



**Research Units**  
Pathobiology Unit  
Patient Oriented Research Unit  
Developmental Biology and Genetics Unit

July 30, 2013

To everyone at Bill Hammond's Martial Arts,

My name is Todd Druley and I am a physician for children with cancer. I manage my own laboratory that is using the latest genetic technology to better understand children's leukemia so that we can get rid of this awful disease once and for all. For three years, I've had the distinct privilege to be associated with the Eli Seth Matthews Leukemia Foundation, and am honored to have our research supported through the Foundation, which would not be possible without caring and generous people such as you.

I bELieve we have a lot more to understand about how children develop cancer and how best to kill these cancers. It is not simply adult cancer in small bodies. Children's cancer is a unique collection of diseases that arise and respond to treatment in very different and individualized ways. Our work is starting to identify inherited genetic changes that may predispose an infant to acquiring leukemia, and we are close to publishing our first scientific paper that will credit the support of the ESMLF. We are working hard to bring the knowledge and the technology into direct pediatric treatment.

As I'm sure you're aware, the current funding climate for medical research is the worst it has ever been in the United States. Fewer and fewer researchers are able to obtain the funding necessary to continue their work. Pediatric research has always lagged behind in terms of funding, so it does my heart good to see the pictures of your latest Kick-A-Thon on the Foundation website. While this may seem like just another fun night for all of you, it is people that care enough to hold events like these that support the next discovery which will save a child's life. I want to sincerely thank you for your willingness to support the Eli Seth Matthews Leukemia Foundation.

With sincere thanks,

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