

A BREATH *of* HOPE

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

PRESS RELEASE



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Ricky Rubio's Tona Vives Lung Cancer Awareness Fund

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Ricky Rubio, of the Minnesota Timberwolves, is partnering with *A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation* to fundraise for lung cancer research, increase awareness, and support lung cancer patients and their families. The partnership formed after the passing of Rubio's mother, Tona Vives, who died of lung cancer in May of 2016.

"My mom was an amazing woman. She took good care of our family and was sensitive and funny. We couldn't believe it when she got lung cancer. She was a nonsmoker in her early fifties." – Ricky Rubio

"A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation is honored to welcome the amazing Ricky Rubio as a partner in our mission to beat lung cancer. Through improved disease awareness, increased funding for cutting edge research and support of patients and families, Ricky will shine his light on lung cancer to help create the change we all hope for." – Nancy Torrison

About Ricky Rubio

Raised in Barcelona, Spain, he became the youngest athlete ever to play in the Spanish ACB League at age 14 and made his Euroleague debut at age 16.

Drafted with the fifth pick in the first round of the 2009 NBA draft by the Timberwolves, he joined the team for the 2011–12 NBA season, where he won the Western Conference Rookie of the Month. Rubio was also selected to participate during the 2012 and 2013 NBA All Star Events.

Ricky led the Spanish national team in the 2008 Olympic Basketball Tournament in Beijing, China. At the age of 17, Ricky became the youngest player to participate in an Olympic final game.

About A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation

Founded in 2008 by a group of Minnesota lung cancer patients - young and old, smokers and nonsmokers - the foundation's mission is to save lives by funding cutting edge lung cancer research, improving awareness to educate the public, and supporting patients, caregivers and families hurt by lung cancer. The guiding vision is to continually improve the current U.S. five-year survival rate of 18%.

To learn more about Ricky's work with A BREATH OF HOPE, to donate to the Tona Vives Lung Cancer Awareness Fund or to register for ABOH events, visit www.abreathofhope.org/rubio/.