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KIDS **V** CANCER

Changing the landscape of pediatric research

Dear friends,

I want to let you know that **President Obama signed the Creating Hope Act into law** on July 9th! Here's a photo of the pen he used to sign it.



This is an important victory in our efforts to change the landscape of pediatric cancer research. It does not bring back Jacob, or all the other children who have been lost to cancer. Nor does it eliminate the ongoing impairments of those children who were treated by existing protocols and survived. But **it does take us one step closer to developing new drugs for kids with cancer and other rare diseases**. And it creates hope for a healthier future.

Kids v Cancer and the Creating Hope Act received some national press coverage recently, including an [ABC World News story on July 28th](#) and a [Washington Post column on July 4th](#).

Beside the Creating Hope Act, Kids v Cancer has made progress on a number of other fronts, including:

- Securing critical tissue donations, which have helped spur on important research;
- Working with the FDA to create additional opportunities for pediatric cancer researchers to study drugs developed for adult cancers; and
- Raising the level of awareness about the challenges facing the pediatric cancer community, including by:
 - Encouraging President Obama to declare September 2010 and September 2011 to be Childhood Cancer Awareness months.
 - Presenting to Congressional caucuses including the Childhood Cancer Caucus, the Technology Cancer Caucus and the Rare Disease Caucus.
 - Participating in several pediatric cancer advocacy days, including visits by Jacob's friends from New York to Capitol Hill.
 - Developing a pediatric cancer social network, including 13,000 fans on our Facebook page and over 500,000 members on our Facebook Causes page - this proved critical in our outreach to Members of Congress and their staff.

Looking ahead, Kids v Cancer plans to focus in the coming months on the effective implementation of the Creating Hope Act. We also plan to work with the FDA on additional actions that might be taken to enhance the access of pediatric cancer researchers to potentially promising drugs and to reduce or eliminate other obstacles to the development of more effective drugs for treating pediatric cancer.

On behalf of Adrienne, Justin, Jenn, and Sarah, the Kids v Cancer staff, **we are grateful for your support and involvement**, without which none of this could have been achieved. We look forward to sharing additional victories with you as our work continues.

Sincerely,

Nancy Goodman

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