

FULL LIFE DIGEST

OCTOBER 2021



A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER



PREYAA DOCU
FOUNDER

Welcome to our October 2021 newsletter. Like many foundations, we've adjusted to the reality of the current global environment, but that hasn't stopped us from following our mission!

Transparency is one of our main goals as a foundation. We strive to provide our donors with consistent and accurate donation information. Read ahead to learn how much we raised year-to-date, how we raised the funds, and how your donation is being put to work. FLF donates funds directly to institutions supporting Lynch Syndrome research as well as to communities affected by LS and its related cancers.

Meet the Team!

We are the people behind the FLF name and we'd love for you to get to know us! Watch our "Meet the Team" video [here](#) to learn more about who we are, our roles within the foundation, and what keeps us motivated to carry out the FLF mission.

Thank you Molly McDonald and Rachel Hamburger for filming and producing our "Meet the Team" media clip.

- Preyaa



2021 EVENTS RECAP & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

YEAR-TO-DATE HIGHLIGHTS

\$14,000

**Funds
Raised**

286

**Individual
Donors**

2

**Fundraising
Events**

Fundraising Events

Virtual Cooking Class (March): The beginning of 2021 included a virtual cooking class hosted by award-winning chef Justin Smillie. We learned how to cook an amazing smoked chicken and cacio e pepe! FLF raised over \$3,000 from this event alone. Thank you to Chefs Justin Smillie and Ty Johnson for your expertise, and thank you to Il Buco Alimentari & Vineria for hosting!

5K/10K Fun Run (September): We've been itching to return to in-person fundraising with our donors. Our first ever Fun Run was a huge success! We safely coordinated a meet-up in Central Park, with a virtual running option for those not in NYC. We had an amazing turn out and celebrated our runners with a bagel breakfast in the park. Thank you to all who participated and donated. We surpassed our fundraising goal and raised over \$5,600!

Community Outreach

St. Jude's Gift Donation (May): Our goal for this community outreach donation was to provide St. Jude's cancer patients with small gifts and activities while they receive treatment on-campus. FLF donated over \$600 in art supplies and toys for these brave patients. Patients range from infants to teenagers. Gifts donated include art supplies, action figures, card games, and doctor's kits.

The FLF team also wrote a number of virtual cards of encouragement to the patients. It is engraved in our mission to support and give back to the communities affected by LS and it's related cancers.



THE LATEST ON LYNCH SYNDROME RESEARCH

FLF IS IN THE PROCESS OF COLLABORATING WITH THE DANA FARBER LYNCH SYNDROME CENTER AS OUR NEWEST RESEARCH PARTNER

As part of our mission, we strive to maintain transparency with our donors and provide updates on the foundation's progress and efforts.

FLF carefully evaluates the research being done at our partnering institutions to ensure alignment with our foundation's goals. There is a copious amount of research pertaining to preventative care, family history, and cancer treatment. We wish to support all endeavors in the fight against Lynch Syndrome-related cancers, however we have to start somewhere!

With that being said, FLF has been in discussions with Dana Farber's Lynch Syndrome Center (LSC) and our goal is to make a research donation to a specific study by the end of the year.

In 2019, Dana-Farber launched the LSC, the first and only center in the world dedicated to serving patients and families with Lynch syndrome-associated familial cancer risk or with an existing LS-driven cancer*.

Look out for our next newsletter for an update on the specific research study FLF will choose to support with your donations.

In the meantime, we've provided a snapshot on the following page of some of the many studies being conducted at the Dana Farber Lynch Syndrome Center.

1 IN 300 PEOPLE IN THE U.S. HAS LYNCH SYNDROME

AN INHERITED GENETIC CONDITION ASSOCIATED WITH A SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED RISK FOR CERTAIN CANCERS

THE MOST COMMON CANCERS IN LYNCH SYNDROME*

*OTHER, LESS-COMMON CANCERS ASSOCIATED WITH LYNCH SYNDROME ARE HEPATOBIILIARY TRACT CANCER, SMALL BOWEL CANCER, BRAIN CANCER, AND SEBACEOUS NEOPLASMS (SKIN CANCER).

If you or a family member have a family history of any of these cancers, especially at young ages, you may benefit from an evaluation for Lynch syndrome.

Contact the Lynch Syndrome Center at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute or visit dana-farber.org/lynchsyndrome for more information.

DANA-FARBER
CANCER INSTITUTE

*Per the Dana Farber Lynch Syndrome Center



CURRENT RESEARCH UNDERWAY AT DANA-FARBER LSC

Cascade Testing: Genetic testing of relatives of patients with hereditary cancer or with an inherited gene mutation that increases risk of cancer, such as LS, is known as cascade testing. There is a fifty percent chance a parent will pass down LS to their child. Currently, cascade testing is delivered in person, but this is not efficient to reach the more than one million people with LS in the U.S. and the millions of LS carriers worldwide. There is urgent need to develop a virtual method of cascade testing to increase international access and enable patients to be more proactive about screening and prevention protocols so that fewer family members develop cancer.

IMPACT – Identification of Men with a Genetic Predisposition to Prostate Cancer: We currently do not know whether men with mutations in LS genes, MLH1, MSH2, or MSH6 have an increased risk for developing prostate cancer. LSC researchers will explore this potential link and encourage patients with LS to adopt early screening and prevention strategies tailored to their perceived risk of cancer.

FACES – Families Affected with Colon and Endometrial Cancers: The aim of this study is to better understand the biologic drivers of hereditary gene mutations that lead to colon and endometrial cancer—the two most common cancers caused by LS. Researchers will correlate genetic biomarkers with clinical outcomes to define how LS gene mutations manifest in patients to lay the foundation for better cancer prevention strategies.

CAPS 5 – Cancer of the Pancreas Screening 5: The aim of this study is to identify early signs of pancreatic cancer in the blood (biomarkers) through the analysis of patient samples. Results will inform the development of better screening and early detection tests that exploit such biomarkers, providing physicians with the tools to intercept cancer in this high-risk population.

Lynch Syndrome Patient Registry and Biobank: Establishment of the first, most comprehensive Biobank repository that will store samples from patients with LS-associated cancer and LS-carrier “previvors” who do not have cancer but are at high-risk. The biobank will store patient biological samples (blood, polyps, plasma, serum, fibroblasts, DNA, RNA, and tumor tissue) providing an essential foundation for novel research in Lynch syndrome. The Registry and Biobank will collect patient information and samples longitudinally, so researchers can study how Lynch syndrome evolves over time and the effects of various preventative and treatment interventions.

The above research studies and descriptions were provided by the Dana Farber Lynch Syndrome Center.

**SEND US AN EMAIL IF YOU FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT
ONE OF THESE STUDIES! WE'D LOVE TO HEAR
DIRECTLY FROM OUR DONORS**



ABOUT US

The Full Life Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting research for a cure for Lynch Syndrome and its related cancers. Through the efforts of our team, partners, and supporters, it is our goal to educate the public on Lynch Syndrome, raise funds for research, and give back to the affected communities through various volunteer initiatives.

We strive to always be transparent with our donors. Our Lynch Syndrome research projects are hand-picked by our team and conducted by universities and hospitals nationwide. When you donate to the Full Life Foundation, you can feel confident that your donation is being put to good use, directly funding one of our supported research projects.

THE TEAM



PREYAA DOCU
FOUNDER



JAKE STRZALKOWSKI
TREASURER



MICHELLE HUDAK
SECRETARY



MEGAN CHACON-DIAZ
DIRECTOR OF
DIGITAL MARKETING



JACK FASO
DIRECTOR OF
FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES



MOLLY MCDONALD
DIRECTOR OF
MEDIA RELATIONS

STAY CONNECTED



[HTTPS://WWW.FULLLIFEFOUNDATIONLS.ORG/](https://www.fulllifefoundationls.org/)



@FULL.LIFE.FOUNDATION



@FULLLIFEFOUNDATIONLS



CONTACT@FULLLIFEFOUNDATIONLS.ORG