**December 2016**

**Dear PSMRF supporters,**

**On behalf of everyone on the board of the Peggy Spiegler Melanoma Research Foundation I would like wish everyone a very Happy Holiday Season and a safe and Healthy New Year.**

**This past year has been a very exciting and successful year. PSMRF has gotten involved with some new campaigns and we are doing our best to Make Melanoma a Memory.**

**As you may know our attack on melanoma has three pillars. We support awareness, education, and research through our two medical partners, the Abramson Cancer Center at the University of Pennsylvania, and MD Anderson at Cooper Cancer Center.**

**The monies that we have given to MD Anderson at Cooper Cancer Center are supporting awareness and education programs. To date more than 500 people have participated in their skin screening and/or education programs. Dow Chemical, M&T Bank, Campbell’s Soup, Berlin Night Out, Camden County College are among the organizations that have taken advantage of the free programs; these programs are saving lives.**

**The monies we send to the Abramson Cancer Center are used to sponsor an annual melanoma conference held in May in Philadelphia. This attracts more than 400 people. There are presentations by doctors and melanoma patients like Troy Aikman, who spoke about his melanoma diagnosis.**

**At Abramson Cancer Center we also help pay the salary of a clinical trial manager who helps patients guide their way through the process of finding the proper clinical trial. Those of you that have had to navigate your way through a clinical trial know what the horror of that can be without assistance.**

**We also have been making an annual melanoma presentation to the first year medical students at the University Of Pennsylvania Medical School. This year was our fourth presentation.**

**And lastly, we support scientific research at Abramson Cancer Center. This year there was a major breakthrough by a researcher who we are supporting. We are so proud of that. The link to the article on the breakthrough is below.**

[**Ratio of Certain Immune Cells in the Blood to Tumor Burden Correlated With Outcome for Melanoma Patients Treated With Pembrolizumab**](http://www.ascopost.com/News/43964?utm_medium=Email&utm_source=ExactTarget&utm_campaign=&utm_term=5893284)

**The Peggy Spiegler Melanoma Research Foundation is a founding member of the Melanoma Action Coalition. The coalition is now an international group of grassroots foundations that have banded together to make our voices louder and share resources. In the last year MAC has participated in a program called Skinny on the Skin which is a program designed to educate beauticians how to recognize suspicious lesions on their clients and to recommend that they see a dermatologist. We have become an Advocacy Partner with Cure Magazine, the premier cancer magazine in the U.S. We have also worked on a state by state basis with the American Cancer Society to ensure that minors cannot use tanning salons without parental approval, and with groups to make it possible for students to bring sun screen to school and camp without a doctor’s prescription.**

**The first link below will take you to an on line article in Cure Magazine about MAC and the second link will take you to a blog that I wrote for Cure.**

[**http://www.curetoday.com/advocacy/melanoma-action/melanoma-action-coalition-growing-in-numbers-to-spread-disease-awareness**](http://www.curetoday.com/advocacy/melanoma-action/melanoma-action-coalition-growing-in-numbers-to-spread-disease-awareness)

[**http://www.curetoday.com/advocacy/melanoma-action**](http://www.curetoday.com/advocacy/melanoma-action)

**PSMRF is an approved 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. There are no paid employees, we pay no rent and we have no office expenses. All of the money that we collect goes to fighting melanoma.**

**We have accomplished a lot in 2016, but there is much still to do and we need your help. Here is how you can help.**

**Support our fundraising events and bring a friend. Set up your own fundraising page for our 2017 walk/run when it is announced**

**Volunteer to help. Anything that you can do to help would be greatly appreciated.**

**Sign up on Amazon Smile so that when you order almost anything that Amazon sells, a percentage of the sale goes to PSMRF. It is easy and no cost to you.**

**Make sure you choose the Peggy Spiegler Melanoma Research Foundation as your charlty of choice. Here’s the link:** [**smile.amazon.com**](https://smile.amazon.com/gp/r.html?C=7H9VD8U0VUVE&R=17CY37QG4QACR&T=C&U=http%3A%2F%2Fsmile.amazon.com%2Fch%2F27-2470391&A=HXBKZV1CSN6AYVPRDFL7JOMFC3WA&H=XSLOGA8LTCWJ5KRPMVULPHKLBAEA)**.**

**If you know of someone who would like to become a sponsor let me know and I will contact them directly.**

**Do you have a business or are you a part of a group that would like to take advantage of our melanoma presentations and/or skin screenings? Please contact me and we will arrange it.**

**It would be fantastic if you would like to host a fundraising event.**

**Like us on Facebook. We will be on Twitter and Instagram shortly. We will be more active on these sites going forward.**

**A very heartfelt thank you to everyone for everything that you do. We would not be able to accomplish all of these things without you.**

**Best regards,**

**Neil Spiegler**