research San Francisco walk/run was held on Sunday, April 22nd and set a record for funds raised and for the number of participants that attended. An impressive \$300,000 was raised by 1,000 runners, walkers, and volunteers.

Jack Aiello, a myeloma patient and friend of the Foundation, was the Top Individual Fundraiser collecting over \$25,000. Jack has been responsible for raising over \$100,000 since the inception of the San Francisco Race. Sanjana's Team raised over \$10,000 and was awarded the event's top fundraising team.

Special thanks to the event's Flagship Sponsor, Kosan Biosciences who had over 80 employees attend to help raise awareness for multiple myeloma and to our Platinum Sponsor, PDL Biopharma. Thanks also to our Event Chairman Dr. David Irwin, Alta Bates, Dr. Keith Stockerl-Goldschein, Stanford University, and Tom Meschery, NBA All-star and former SF Warriors player.



Chaka's Champions return in 2007 with a great team of supporters



The Yellow Team soaked in the beautiful San Francisco sun at this year's walk/run

MMRF Race for Research Coming To a City Near You!

Cleveland, OH
Sunday, July 29

Brattleboro, VT
Sunday, August 19

Chicago, IL
Sunday, September 9

St. Paul, MN
Sunday, September 23

Philadelphia, PA
Saturday, October 6

Atlanta, GA
Sunday, October 21

Washington, DC
TBD in November

Club With Mission

Stephanie Ross is a girl with a mission. Her maternal grandfather lost his battle with myeloma five years ago and the MMRF received donations in his memory. When Stephanie reached high school and saw how many clubs there were in support of various charities, she was inspired to start her own.

Stephanie started, in honor of her grandfather, the MMRF Club at Horace Greeley High School in Chappaqua, NY. The club's motto is "Help Us Help Them Find a Cure." The club holds one fundraising event per month. To date, they have raised over \$1,100 for the MMRF.

"I would like every high school to get involved in this," she said. "Imagine how much money we would raise. If each high school had a club for the MMRF and raised over \$1,000 a year, it would make a huge difference to research and bring us one step closer to finding a cure."

For assistance in starting a club to support the MMRF, please contact Shelley Terry, Development Manager, at terrys@themmr.org

MMRF/MMRC Leadership Team

The MMRF and MMRC recently bolstered the Leadership Team to include two new members with experience in pharmaceutical oncology along with realigning existing members with responsibilities matching their talent and experience. This inimitable team, with success in drug discovery and development, fundraising, operations, and communications, is poised to accelerate the successful delivery of new treatments.



Kathy Giusti is Founder and CEO of both organizations, and an 11-year myeloma patient. Prior to founding the MMRF in 1998 with the mission to fund innovative myeloma research and speed drug development, Kathy spent more than 15 years in the pharmaceutical industry, where she worked in both marketing and worldwide commercial operations. She has been recognized with numerous awards for her work on behalf of all cancer patients. Today, she serves on the National Cancer Advisory Board, an appointment received in 2003 from President Bush, and is a member of the Board of Directors for IMS Health.



Scott Santarella, earlier this year was named COO and Executive Director of the MMRF. Scott joined the MMRF as Executive Director in 2000. With more than 20 years of fundraising and non-profit management experience, he is responsible for the leadership associated with business operations of the MMRF and MMRC, including fundraising, IT systems, human resources, programming, finances, and operational management.



Steven Young joined the MMRC as Executive Director in 2003, and is responsible for identifying and securing new business development opportunities. Previously, Steven oversaw operations and legal contracting for the MMRC since its inception. Prior to joining the MMRC, he spent more than 15 years in clinical research and healthcare management, in academia and with for-profit service providers.



Louise Perkins, PhD, recently joined the MMRF/MMRC as Director of Research. She is responsible for the strategic development and execution of the MMRF and MMRC research agenda. She has more than 15 years of oncology experience, most recently as Director of Cancer Research and previously Director of Research Licensing and Administration at Bayer Pharmaceuticals. Prior to joining Bayer, Perkins led a team of scientists focused on tumor biology and small molecule discovery at Schering-Plough Research Institute.



Anne Quinn Young, MPH, has been with the MMRF as Program Director since 2002. Her role recently expanded to include oversight of all communications efforts for the MMRF and MMRC, as well as all educational programming for patients/caregivers and healthcare professionals. She has more than 10 years of healthcare experience, predominantly in oncology. Prior to joining the MMRF she worked in public relations and market research consulting for the pharmaceutical industry.



Earlier this year, Sandra Wear, RN, joined the MMRC as Associate Director of Operations. She will focus on the execution of pre-clinical and clinical projects within the MMRC. She has 27 years of experience as an oncology nurse and as a senior industry manager within the healthcare, pharmaceutical, and CRO industries. Prior to joining the MMRC, Wear served as Assistant Director of Clinical Operations at Purdue Pharma and Vice President of Regional Monitoring Operations at Endpoint Research.

For more complete biographical, as well as contact information, please visit www.multiplemyeloma.org and www.themmrc.org.

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The information herein is not intended to replace the services of trained health professionals (or to be a substitute for medical advice). You are advised to consult with your healthcare professional with regard to matters relating to your health, and in particular regarding matters, which may require diagnosis or medical attention.

Meet the Board



Stephen Grand

The MMRF is pleased to announce that Stephen Grand has joined the Board of Directors.

A successful entrepreneur, Steve has been President and Partner since 1990 of Grand-Sakwa Properties, one of southeastern Michigan's major developers of residential and retail properties. He was the owner and served as President from 1980 to 2000 of Deco-Grand, Inc., a manufacturer of precision components and assemblies for diesel engines and automotive industries. Born in Detroit, Steve holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Michigan, School of Engineering.

Steve was introduced to the MMRF by Board member Bill Wilson, shortly after he had been diagnosed with multiple myeloma. He and his wife Nancy have been generous donors to the Foundation, channeling funds to the validation of novel compounds and the expansion of the library screening program.

"Steve is an extraordinary friend to the Foundation and understands firsthand the importance of collaboration and accountability in achieving our mission of bringing effective new therapies to patients as quickly as we can," said MMRF Founder and CEO Kathy Giusti. "He has already served as a wonderful sounding board for the management team, and we are very pleased that he has chosen to bring his experience and commitment to the MMRF Board of Directors."

"From my personal experience, after being diagnosed with myeloma, I learned that it is a nasty and difficult cancer to fight," said Steve. "But I believe that with the work the MMRF and MMRC are doing, it won't be long before improved treatments and even a cure are found."

Steve has served on the boards of the Karmanos Cancer Institute, Focus Hope, and the American Technion Society, as well as on the Endowment Committee of the Jewish Federation of San Francisco. He is a member of the United Way DeTocqueville Society of Michigan and a member of the Northern California Presidents Organization. He and Nancy live in San Francisco and have two adult children.

*We are extremely optimistic about the progress we are making, **but will not be satisfied until myeloma is a curable disease.** You can help make this goal a reality by giving generously. Log on to www.multiplemyeloma.org and donate today!*



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Accelerating the Search for a Cure

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MMRF's 6th Annual Chicago Dinner Awards



(L-R) Al Heller, Scott Hamilton, Tony Kesman,
and Bonnie Hunt



(L-R) Bob DeBaun, Scott Hamilton, Joe D'Amico,
Bonnie Hunt, and Lester Knight