



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Young Professionals Gather in NYC to Help Solve the NF Puzzle

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New York, NY — The Children's Tumor Foundation recently hosted its third annual Young Professionals Event to benefit those who suffer from neurofibromatosis (NF). Held at Frank's Restaurant NYC, the event raised over \$26,000. Proceeds from this event will directly fund the Children's Tumor Foundation research program, specifically the newly launched Drug Discovery Initiative. At a cost of \$25,000 per drug, this program will screen compounds for their efficacy in treating NF in cell-based assays and mouse models. Prior to this event, the Foundation had raised enough to test six compounds. The success of the Young Professionals Event has now enabled the funding of a seventh compound and the Foundation anticipates the success of its upcoming Gala Dinner on November 8th will permit even more.

Founder and Chairwoman of the Young Professionals Committee (YPC), Bara Colodne has a special reason for her involvement with the Foundation. Diagnosed with NF at only ten days old, Bara has seen her fair share of obstacles and has had over thirty surgeries to prove it. But the success of the Committee gives her hope for the future: "We had a great turn out, which means more awareness and we even doubled our profit from last year. Creating and founding this committee and having our benefit for the third year in a row has been so fulfilling for me. Living with NF, I feel that it is my purpose to put this disorder on the map. In doing so, I hope to create a global awareness that will lead to a cure." It is because of this passionate and determined attitude she shares with her fellow committee members that this year's event was such a success.

The Young Professionals Committee was formed to encourage young people in the metropolitan area to get involved and truly make a difference in the lives of the many individuals affected by neurofibromatosis. Today, the Committee is comprised of young, dedicated individuals from the metropolitan area who are committed to supporting the Foundation's mission to better the lives of the many individuals who suffer from NF. Members volunteer their time, talents, and skills to help solve the NF puzzle. The Children's Tumor Foundation encourages the establishment of Young Professionals Committees across the country and expects these to pop up in New Jersey, Connecticut, California and Georgia in the near future. The Young Professionals Committee welcomes new members and invites interested individuals to contact (212) 344-6633 ext.236 or email youngprofessionals@ctf.org.

About the Children's Tumor Foundation:

The Children's Tumor Foundation is the leading not-for-profit health organization dedicated to improving the health and well being of the 1 in 3,500 individuals living with neurofibromatosis by funding research to enable effective treatments and ultimately a cure for NF. For more information about the Children's Tumor Foundation, please visit www.ctf.org or call 212-344-6633.

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