

May 31, 2014

Dear Swim Across America Family,

On behalf of the multidisciplinary Adolescent & Young Adult (AYA) Program at Moffitt Cancer Center, I would like to thank you for your support of Swim Across America. Your group's dedication to the community has led to great opportunities for our younger patients being treated for cancer.

AYA patients with cancer have traditionally fallen into a gap in healthcare. These 15-39 year-old patients represent about seven percent of new cancer diagnoses per year. Cure rates have not improved for this population overtime despite increases in survival rates for children and older adults with cancer. This is thought to be due to multiple factors. Moffitt is building a world-class AYA Center with the help of Swim Across America. This multidisciplinary Program utilizes a large and diverse team of medical professionals with skills suited to the care of AYA patients. We are addressing the pressing needs expressed by AYA patients including the need for more interaction with other AYA cancer patients through social and therapeutic functions, more education regarding cancer, therapies, and navigating the healthcare system, and continued access to fertility care.

We thank you for your continued support of our young adult patients and we appreciate the opportunity that your gift has provided the motivated team members of Moffitt's AYA Program.

Sincerely,



Damon Reed, M.D.
Assistant Member, Sarcoma Program
Leader, AYA Program