



WELCOME TO

NEPHCURE'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

COUNT
DOWN
TO A
CURE

7:30 - 9:00 pm ET

NOVEMBER 12

two thousand twenty

*Benefitting
NephCure Kidney
International*

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



Irv Smokler, PhD

NEPHCURE PRESIDENT
AND BOARD CHAIRMAN



Josh Tarnoff

NEPHCURE CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DEAR HONORED GUESTS,

Welcome and thank you for supporting NephCure Kidney International's 20th Anniversary celebration—no doubt, our most important Countdown to a Cure to date. In the midst of a turbulent year, we are able to share encouraging news that ought to lift your spirits: we are likely only a couple of years away from bringing about the first-ever treatments for FSGS and other forms of Nephrotic Syndrome! These diseases have taken a great toll on the children and adults suffering over so many years. Because of your support, that is about to change.

To most of us, taking twenty years to do just about anything seems like a long time. In the world of disease research however, it's lightening fast. Think of how many organizations have been trying to find new treatments or cures for 50 or more years... it's not easy. Thus, it's with great pride that we celebrate our 20th anniversary so close to nearing our goal. NephCure was founded by four families sharing a common frustration: that the disease impacting their loved ones had few if any treatment options, let alone even a basic understanding of the disease. We set upon a very deliberate strategy to get to new, specific treatments: fund basic research to figure out how these diseases tick, work with key government agencies to set the path, and attract pharmaceutical companies to our cause. With more than \$40 million research dollars invested and thousands of patients supported during the way, here we are!

Today, we need your help for the final push over the next two years. The current pandemic has drastically impacted people's ability to be as generous as they normally have been in previous years. As NephCure remains the key force driving patient support and clinical trial involvement to find new and better treatments, the timing could not be worse. When tonight's event is over, please take time to know that you made a difference in the lives of so many impacted by these diseases — thank you!

Stay well,

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WE ARE PROUD TO HONOR



MARTIN R. POLLAK, MD

*Chief, Division of Nephrology, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School*

Dr. Martin R. Pollak's laboratory studies the genetic basis of kidney diseases, particularly those characterized by proteinuria and glomerulosclerosis. His lab also works to identify genes involved in the development of FSGS in minority populations. Dr. Pollak attended medical school at New York University School of Medicine, and he has been the Chairman of NephCure's Scientific Advisory Board since 2015.

Past Honorees

JAY BADAME / JAMES C. MCKENNA / THEODORE S. HAMMER
MICHAEL LEVINE / ANNA GREKA, MD, PHD
KENNETH LIEBERMAN, MD / LAWRENCE HOLZMAN, MD

Virtual Doors Open

7:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Attendee Live Chat and Networking

Program

7:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Kylie Winkler, Emcee, NephCure

Welcome and Introductions of Watch Parties

The NephCure Top 20: 20 Milestones, Events,
and People that Have Shaped NephCure 2000-2020

Joshua Tarnoff, NephCure Chief Executive Officer

Martin R. Pollak, MD, Distinguished Medical Honoree

Elise Warhaftig, 20th Anniversary Humanitarian of the Year

Fund a Cure Auction with Kylie Winkler and Joshua Tarnoff

Michael Levine, Countdown to a Cure Chair,
NephCure Board Vice President

Matthew Levine, NephCure Supporter

Entertainment

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Sebastian Maniscalco, Comedian and Featured Entertainer

Johnny Lampert, Presenter and Moderator

20th Anniversary Toast & Event Ends

9:00 PM

Joshua Tarnoff, NephCure Chief Executive Officer

Auction Website Closes

12:00 AM MIDNIGHT

**All times in Eastern Standard Time.*



SEBASTIAN MANISCALCO

Featured Entertainer, Comedian

With a string of record-breaking, sold-out arena shows; a new Netflix original special, “Stay Hungry;” the launch of his brand-new You Bother Me tour; and a starring role alongside Robert DeNiro in Martin Scorsese’s Oscar-nominated The Irishman, it’s no surprise that the New York Times has dubbed Sebastian Maniscalco “the hottest comic in America.” Join us for entertainment from the man Jerry Seinfeld calls “my favorite comedian!”

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THE NEPHCURE TOP 20

*20 Milestones, Events, and People
that Have Shaped NephCure*

2000-2020

01 NEPHCURE'S YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD

To help attract promising young researchers to the field, these grants funded some of the—now—top scientists in the rare kidney disease space.



“

The NephCure Young Investigator Grant came at a very crucial time in my career development. It enabled me to launch a new set of investigative studies that formed a basis for subsequent independent NIH funding which I still rely on today in my ultimate goal of advancing therapeutics for clinical purposes.”

- **KIRK CAMPBELL, MD**



“

I can draw a direct line from starting to work on this funding by the Young Investigator Award all the way to getting RO1 funding and continuing to do this work, publishing several papers along the way, to the point where now, as a culmination of our work in the laboratory, there is a phase two clinical trial based on the research that was originated from the Young Investigator Award.”

- **ANNA GREKA, MD, PHD**

02 NEPHCURE EXPANDS SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

In 2019, NephCure added diversity to the Scientific Advisory Board, made up of leading scientists who push glomerular disease research forward, by welcoming accomplished clinician-researchers Laura Barisoni, MD; Alessia Fornoni, MD, PhD; and Marva Moxey-Mims, MD.



LAURA BARISONI, MD



ALESSIA FORNONI, MD, PHD



MARVA MOXEY-MIMS, MD



“

The field was very small when we started out in glomerular diseases. These three wonderful additions modernized how we think about the approach in glomerular diseases in helping to translate it faster. They were catalysts in helping to get the basic science out of the stable and much closer to the patient.”

- **JOCHEN REISER, MD, PHD**

03 TAMPA PIG JIG

Starting as a backyard get-together to help raise money for a friend recently diagnosed with FSGS, Tampa Pig Jig has now blossomed into a full-blown live music concert and barbeque competition. Pig Jig has raised more than four million dollars for NephCure to date!



04 HELP FROM DR. JOSIE BRIGGS

An influential doctor from the NIH, Dr. Josie Briggs was the one who first gave NephCure's founding members the idea to create a patient advocacy group back in 2000.



DR. JOSIE BRIGGS



“

We've been really fortunate. For a very rare disease, we've built a network of over 20 patient families in conjunction with NephCure, who otherwise may go their lifetime without meeting other patients.”

- CHRIS WHITNEY



“

The fundraising from the Tampa Pig Jigs will enable more research and hopefully find a cure for the disease, which would impact so many lives.”

- JOYCE WELLMAN-FISK



“

She said, 'start a patient advocacy group,' which we did, and then we went to Washington. She was our biggest help at the beginning. We didn't even know what a patient advocacy group was at that time.”

- NEPHCURE CHAIRMAN IRV SMOKLER, PHD

05 THE FIRST INDUSTRY-SPONSORED PHASE THREE STUDY IN FSGS

It could be the first true innovation in kidney disease treatment since dialysis was invented more than 75 years ago! This trial has helped influence other companies to invest in new treatments and has the potential to help all protein-spilling kidney disease patients.



“

Having a rare disease trial reach this phase and very successfully recruiting is incredibly important. This trial also provided additional opportunities to be certain that our substitute endpoints could be used. It gives us essentially a bit of a standard bearer to be able to show that these trials can be conducted, they can enroll all the way to completion. Other clinical trials have now been launched that are looking to this particular clinical development program.”

- **DEBBIE GIPSON, MD, MS**



“

We had to make sure we could recruit for the study. Because it's a rare disease, because it's such a large study, the question was, 'Can you get these patients'? We were concerned that if we weren't able to recruit the study, it might hurt the chances of any therapies coming after us. We had a big burden on our shoulders to be the first.”

- **NOAH ROSENBERG, MD**

06 NEPHCURE VOLUNTEERS

A devoted, passionate, and hardworking group — they make everything NephCure does possible!



“

NephCure volunteers are a special group because Nephrotic Syndrome, FSGS, any protein-spilling kidney disease is so rare that you feel so isolated. When you do connect with other people who are walking a similar journey with you, it makes you a special, unique group of people who are just trying to help their loved ones.”

- **KARA JONES**



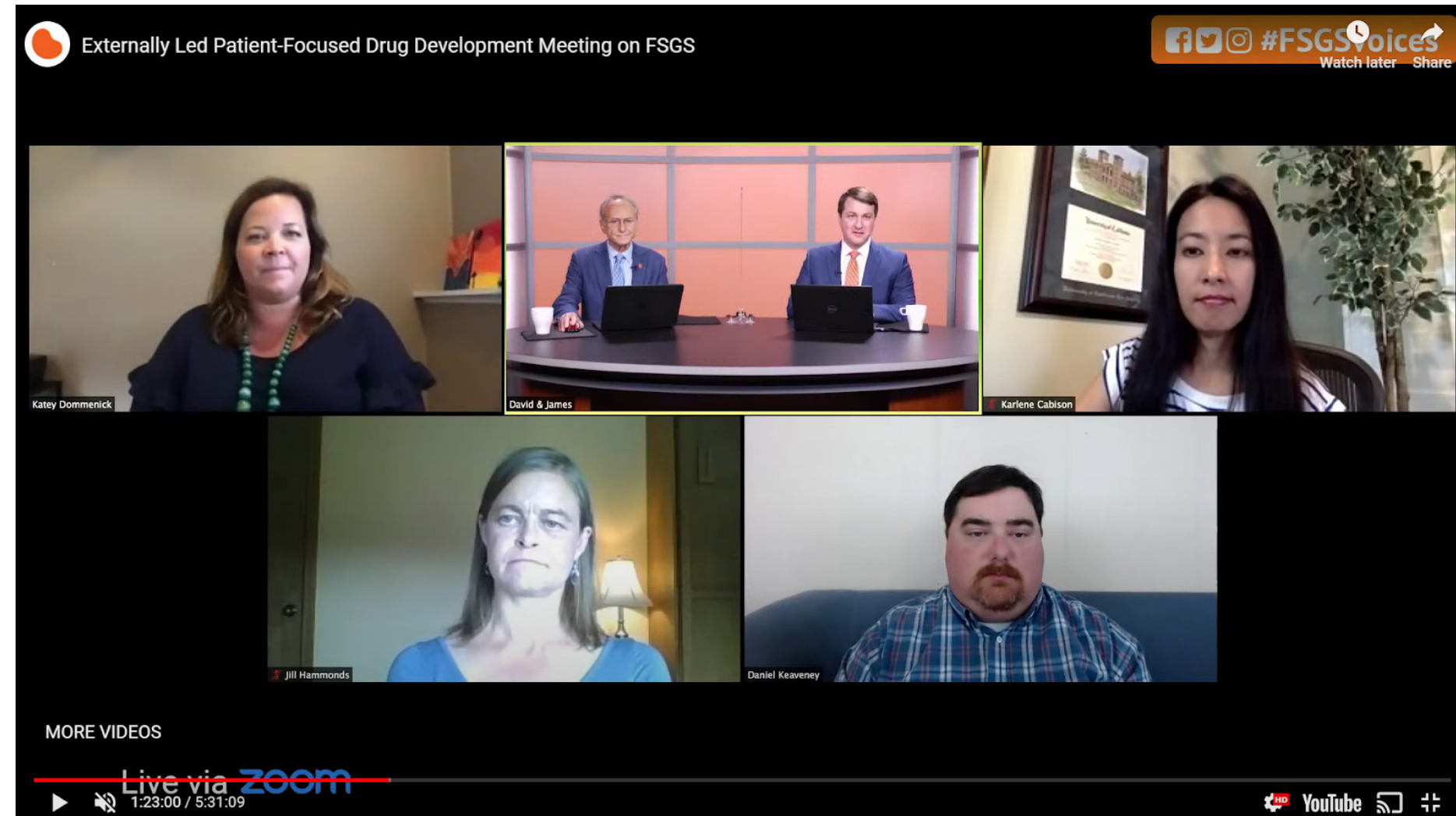
“

People that volunteer for NephCure are like family, we've all been through some rough times. Because we share this commonality and this struggle together, it brings us close together.”

- **LISA CIMINO**

07 THE FSGS EXTERNALLY-LED PATIENT-FOCUSED DRUG DEVELOPMENT MEETING

The FDA wants to understand patients' experiences and needs when approving new treatments. This meeting was the first of its kind focused on FSGS! Key stakeholders listened to NephCure patients share their stories.



“

The EL-PFDDs help to have everyone understand: what's the disease like, what are the treatments that are available now? But also, what's all that surround sound going on with the patients—what's happening with their family, their jobs, their school? How does the disease affect caregivers? How does it affect things like money, the cost of the disease, the cost for services? It's really important to get the full picture, and the EL-PFDDs bring all that information together.”

- KATHY MACHUZAK

08 CREATING A NEW ENDPOINT FOR KIDNEY DISEASE TRIALS

Originally, when studying kidney disease treatments, researchers had to wait until kidney failure to see if a drug was effective. It was time-consuming, expensive, and potentially harmful to patient health. In 2016, a substitute marker, proteinuria, was developed in order to prove drugs' effects on kidney function.



“

Having a surrogate outcome that could potentially be used for approval for a novel medication really changed the feasibility of conducting clinical trials in kidney disease, specifically in FSGS and other glomerular diseases. A company might be much more willing to try a novel therapeutic in this area if they know that a clinical trial can be accomplished in a couple years, so it's led to a number of companies being interested in the renal space, and specifically in rare disease, that we didn't have ten years ago. It's really exciting!”

- LAURA MARIANI, MD

09 NEPHCURE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

This unique patient conference brings together the global rare kidney disease community. Volunteers learn about the latest treatments and research and have an opportunity to connect with other families.



“

I've learned so much. I met people that I would have never had the opportunity to meet. I'm from Georgia; I met people from California who have the disease. It's amazing to make connections that if something's going wrong for me, I can call them and ask, 'How does this work for you?', 'How are you feeling?'. It's great to make that connection and to learn so much. It was amazing!”

- **KIMBERLY QUEEN**

10 CLINICAL TRIAL EXPLOSION

In the past few years, we've gone from zero to now more than 20 trials studying potential treatments for glomerular disease patients! Within the next several years, one or more of these treatments could be approved and available at the pharmacy!



“

Whereas before I was having the same conversation that I had been having with patients for years, and getting to a hard stop, pretty quickly, on what I was able to explain about their disease and also what I could offer them, now it's a much longer conversation. It's much more fulfilling to give them the hope that there is all this activity and soon there will potentially be drugs approved that could really improve their lives.”

- **JONATHAN HOGAN, MD**

11 KIDNEYHEALTHGATEWAY.COM

After new kidney disease trials started, NephCure created a patient-friendly database to help match patients to the best trial for them. In the first year alone, 5,000 new families joined the community!



“

It's helped patients identify potential therapies and trials that they may not otherwise have had access to, and as rare disease trials are challenging to recruit for, any additional efforts to help identify patients adds value — not just for the potential success of the treatment, but also for the individual patient seeking alternative treatment options.”

- JULA INRIG, MD



“

It's really important for patients to know about it, but at the same time for physicians and nephrologists. The one important question to ask patients is 'are you interested in the trial?' and if they are and it's a glomerular disease trial, we can give them that link to start the process of looking.”

- BARBARA GILLESPIE, MD, MMS, FASN

12 NEPHCURE SPECIALISTS PROGRAM

As a part of Kidney Health Gateway, NephCure curated a list of top protein-spilling kidney disease doctors to connect patients to expert care earlier in their diagnosis.



“

That has helped immensely in giving newly-diagnosed families a place to find good solid information, to find where your specialists are, to make plans and get information on your disease. When you have that kind of information at your fingertips, it's invaluable.”

- MARLENE BOTTA

13 NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DIABETES AND DIGESTIVE AND KIDNEY DISEASES (NIDDK)

At these meetings with the government in 2005, NephCure secured \$300,000 of funding by getting a proposal issued for FSGS. This also began an important, longstanding relationship with the NIDDK.



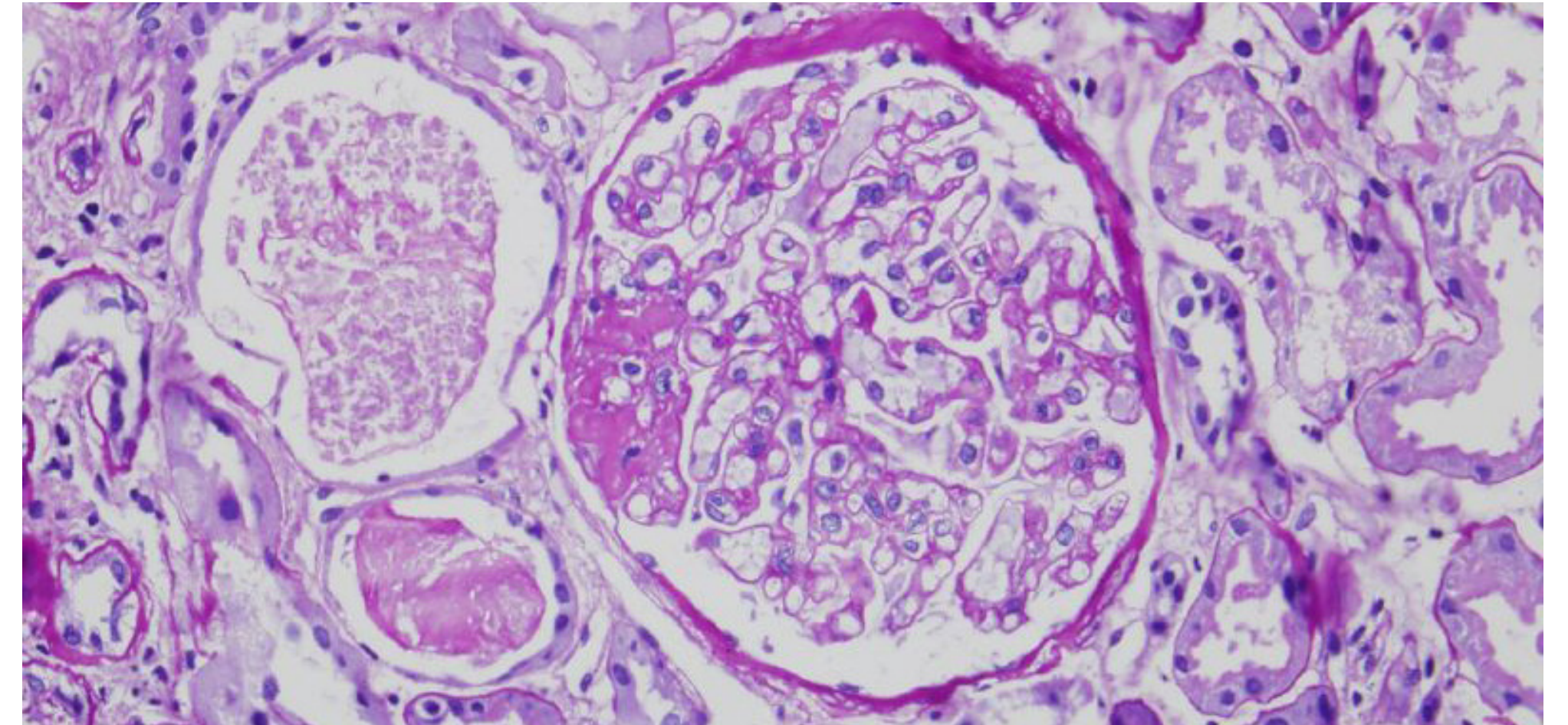
“

Our idea was to do something that had never, to our knowledge, been done with NIDDK before. Not ask them for something, but to give them something. Our theory was we shouldn't ask for anything; we could be different by giving them something and ask them how we could help them. We said, 'We have \$300,000, will you match it? All we want is for more FSGS research to be funded.' And they said yes. It floored us because it was really a shot out to left field.”

- NEPHCURE CHAIRMAN IRV SMOKLER, PHD

14 THE NEPHROTIC SYNDROME STUDY NETWORK (NEPTUNE)

NEPTUNE was the first long-term observational study for protein-spilling kidney diseases, co-funded by NephCure and the NIH. This study helped us better understand the causes of protein-spilling kidney diseases.



“

We now have a comprehensive map, the landscape of Nephrotic Syndrome diseases, where we captured the full aspect of all different angles of what this disease looks like. Every researcher in the world can come and request access to that data so they can answer their research questions. This includes companies who are developing drugs or companies who have drugs that they want to test, so that we can help these trials treat the right patients at the right time.”

- MATTHIAS KRETZLER, MD

15 FSGS LISTED IN PEER-REVIEWED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

Successful NephCure advocacy persuaded Congress to list this disease in the US Department of Defense's research program, opening a pool of half a billion dollars per year of research funding for FSGS.



“

It was really difficult when we were first looking at funding and very frustrating to think that we could make a difference in this research field, but didn't have an appropriate funding mechanism. So we were really excited to see that it was listed as a specific disease of interest for this DOD program. NephCure has fought really broadly not only for the patients, but also how to get researchers in to try to solve these diseases.”

- SUZIE PUN, PHD, MS

16 THE FIRST STUDY FOCUSED ON A NEW TREATMENT FOR BLACK KIDNEY DISEASE PATIENTS

In the U.S., an estimated 1/3 of FSGS is linked to a mutation on the APOL1 gene, which is primarily found in Black individuals. This study has the potential to find a treatment that would help a large portion of the FSGS population and pave the way for more investments in genetic kidney disease research.



“

This medication could actually reduce human suffering, it could slow down the progression of chronic kidney disease, and in some individuals that are able to get the medication at the early stage of their disease, it could actually offer a cure. This is very, very important. It's a big deal.”

- RASHEED GBADEGESIN, MD, MBBS



“

Having something in the clinic for patients with APOL1 nephropathy means we now have a reason to test for the APOL1 risk allele status of the patient. Whereas in the past, it may not have been as important because there was nothing more you could offer these patients. But having a potential drug in the clinic specifically for this indication could change the way we diagnose this disease.”

- CHRIS LARSEN, MD

17 THE FIRST COUNTDOWN TO A CURE

Seventeen years ago, patient families came together to create one of NephCure's first fundraisers — Countdown to a Cure. This gala has since transformed in many ways, growing to a million-dollar event in 2018.



“

Countdown 1 was unbelievable! We did \$240,000 or \$250,000 with no expenses, so that was all made. By Countdown 2, we had already picked up the Levine family, who just brought a whole new level to our fundraising. Once they joined the committee, it was unbelievable. Countdown 2 made almost \$300,000. It's amazing what a couple of dedicated parents can do.”

- **RON COHEN**

18 NEPHCURE'S FOUR FOUNDING FAMILIES

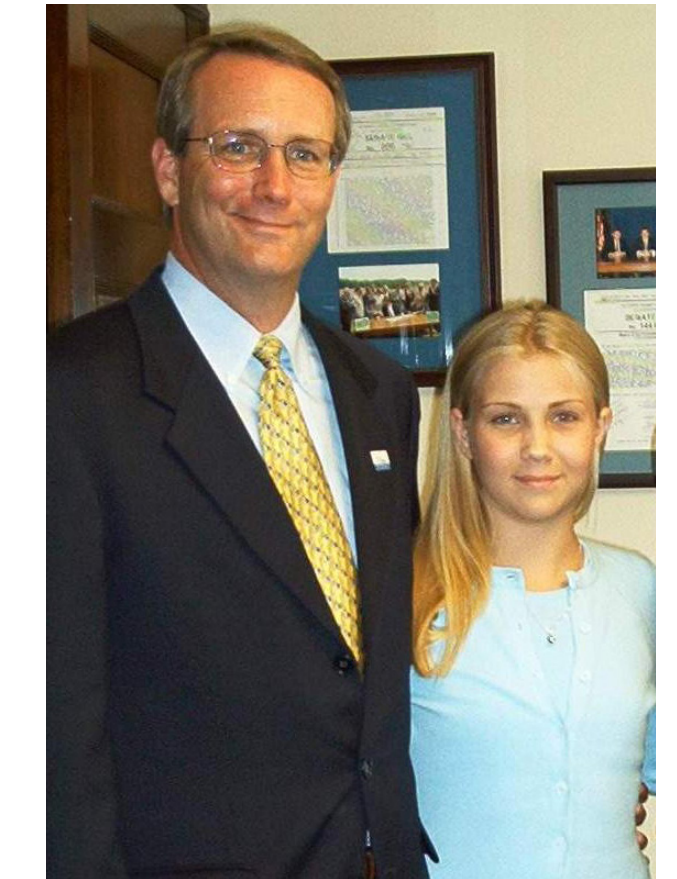
Two decades ago, four desperate families found each other. The Smoklers, Antoshs, Stewarts, and Orttons lived in different regions of the country, but they came together to help their children.



THE ANTOSHs



THE ORTONs



THE STEWARTs

THE SMOKLERS



“

We wouldn't sleep at night worrying how the kids would be in the morning, but we were NephCure. We had a club that no one really wanted to belong to — including us! Who wants to worry about a disease? Well, our kids had it. So we started having information sessions for parents. We shared our stories and exchanged pain, thoughts, worries, and month by month, scientists and doctors began to join us. NephCure became known as the place to talk about FSGS and Nephrotic Syndrome. We didn't just belong to NephCure, and NephCure didn't just own us. It was our lifeline; it was our path to hope.”

- **LOU ANTOSH**

19 MARTIN POLLAK, MD — APOL1 RESEARCH BREAKTHROUGH AND DISTINGUISHED MEDICAL HONOREE AWARD

Dr. Pollak and his team discovered that common genetic changes in the APOL1 gene are associated with greater risk of kidney disease in people of African descent. This discovery helps explain why Black individuals are disproportionately affected by FSGS and other kidney disease. This monumental research breakthrough, funded in part by NephCure, now allows other researchers to focus on finding treatments for APOL1-related kidney disease and FSGS.



2020
MEDICAL
HONOREE

Martin R. Pollak, MD



“

Martin, I'm so pleased to be able to congratulate you on receiving the NephCure Distinguished Medical Honoree Award. This award recognizes your many contributions to glomerular disease. But I also want to take note of and to thank you for your generous spirit and your ability to stay centered on helping to advance care for all of our patients while you keep expanding the bounds of the podocyte universe. So—continue to go boldly where no one has gone before!”

- JEFFREY KOPP, MD



“

By Martin and David Friedman and his team and others across the country and world making this identification, it allows the entire world of investigators and academia and companies to really focus on trying to figure out treatments and cures for APOL1 disease. His belief in gaining knowledge towards improved health for individuals is commendable. His passion for social justice and equity in health is longstanding. It's been a pleasure to have read his work, to have benefited from the understandings he's made, and to now be part of his sphere as he tries to push the field farther towards precision medicine and help for children and adults with Nephrotic Syndrome.”

- MATT SAMPSON, MD, MS



“

This is one of the most important discoveries of this century in nephrology because it has answered a critical question on health disparity. It has provided a biological basis for a known health disparity that everyone has been trying to explain for years. Thank you, Dr. Pollak for making all the difference in the lives of all the unfortunate people living with FSGS and other chronic kidney diseases. This award is well deserved.”

- RASHEED GBADEGESIN, MD, MBBS



“

Thank you so much for being my nephrologist for years and years. I'm grateful for your care and expertise. I'm grateful for your respect and listening to my concerns and ideas.”

- LAUREL DAMASHEK

20 THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD — ELISE WARHAFTIG

Elise has devoted an enormous amount of time and energy to contributing to NephCure's cause and moving its mission forward. Her son, Andrew, was diagnosed with FSGS as a young child, and tragically lost his battle with the disease in 2018 at the age of 17. Elise has continued to fight for a cure in Andrew's memory. NephCure is deeply honored to work with such an incredible person and is thrilled to recognize her contributions as the 20th Anniversary Humanitarian of the Year.



2020
HUMANITARIAN
OF THE YEAR

Elise Warhaftig



“

Elise, you are so deserving of this incredible, special award. We are pleased to present it to you on the 20th Anniversary of NephCure, and it truly is a testament to your giving back, your strength, your loyalty, and most of all your love for your wonderful son, Andrew. And we are grateful, grateful to have you as part of the NephCure family.”

- LAUREN LEE



“

Elise Warhaftig is a genuine inspiration to me, and I think to anyone who has been fortunate to know her. Her courage through her son's difficult journey through a rare disease was inspiring to me because of her persistent, positive attitude through all of it. Her continued hope even through very dark times and then in the face of tragedy when we lost Andrew, her continued courage and determination to be a source of strength not only for the rest of her family, but for others in our community — it was awe-inspiring to witness that kind of grace and courage. Thank you for all you've done for this school and for our community. Your example to your own family, to your son Andrew, to your other children, and to all of us have been touched by you here in Hingham and in particular, at in your school, are so grateful for the example you've given us of grace and courage and perseverance and generosity. Our community is much, much better place because of you. I know NephCure is a better organization because of all you've given, but to anyone whose life you touched we're better for it and thank you.”

- RICK SWANSON





Dear Allie,

Wow.....2020 what a year. We celebrated your 10 year transplant anniversary, Amigo's one year birthday, Graduation from College and most recently your 22nd Birthday. All of these great milestones while Covid-19 has turned the world upside down. Moving back home on March 12th lead you down the path of creating Bitter Sweet; which is your own company creating tie dye clothing during these "Bitter Sweet" times.

The sky is the limit for you, the runway is long and wide open; we can't wait to see what's next.

We are truly blessed on so many levels to have you as our daughter, sister and best friend.

Allie keep that beautiful infectious smile of yours glowing for the world to see.

We love you to the "moon and back" and we will always be here to support your decisions, thoughts, ideas and dreams.

Love you beyond comprehension,
Mom, Dad & Alex



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We congratulate this year's honoree:

Dr. Martin R. Pollak
Chief of the Renal Division
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

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*Thank you Nephcure for all that
you do to positively affect all
Nephrotic Syndrome patients.*

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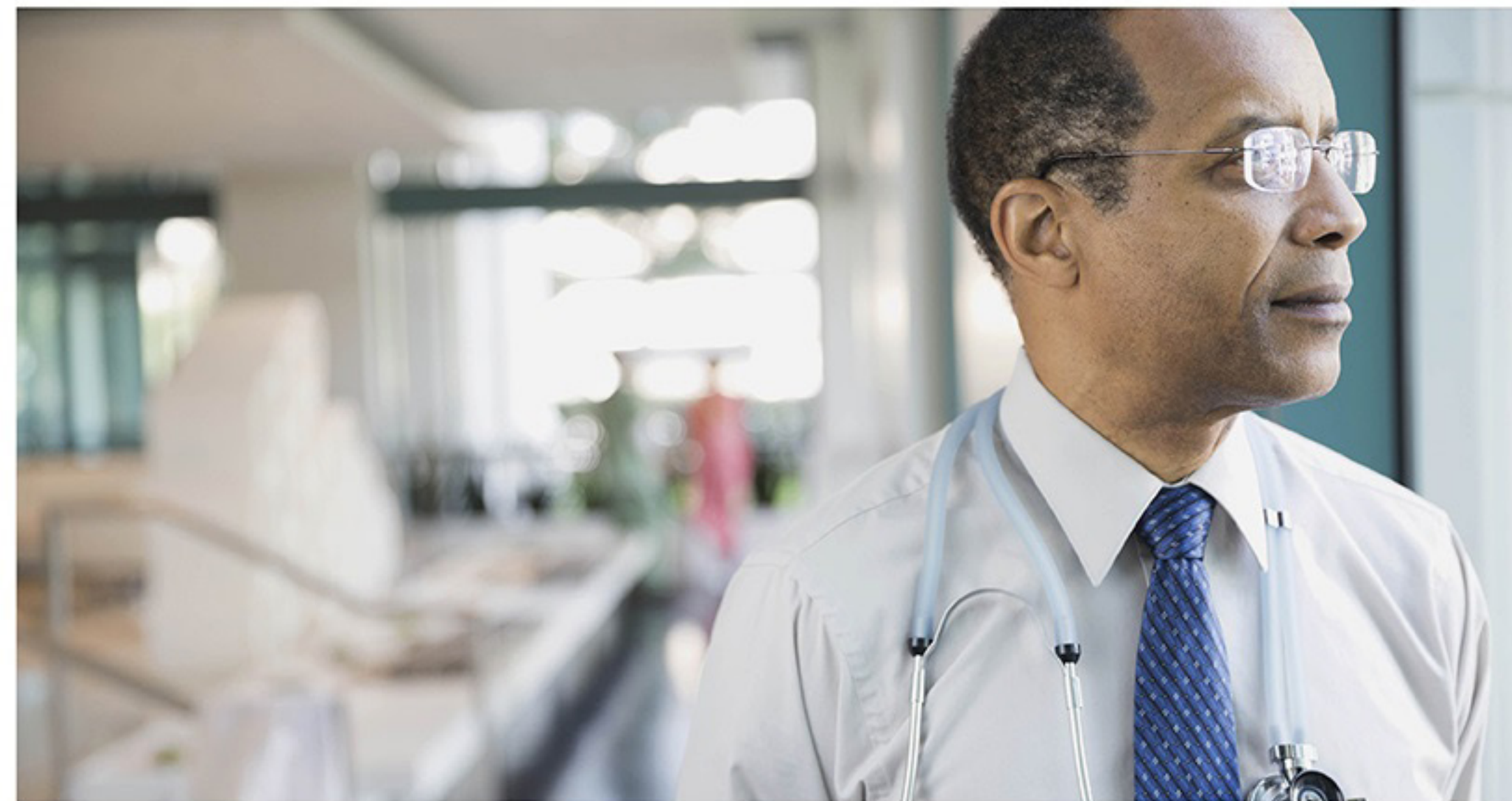


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IN HONOR OF

**MATTHEW LEVINE
AND THE LEVINE FAMILY**

*We will always be with you in this
fight to find a Cure!*

LOVE,

*Vanessa, Scott, Bryn,
Reid, and Dean Goldstein*

AECOM TISHMAN

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
20 YEARS OF RESEARCH
ADVANCEMENTS AND
LOVING CARE.**

We are proud to partner with
Nephcure Kidney International
on your mission to find a cure
and save lives.



Congratulations to
Dr. Martin Pollak for being
recognized by **NephCure** for
his breakthrough work on
the link between the
APOL1 gene and FSGS



— 20TH ANNUAL —
COUNT DOWN TO A CURE

Benefiting Nephcure
Kidney International



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**We Are Proud to Support
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**Thank You
Michael Levine
&
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On This Well Deserved Honor**

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A CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDY FOR ADULTS OF AFRICAN OR CARIBBEAN DESCENT



**FIND
STRENGTH,
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**If your doctor has told you that you have kidney disease,
a clinical research study may be an option for you.**

Do it for you, do it for others with your condition. To learn more about a potential option for adults of African or Caribbean descent with biopsy-confirmed focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS), talk to your doctor and visit [FSGSResearchStudy.com](https://www.FSGSResearchStudy.com). Compensation for study-related time and travel, as well as travel assistance, may be available.

VI_RecruitmentPoster_05Mar2020

DEAR MICHAEL AND MATTHEW,
YOU ARE BOTH MY TWO
AMAZING GUYS - STAY STRONG.

ALL MY LOVE,
MOM & GRANNY XOXO

A Little Soy Candle Company



In 2017 our daughter Tatum was diagnosed with Nephrotic Syndrome. Since then, we have been looking for creative ways to raise funds and awareness for kidney disease. In 2018 we founded **A Little Soy Candle Company** with an ambitious mission. Currently, 10% of our sales are directly donated to Nephcure, and we hope to increase that commitment as we grow. Our goal is to sell 1 million candles by 2030, which would raise over \$1.5 Million dollars for kidney disease. Thank you to the entire Nephcure team and everyone involved in the fight against kidney disease. We are working tirelessly to turn this vision into a reality, and we are committed to doing everything we can to support you. Please visit our website to learn more about our family and our mission.

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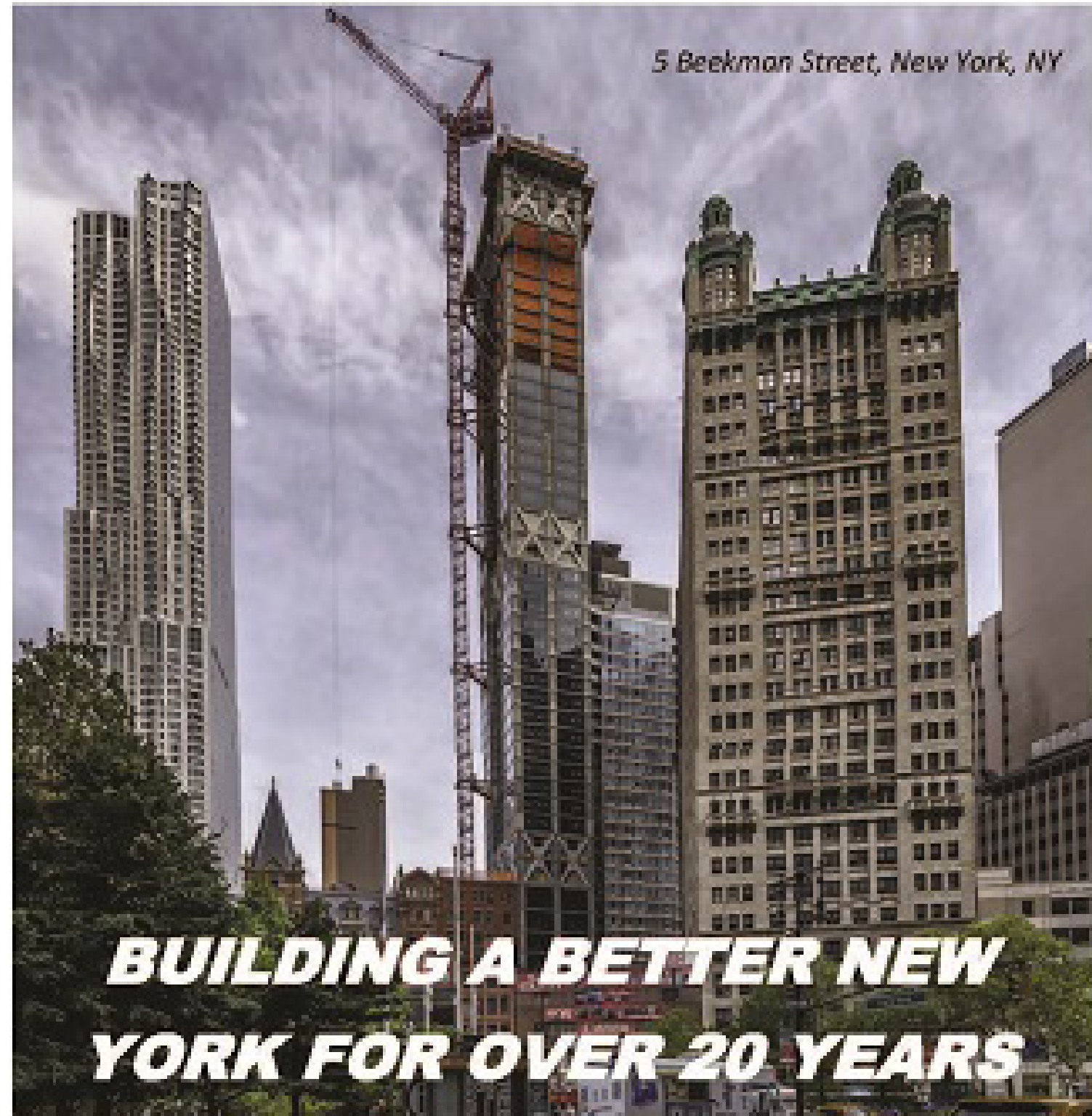
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Congratulations NephCure on your 20th Anniversary
Elaine Kamil, MD and Sharon Adler, MD



MARTIN, MARTIN, MARTIN!

GREAT SCIENTIST, GREAT DOCTOR,
GREAT COLLEAGUE!

JERRY AND THE
GLOMERULAR CENTER TEAM
AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

CONGRATULATIONS

————— *to NephCure* —————



*We thank you for all you have done
and congratulate you on 20 great
years of Achievements.*

BEST WISHES
THE SURIANO FAMILY

THANK YOU DR. POLLAK

*for your dedication and visionary contributions
to the field of glomerular disease and FSGS.
Your identification of the genetic mechanisms
responsible for these disorders has heralded the
way towards targeted therapies.*

DR. RICK AND PHYLLIS KASKEL,
THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT MONTEFIORE

TO MATTHEW

*With all our love and wishes
for a cure for you and
everyone fighting this battle!*

LOVE
GRANDMA & GRANDPA



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VINCENT GAMBA

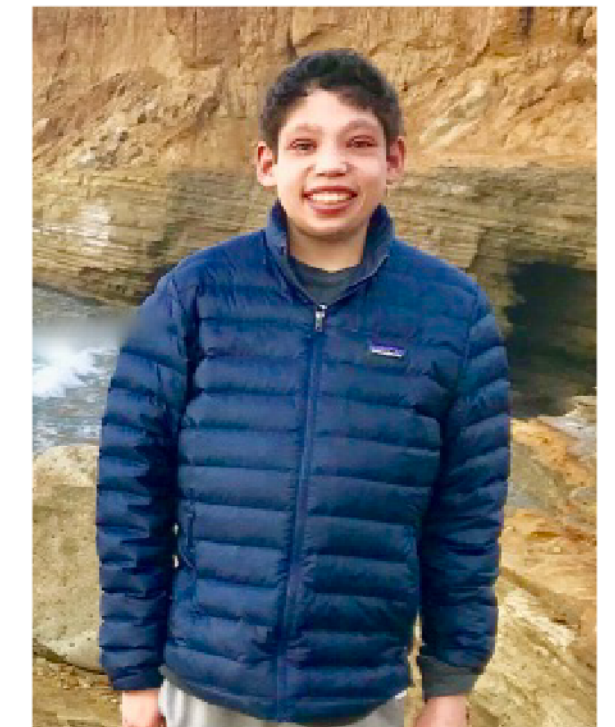
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— In Loving Memory of —
ANDREW WARHAFTIG



*We remember and honor your battle
forever and fight to find a cure in
your memory.*

- YOUR NEPHCURE FAMILY

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THROUGH THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF DONORS LIKE YOU, NEPHCURE HAS MADE MONUMENTAL PROGRESS IN A RELATIVELY SHORT 20 YEARS OF EXISTENCE.

NephCure's grants, totaling more than 40 million dollars in research investments, have funded some of the best minds in rare, protein-spilling kidney disease research. The impact of these studies has propelled this field forward—in 20 years, we have gone from understanding very little about the causes and progression of FSGS and Nephrotic Syndrome, to now having more than 20 drugs in late-stage research to treat these conditions.

We are potentially only a few years away from seeing the first-ever treatments specifically targeted to FSGS, IgA Nephropathy, Minimal Change Disease, and other diseases associated with Nephrotic Syndrome.

But as you know, with 2020 came COVID-19, and our world changed in an instant. Like almost all non-profits, NephCure's fundraising has suffered as a result of the pandemic. This puts us in a critical situation while being at the precipice of a breakthrough in the new kidney disease treatment revolution.

As you know, NephCure serves an immune-compromised patient population who is at risk of being dramatically affected by this virus. As such, we have been fielding an unprecedented number of questions from patients seeking guidance and answers. Our staff is working tirelessly to provide resources and programs relevant to our community during this time, and we remain a trusted resource to help manage the unknowns that this era encompasses.

NephCure has a 20-year track record of forward movement in rare kidney disease research. At this critical juncture, after so many years of no breakthroughs in new treatments, we are so grateful for your help to maintain this momentum and help us finally deliver new and more effective treatments to our patients.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING OUR CRUSADE AND LEAVING YOUR MARK ON FIGHTING THESE DEVASTATING AND DEBILITATING DISEASES.

NEPHCURE KIDNEY INTERNATIONAL'S mission is to accelerate research for effective treatments for rare forms of Nephrotic Syndrome, and to provide education and support that will improve the lives of those affected by these protein-spilling kidney diseases.

[GIVE.NEPHCURE.ORG/COUNTDOWN2020](https://give.nephcure.org/countdown2020)



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Kidney International

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