



REIN IN SARCOMA

Increase awareness. Increase survivors.

On connection and the human touch...



"As a sarcoma survivor, I often think about my personal experience when I'm in the research lab. Whenever I'm having a rough week, thinking back to what I, and many other cancer survivors have gone through, gets me the drive I need to keep changing the sarcoma story."

—Natalie Wolf, Sarcoma Survivor

As the year comes to an end, we reflect on the meaningful connections that come from the human touch—some sincere and intentional, and some others serendipitous and unlikely, like the story we share with you today. We also take a moment to grieve the lives of the loved ones we lost to sarcoma, and to celebrate and remember the meaningful ways in which they touched us.

In 2010, at the age of 18, Natalie Wolf was starting her freshman year at the U of MN College of Biological Sciences when she was diagnosed with Ewing's Sarcoma. She had to take a year off of her studies to undergo treatment at the U of MN Masonic Children's Hospital. After one surgery and over a dozen chemotherapy sessions, Natalie won the battle against sarcoma in June of 2011, but not without the support of her family and friends.

In 2015, Miranda Mead was a champion cross-country runner who encountered a speed bump in her life when diagnosed with Ewing's Sarcoma just before her 16th birthday. Soon after, she began chemotherapy at Children's Hospital, followed by six weeks of proton beam therapy at Mayo Clinic.

Natalie and Miranda didn't know life would connect them in more than one way

Not only were Natalie and Miranda active students with big aspirations who got diagnosed with the same type of rare sarcoma in their teenage years, but they had also attended the same high school. In 2017 they met through the Rein in Sarcoma Patient Support Program and shared their journeys.

Natalie, now a Ph.D student at the University of California, Berkeley, became a sarcoma researcher during her undergraduate years and worked under the leadership of



"RIS fills a gap in the sarcoma landscape for many children and adults who feel isolated by this rare disease."

—Miranda Mead, Sarcoma Survivor

Double your contribution!

Three anonymous donors have pledged to match all year-end donations up to \$10,000

Take advantage of this opportunity to double your donation and help us reach our \$20,000 year-end goal.

Dr. David Largaespada —researcher and professor at the department of Genetics, Cell Biology and Development at the U of MN—on cutting-edge research funded by Rein in Sarcoma. This has given Natalie a unique perspective on the impact of sarcoma research as a survivor and student.

Miranda is an active spokesperson raising awareness and educating the public about sarcoma. She was the keynote speaker at our second annual Fall Fundraiser this past October, where she touched the heart of every person in the room as she shared her inspiring story.

Their connection has made us reflect on the different ways in which Rein in Sarcoma touches the lives of many patients, survivors, and their loved ones. Unique stories like Miranda and Natalie's remind us of the importance of continuing our threefold mission of patient support, research and education.

It takes courage, love and generosity to change the sarcoma story, and we hope you will consider making a donation to our year-end campaign

Your contribution will ensure that patients like Miranda receive the support they need, that cutting-edge research like Dr. Largaespada's can continue to improve treatments for sarcoma, and that more students like Natalie learn about the importance of research to find a cure.

Additional ways in which you can help include holding your own fundraiser, joining one of our many active committees, or organizing educational opportunities for your school, church or civic club.

Your donation has the power to change the sarcoma story and get closer to fulfilling Karen Wyckoff's vision of "a world without sarcoma"

As you plan your end-of-year giving, please consider how many more lives can be saved through sarcoma research and education.

Thank you for your support,

—The Rein in Sarcoma family