



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Debbie's Dream Foundation's 7th Annual Stomach Cancer Capitol Hill Advocacy Day Pursues Stomach Cancer Research Funding

Advocates gather on Capitol Hill to urge Congress to increase research resources in the fight against stomach cancer.

Washington, D.C. – (February 7, 2019) – Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer (DDF) will host its 7th Annual Stomach Cancer Capitol Hill Advocacy Day in Washington D.C. on February 25-26, 2019. This event allows advocates to meet with congressional lawmakers to share their personal stories and relay the latest statistics and facts about stomach cancer. Each year, advocates ask that stomach cancer remain eligible for funding through the Department of Defense's Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program. Funding increases for the National Cancer Institute and investment in stomach cancer research is also a top priority.

DDF will present Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, of California's 18th Congressional District, with the Congressional Champion Award in recognition of her commitment to reducing death and suffering from stomach cancer and other recalcitrant cancers that have a five-year survival rate of less than 50 percent and through the launch and continued leadership of the Deadliest Cancers Caucus.

"It is always an honor to be granted the opportunity to meet with lawmakers who are genuinely interested and committed to funding stomach cancer research," said DDF Executive Director Andrea Eidelman. "We've been fortunate to have had past support from congressional leaders such as U.S. Representative Lois Frankel and former Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen. This year, we are looking forward to building new relationships and strengthening others to ensure our mission gets included in the conversation."

DDF is also pleased to present its Volunteer of the Year Award to DDF San Francisco Chapter Co-Founder Branny Carrasco for her incredible devotion to the fight against stomach cancer.

To register for the event or to learn more about DDF, visit <https://debbiesdream.org/advocacy/>, call 954-475-1200, or email Events@DebbiesDream.org.

About Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer

DDF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness about gastric cancer, advancing funding for research, and providing education and support internationally to patients, families, and caregivers. DDF seeks as its ultimate goal to make the cure for stomach cancer a reality.

DDF was founded in 2009 by Debbie Zelman after she was diagnosed with stage IV incurable gastric cancer in 2008 and given only weeks to live. Debbie is considered a pioneer by many for bringing awareness to the plight of stomach cancer patients worldwide and the lack of federal funding for stomach cancer research. She achieved all of this while receiving hundreds of rounds of chemotherapy in addition to daily oral treatments. Debbie passed away on December 23, 2017, at the age of 50, almost a decade later. As a

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result of her leadership, DDF now has a Scientific and Medical Advisory Board, comprised of world-renowned physicians, and chapters throughout the United States and in Canada and Germany. DDF strives to continue Debbie's mission and make her dream come true. To learn more about DDF, please visit us at www.DebbiesDream.org.



Photo One: Debbie's Dream Foundation advocates posing on Capitol Hill for the 6th Annual Stomach Cancer Capitol Hill Advocacy Day in 2018.

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