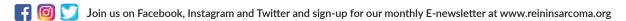
# Funding Change — Changing Lives



# REIN IN SARCOMA House Party Kit

## Stronger together



7401 Central Ave NE, Ste A, Fridley, MN 55432 | www.reininsarcoma.org 1-844-SARCOMA | www.reininsarcoma.org | 763-205-1467







#### Dear Friend of Rein in Sarcoma,

Welcome! I want to personally thank you for your passion for Rein in Sarcoma by agreeing to become a fundraising Host! We created this new House | Neighborhood Party Kit to celebrate the beginning of our next 20 Years. We're asking our special friends and supporters to celebrate with us by hosting a House | Neighborhood Party event. We will highlight photos and videos of your events on our social media platforms.

\*Due to Covid 19, we ask that you begin with a social media campaign, and plan for an in-person event once we are safe with vaccines available.

Hosting a House | Neighborhood Party is a great way to raise awareness of Rein in Sarcom — helping to highlight these rare forms of cancers as well as increase donations for RIS to support patients and their loved ones. You may find the enclosed House | Neighborhood Party Kit and the presentation materials helpful. This House | Neighborhood Party Kit provides straightforward information, resources and ideas to host a great gathering.

Volunteering to host a party allows guests to see old friends, meet new people and share the love and commitment to supporting those with sarcoma. House | Neighborhood Parties enhance Rein in Sarcoma's ability to sustain our current programs and services while meeting our future goals and objectives. We will be offering a complimentary Rein in Sarcoma window decal for anyone hosting a House Party or Social Media event raising a minimum contribution to RIS of \$100.

In addition, the RIS website has videos and sarcoma patient stories to link to or download to share at your party. Your support inspires and makes it possible for RIS to continue to expand our vital programs and services. Thanks again for helping us share our mission to educate the public and medical community about sarcomas, support sarcoma patients and their loved ones, and fund research directed toward developing new treatments and finding a cure for sarcoma cancers.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or to exchange ideas to support our programs and services. Here's to successful RIS House | Neighborhood Parties!

Warm regards,

#### Melissa

Melissa Davies Director of Development Rein in Sarcoma

## Increase awareness. Increase survivors.

Are you a passionate member of the Rein in Sarcoma organization and ready to share your excitement with others? You can do this in a very personal way by hosting a House | Neighborhood Party. House parties are one of the most common ways supporters can introduce the Rein in Sarcoma nonprofit organization to others. House parties are a great opportunity to share your personal belief in supporting people with sarcoma cancer and those who love them.

#### WHAT IS A HOUSE PARTY?

It's a great way to raise funds and build support for Rein in Sarcoma! A house party is an informal fund and friend-raiser for RIS and its mission. House Parties help spread the word about sarcoma and the lives that it touches. They also help support medical research and education about sarcoma cancer; opening the door to new treatments and a potential cure for sarcoma cancer.

#### WHY RAISE FUNDS FOR REIN IN SARCOMA?

To raise funds to support the Rein in Sarcoma a nonprofit 501(c) (3)) organization and its mission which is the largest sarcoma nonprofit organization in the Upper Midwest. To extend the importance of supporting core programs and services for people with sarcoma cancer to include:

- Patient and family support: Patient Education Notebooks, Patient Care Tote Bags, Patient Mentorship and gatherings;
- Educate the public and medical community about sarcoma cancer: Jan Maudlin RIS Sarcoma Scholar program for third year medical students, Annual Sarcoma Research Symposium, Patient Education Notebook as advised by medical professionals, events, monthly e-News, and various other communications and outreach;
- Sarcoma Cancer Research Funding: RIS funds medical research for new treatments and research for finding a cure for sarcoma cancer;
- To have fun with friends while raising awareness for Rein in Sarcoma.

#### KEY STEPS TO ORGANIZE A SUCCESSFUL HOUSE PARTY FUNDRAISER

- **1. Select a Date & Time** the best times to set House Party dates are generally on Wednesday and Friday evenings and on Sunday afternoons.
- 2. Build a Guest List Invite your friends, neighbors, business associates, and members of groups that are important to you. Recruit a co-host to help you organize, spread the word and invite their contacts. A House Party can come in many forms you know your guests better than anyone and can create the best party to fit their needs. Explore a party theme that will fit the time of day, time of year and your guest comfort level.



- 3. Select an Invitation Around the Theme You may use an electronic or written template that Rein in Sarcoma provides or, use a free electronic invitation service like evite.com or Party4aPurpose.com). Please use Rein in Sarcoma in the title or subtitle of your party. Make sure when you give the party time you state when the presentation for your party will begin. Make it clear that this is a fundraiser near and dear to your heart, and that you want those you care about to know about this important nonprofit organization. Suggested donation language to highlight may include: "donations are gratefully accepted" or "please remember your checkbook" both of which are welcoming and nonconfrontational ways to emphasize the importance of raising revenue. Add social media to your invitation and fundraising plan, post important facts and information about sarcoma from the RIS website, and what you will be doing at your event.
- **4. RSVP's** Give your email and phone number in addition to the invitation stream for RSVP's. Track your RSVP's (see attached RIS Guest Tracking sheet). Use the phone calls as reminders: "I want to make sure you received the invitation to my House Party I'd love to see you there it should be a great gathering!"
- **5. Reminders** Send follow-up calls or evite/email reminders to all invited guests 1 week prior to the event.
- **6. Sign-in sheet** Make sure this is available as guests arrive. RIS will send a thank you to all guests and keep them informed of RIS happenings. You may also want to have name tags available (downloadable Hello tags included in kit).
- **7. Plan your House Party from theme to food, beverages and presentation** Organize the needs of the party and make sure that your presentation of the fundraiser is ready.
- **8. Presentation** Please include one of the following: RIS official Power Point, official RIS video Overview of RIS (provided in packet or you can find the link to this and other options on RIS's website); or a special speaker if you have one (Sarcoma survivor or caregiver, medical professional, etc.). The RIS presentation need not take more than 20 30 minutes including an official "Ask" for the fundraising portion. The presentation should be succinct but compelling and inspiring. You know Rein in Sarcoma you can do this, and we are here to help!
- **9. A House Party Timeframe** Generally House Parties are between 1.5 and 2 hours. You can host an early cocktail hour, afternoon BBQ, or a dinner. Timing may be:

**6:00 - 6:30** Arrival of guests – sign House Party sheet

6:30 - 7:00 Guests mingle — enjoy food and drink

**7:00 - 7:30** Host addresses group – presentation & ask

**7:30 - 8:00+** Host thanks the guests and invites them to continue to mingle and enjoy the food and beverages

10. The Ask — Set a fundraising goal (\$100 will qualify you for a Rein in Sarcoma window decal) — many parties far exceed their goals. Determine who should make the ask; give an empathic ask as to why RIS is so important to you and why sarcoma awareness is vital to increased survivorship (early diagnosis supports a 20-30% increase in survivorship). Have several paths to donate: RIS donor envelopes, and online donation availability on a computer with the RIS website: <a href="https://www.reininsarcoma.org/donate">www.reininsarcoma.org/donate</a>. The "Ask" should immediately follow your presentation. This is the time to share your goal for the evening: ask your guests to give to the best of their ability. Every donation count — in fact they are lifesaving! Share your goal for the evening before they are asked for their donations. It may be nice to have a glass bowl with donation envelopes and pens for guests to drop-in their donation envelopes.

**11. End the Ask** — The RIS Thank You video clip can be a great way to follow the ask portion of the presentation with a pause for your guests to fill-out donation envelopes, write checks, or text-to-donate. A final special appreciation from you to your guests will close the presentation portion of the event.

- 12. Make sure you have enough information on the RIS organization:
  - RIS Overview/highlight sheet
  - RIS Story cards (downloadable)
  - RIS Organizational video
- 13. Guest Follow-Up Be sure to thank all of your guests for coming as they are leaving. Send thank you notes via mail or email within a few days. Let your guests know that they were significant in meeting your fundraising goals. Have a follow-up plan for those you invited but could not make the event. Send them a note with a link to RIS's webpage: www.reininsarcom.org/donate asking them to donate to this great cause they can mention you in the note section and we can link their donation to your efforts.
- **14. Rein in Sarcoma Follow-Up** Be sure to let the RIS's Director of Development, Melissa Davies, (contact information at the bottom of this document) know how your party went, the donation goal you achieved, and forward her all contact information and donations.
- **15. RIS** We will send-out a thank you to all of your guests, so make sure their information is shared with RIS, so your guests receive a thank you letter, email or note.
- **16. RIS** We welcome feedback and pictures and videos of your event. Some may be used to highlight RIS House Party events and in our marketing communications.

#### PLAN ON HOSTING A RIS HOUSE PARTY?

If you plan on hosting a Rein in Sarcoma fundraising House Party, please contact: Melissa Davies, Director of Development msdavies55043@gmail.com. Melissa will give you any advice she can to help you think through and plan your event to make it fun and successful. She will also provide you with any RIS materials you will need for your presentation.

#### **House | Neighborhood Party Ideas:**

- Intimate gatherings at your home (cocktails, afternoon tea, etc.)
- A BBQ or pool party on a hot summer day
- A coffee/tea gathering everyone can bring their favorite treat to share
- A potluck at your church or workplace whatever type of gathering you choose to host, make it unique to you and your community
- An after-hours party
- A neighborhood block party to raise awareness







## **SAMPLE INVITATION LETTER**

Dear
I would love to connect with you over something very personal and important to me, sarcoma cancer. As a supporter and a
I am thrilled to be able to host this event to raise awareness about the wonderful work of Rein in Sarcoma whose mission is to educate the public and medical community about sarcomas, support sarcoma patients and their loved ones, and fund research directed toward developing new treatments and to find a cure for sarcoma cancers.
Rein in Sarcoma is one of the largest nonprofit sarcoma organizations in the Upper Midwest. RIS has served thousands of sarcoma patients and their loved ones and funded over \$2 million dollars in medical research which has leveraged over \$13.4 million to additional sarcoma research studies.
I would love to share my experiences with you and tell you more about the wonderful work and programs of Rein in Sarcoma.
Please join me in a wonderful evening fun, friendship and community for a great cause.
Details           When:           Where: The Home of           RSVP by to at or {email address}
Food and drinks will be provided! Your presence is appreciated. If you are unable to attend, but would still like to donate to the cause, please visit the RIS website at: www.reininsarcoma.org/donate. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Hope to see you at the party!
Sincerely,
Your name and contact information



\*To be sent by host

Dear \_



#### SAMPLE FOLLOW-UP THANK YOU LETTER

Thank you for attending my House Party benefitting Rein in Sarcoma, a nonprofit organization, now entering its 21st year providing greatly needed programs and services to the sarcoma community. I hope you enjoyed the event. We had a wonderful time and were so happy you were able to attend. I hope you enjoyed yourself and learned more about this organization I support and deeply believe in.

Your interest in our work means a lot to me. My hope is that you can now bring awareness to others because increased awareness increases the odds of survivorship. We are grateful for new supporters like yourself who care about people with sarcoma cancer and their loved ones.

Please consider staying connected to the organization and the great work that is happening. Help RIS achieve its 2021 goals to expand programs and services to more people and communities.

Sincerely,

Your name and contact information



# **Our Story**

The Karen Wyckoff Rein in Sarcoma Foundation (RIS) was created in 2001 by Karen Wyckoff, a 25-year old Synovial Sarcoma Patient. As Karen battled this rare cancer, she discovered the relative lack of education and supportive resources around sarcoma cancers. She resolved to put her energy towards an effort to increase the quality of life of sarcoma patients and their loved ones, to increase the odds of survival for sarcoma patients and to fund rare sarcoma cancers with medical research. Karen realized this vision and established Rein in Sarcoma's first signature event - Party in the Park. She passed away shortly thereafter. For twenty years, Rein in Sarcoma has built on Karen's vision for the entire sarcoma community in Minnesota, the Upper Midwest and nationwide.

A critical element for successful medical outcomes is early diagnosis. Rein in Sarcoma is working with Dr. Hurley, of HealthPartners, on an exciting new electronic early diagnostic tool to assist primary medical care providers with a faster, accurate diagnosis of patients with a suspicious lump, bump or bruise. The tool educates and suggests imaging with an MRI to determine the next best steps. The initial clinical testing for this tool trial has proven highly effective.

At Rein in Sarcoma, our mission is to educate the public and medical community about sarcomas, support sarcoma patients and their loved ones, and fund research directed toward developing new treatments and finding a cure for sarcoma cancers. Help RIS bring awareness to assist sarcoma patients and their families through personal outreach, education and support of sarcoma research like the early electronic soft tissue sarcoma diagnostic tool for use by medical professionals.

### Increase Awareness | Increase Survivors

#### **RIS PROGRAMS**

**Patient and Family Support** – RIS is a major form of support and inspiration for a very lonely disease. We provide information and inspiration to sarcoma patients, families, and survivors. RIS does this through:

- "Peer to Peer" patient support and mentorship
- Free Sarcoma Patient Starter Notebooks
- Monthly coffee meetups
- Rein in Sarcoma gatherings throughout the year, including our annual Patient Picnic Party in the Park, Winter Gathering and Rein in Sarcoma Remembers

**Education & Awareness** – Sarcomas are too often delayed in diagnosis. With education and awareness, thousands of lives can be saved. RIS provides:

- Red Flags education materials vetted by our Medical Advisory Board of sarcoma experts from Mayo Clinic, MN Children's Hospitals and Clinics and the University of Minnesota
- Medical student education and sarcoma scholarships including the Jan Maudlin RIS Sarcoma Scholars scholarships

Sarcoma Research – working through our medical partnerships, RIS has funded:

- Research grants to the University of Minnesota, MN Children's Hospitals and Clinics and the Mayo Clinic
- Funding for a promising new early electronic diagnostic tool in partnership with HealthPartners, a local medical system

#### **SARCOMA CANCERS**

Sarcomas are aggressive and rare types of cancers that occur in the connective tissues of the body. Approximately 15,000 new cases of soft tissue and bone sarcoma are diagnosed each year in the United States. While rare among adults (less than 2% of all adult cancers), sarcoma cancers are among the top five most commonly diagnosed cancers affecting children.

Rein in Sarcoma has raised over \$2 million for sarcoma research, which in turn has leveraged another \$13.4 million. Although significant, the money is only a small part of our story. We are a small but mighty nonprofit organization dedicated to sarcoma patients, survivors and their families. We represent all who come to celebrate life and hope for those with sarcoma.

We are a community of dedicated doctors, nurses, volunteers, patients, survivors, caregivers, donors and staff who are here to improve the lives of those with sarcoma cancers.

"Research and education are the cornerstones for improving sarcoma patient survival and quality of life." - Dr. Denis Clohisy, University of Minnesota

#### **JOIN US**

We are the story of every sarcoma survivor who becomes part of our community, bringing a new level of energy and hope to all touched by sarcoma cancer. Research, fellowship, support, and caring are a powerful mix. A mixture that has given Rein in Sarcoma a proven track record for success.

None of this would have been possible without the efforts hundreds of volunteers and the support of over 3,500 contributors, supporters, corporate sponsors, sarcoma patients and loved ones.

Join us through your donation, by volunteering, or by attending the Annual Rein in Sarcoma event at Cafesjian's Carousel in Como Park, the last Monday in July. Check our website for more details: https://www.reininsarcoma.org

## Stronger together





Join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and sign-up for our monthly E-newsletter at www.reininsarcoma.org

