

# A BREATH *of* HOPE

L U N G F O U N D A T I O N

Dear Molly,

In a recently released report called 'Global Analysis of Lung Cancer Research' published July 2016 in the Journal of Thoracic Oncology, it was noted that lung cancer research accounted for 5.6% of all cancer research in 2013. As the world's deadliest cancer, this reinforces the point that there seems to be little correlation between the burden of the disease and the level of research and dollars devoted to the disease. We have our work cut out for us.

Today, *A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation* is proud to announce the first of two **2016 A Breath of Hope Research Fellows: Dr. Jun-Chieh (James) Tsay** from NYU's School of Medicine, Pulmonary Department.

Dr. Tsay was one of many strong contenders for our \$150,000 fellowships and was chosen through a robust review process that includes review and scoring by a group of national oncology experts, as well as further review by our own research committee.

Dr. Tsay's research focuses on early detection of lung cancer. We named this prestigious award: **The Larry Benjamin Early Detection Award** in gratitude to Mary Jane Benjamin, John and Wanda Benjamin of Northfield Lines, and the entire Benjamin family who have so generously supported the work and mission of this foundation in memory of Larry.

Dr. Tsay studies a unique set of microorganisms (microbiomes) living in the airways of individuals with lung cancer. By defining this microbiome, he aims to understand how this "community" of microbes may contribute to lung cancer development and serve as a detection tool of early lung cancer.

## [More about Dr. Tsay](#)

Stay tuned this fall for our second announcement when we will introduce our 2016 research fellowship focused on understanding the biology of women and lung cancer. Because of rising lung cancer diagnoses among young women, both smokers and nonsmokers, A Breath of Hope refined its topic area on this fellowship to better get at the heart of this frightening trend.

Your dollars are at work and our collective work has never had more impact. Thank you for supporting this foundation.

On the patient support side of our programming, we are happy to report that we received a \$30,000 grant from F.R. Bigelow Foundation to pay for the expansion of the A Breath of Hope Ambassador Program into St. Paul,

Thanks **A Breath of Hope Lung Run/Walk Twin Cities** supporters! You raised more than \$230,000 to fight lung cancer!



The first ever **A Breath of Hope Lung Run/Walk in Duluth on September 24th** is coming up fast - don't forget to [register!](#)

Joining us September 24th are [Congressman Rick Nolan](#), a passionate advocate in the lung cancer field and co-chair of the first ever U.S. Lung Cancer Caucus in Washington. Please join us!



A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation was chosen as one of the **MINNESOTA WILD CHARITIES of the MONTH!** Stay tuned for more info this fall!



Your donations are always welcome and according to our most recent

MN. We are working hard to improve the lung cancer patient's journey and are recruiting volunteers who have been touched by lung cancer to serve as drivers, companions, speakers and more. Please contact us if you would like to learn more about becoming a [volunteer at A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation](#).



Why does Mj, co-founder of the foundation and stage 4 lung cancer survivor, continue to volunteer at A Breath of Hope?

Mj shared, "I've recently been assigned to be an Ambassador Companion to a woman who was diagnosed in 2015. Her lung cancer care coordinator told her about us. I've since met her for lunch and as we were

leaving, she gave me a big hug and said, "It's so good to have a friend."

The gifts I'm given by being involved as a volunteer more than make up for the time invested. Each experience with a patient reminds me why A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation is vital in the fight to end lung cancer and to bring hope to patients and their families."

We are humbled by your support of A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation and pleased to report that we are growing steadily this year. We hope to announce new research fellowships in 2017 and will continue to look for ways to shift the thinking around lung cancer while moving much needed dollars to research and awareness.

Wishing you a happy fall - hope to see you in Duluth September 24th!

Warm regards,

Nancy

Nancy Torrison  
Executive Director

and according to our most recent charity and accounting review, 87 cents of your donated dollar goes directly to A Breath of Hope programming to beat lung cancer.

Thanks for all you do to support A Breath of Hope's important mission and work! We fight for your families and will never forget the reason why you generously donate to this foundation.

[DONATE NOW](#)



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