

FACTOR 2026

MISSION POSSIBLE



FACTOR OSTEOSARCOMA CONFERENCE • COLUMBUS, OHIO • JUNE 25-27, 2026



Welcome from Ann Graham



**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OSTEOWARRIOR
FOUNDER,
MIB AGENTS
OSTEOSARCOMA**

Dear Agents for Better,

"Mission Possible," as a phrase, almost takes the challenge out of a task. As a theme for an osteosarcoma conference, it may even seem naive. After all, this is perhaps the most challenging cancer.

We know that osteosarcoma predates humans. In fact, a periosteal osteosarcoma was discovered in the leg of a 240-million-year-old stem-turtle. Scientists have found osteo in dinosaurs, fossilized fish, and early humans dating back nearly two million years.

These ancient facts alone make understanding the complexity of osteosarcoma seem anything but a "Mission Possible." Yet history shows us what happens when we challenge the status quo. The first IV chemotherapy was administered in 1942. It wasn't until the early 1970s that chemotherapy was delivered to a young patient to treat bone cancer. This, in addition to the removal of the primary tumor, tripled the survival rates for osteosarcoma patients. As Nelson Mandela said, "It always seems impossible until it's done."

To our doctors and researchers: **You are the architects of our breakthroughs, and you are the guardians of our hope. Thank you for choosing to run toward one of the hardest problems in oncology with the conviction that it can be solved. Because you believe that better is possible, you give the rest of us the courage to believe it, too.** Your unwavering faith, research, and care form the foundation of our hope; you allow this community to believe that our mission is possible.

History is a testament to the fact that progress relies on a willingness to confront insurmountable challenges. By shifting our perspective to view the impossible as a challenge to be accepted, we begin the vital work of transforming our loftiest ambitions into the breakthroughs of tomorrow.

Thank you to this entire community of osteosarcoma patients, caregivers, doctors, researchers, and industry partners whose brilliance, perseverance, and unwavering commitment to Make It Better is the ultimate source of our hope.

Together, our mission is possible.

With hope,

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink that reads "Ann".

"Impossibility is a kiss of fate that provokes the genius of humanity." — Ben Okri

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Conference Notes

TIMELINE

Our timeline is extremely tight. Kindly arrive a few minutes before the session start time to ensure the meeting can begin and end promptly.

ETIQUETTE

Kindly refrain from requesting medical advice or to review a specific case in this venue.

NAME BADGES

Please visibly display your badge throughout the conference.

ELECTRONICS

Turn off or silence cell phones, PDAs, and electronic devices before each session begins.

PHOTOGRAPHY + VIDEO RECORDINGS

The conference will be photographed and video recorded. Images may be used in MIB Agents promotional materials.

CHECK OUT

If you plan on checking out on Saturday, please do so in the morning and store your luggage with the Bell Captain. This will avert any delay in your departure plans and avoid any late-check out fees.

COVID OR OTHER ILLNESS

It is of the utmost importance that we keep each other safe at the MIB FACTOR Conference. If you are having symptoms including those associated with a cold or flu, we ask that you not attend - even if your test is negative.



SCIENTIFIC GLOSSARY

This glossary provides definitions on key osteosarcoma and scientific terminology.

HOW DO I ASK A QUESTION?

SUBMIT A QUESTION ONLINE VIA SLIDO

1. Scan the QR code
2. Select the "room" for the relevant panel
3. Type in your question

Slido Event Code: #3376767



About MIB Agents

MISSION

MIB Agents is a leading pediatric osteosarcoma nonprofit dedicated to Making It Better for our community of patients, families, medical professionals, researchers, and industry partners through programs, education, and research.

VISION

A world with less toxic, more effective treatments and a cure for osteosarcoma.

VALUES

We are devoted to creating and instilling hope with and for our inclusive and collaborative osteosarcoma community. We do this through mutual trust, transparency, and compassion.

SCIENCE > SARCOMA

Nationwide Children's is proud to welcome MIB FACTOR attendees to Columbus. We believe science is greater than sarcoma. We strive everyday to better understand and treat osteosarcoma.

To learn more about our program, visit
NationwideChildrens.org/Sarcoma

 **NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S**

ASK A QUESTION IN PERSON

If you'd like to ask your questions directly, please raise your hand for **Rob Marsh** or **Burt Toma** to bring the microphone to you. During the session please be specific and brief.



**ROB
MARSH**

#BecauseOfVictoria



**BURT
TOMA**

#BecauseOfDylan

About Our Programs

PATIENT PROGRAMS

Ambassador Agents Matches OsteoWarriors in treatment and their families with trained osteosarcoma survivors and their families for mentorship, support, and guidance.

Gamer Agents Lead Gamer Agents are trained to game with OsteoWarriors and their siblings, connecting the osteosarcoma community via the entertainment of gaming.

Healing Hearts Offering weekly virtual group sessions, workshops, and an annual live retreat for grieving osteosarcoma families, facilitated by grief coach Lori Krause.

MIB Agents Family Funds In honor of their OsteoWarriors and memory of their OsteoAngels, Family Funds raise money to Make it Better for children, young adults, and their families, by funding research and programs.

osTEAo AYA Podcast A podcast by OsteoWarriors who “spill the tea” on living with cancer as a young adult.

Prayer Agents Registered Prayer agents lift OsteoWarriors, OsteoAngels, and their families with prayers from different faiths on the first Sunday of each month, when MIB shares lists of OsteoWarriors and OsteoAngels whose families have requested blessings and intentions from our community.

Secret Agent Missions Providing items of comfort and entertainment to OsteoWarriors in Hospice care.

Warrior Mail OsteoWarriors from around the world receive monthly cards and letters of hope, cheer, friendship (and sweets!) from MIB Agent Writers.

The power in numbers of our Family Funds makes all the difference in allowing MIB to provide research grants, to educate the newly diagnosed, and to offer all of our Patient Programs at no charge.



**Supporting the
moments that matter.**

EDUCATION

Osteosarcoma Handbook Written by osteosarcoma families and edited by leading physicians, *Osteosarcoma: From our Families to Yours* is a comprehensive guide to OS. Available in English, Spanish, and Mandarin.

OS Navigation Packets OS Navigation Packets include a hard copy of the OS Handbook, along with a wealth of helpful information and resources in both English and Spanish from our partners.

Connective Issue Monthly Newsletter A monthly roundup of all things osteosarcoma, including recent papers, open clinical trials, spotlight moments with OS people & labs – delivered straight to your inbox.

FACTOR Osteosarcoma Conference Since 2017, the annual MIB Agents FACTOR conference has united leading researchers, clinicians, and the osteosarcoma community—including patients, families, and survivors—to drive collaboration, advance treatments, and improve outcomes. FACTOR stands for Funding, Awareness, Collaboration, Trials, Osteosarcoma, and Research.

OsteoBites Webinar & Podcast A weekly webinar series featuring the leaders in osteosarcoma research and other topics of interest to the osteosarcoma community.

Precision Medicine Resource Our Precision Medicine Resource helps osteosarcoma patients and families understand how scientific advances are guiding more personalized care through biomarker testing, genetic testing, and individualized treatment planning.

TURBO Virtual Tumor Board A bi-monthly virtual tumor review board for osteosarcoma open to global clinicians and researchers, TURBO provides an educational forum and fosters collaboration.

Big Osteosarcoma News Update Short (BONUS) BONUS provides updates on osteosarcoma research, community opportunities, and news shared across social platforms in a short video format. Each segment is designed to inform and engage viewers about progress being made in the osteosarcoma community.

RESEARCH

Clinical Trial Resources Clinical Trial Resources provides educational information about clinical trials, including easy access to a clinical trial search through our partner TrialAdvisor.org and a curated list of osteosarcoma clinical trials.

Canine Clinical Trial Resources Offers information on clinical trials, veterinary oncology programs, and a curated list of open canine osteosarcoma trials.

Funding Opportunities Resource A resource hub for osteosarcoma researchers seeking grant and funding opportunities.

CURE-OS An international working group dedicated to advancing osteosarcoma single-cell research toward improving the care of OS patients.

OutSmartering Osteosarcoma Research Grants Since 2017, MIB Agents has supported 37 investigators and awarded \$2.9 million in research funding with our OutSmartering Osteosarcoma grant program.

Research Bees An MIB Agents Research Bee is a collaborative event that brings the patient community together, much like a quilting or sewing bee, to contribute insights and perspectives from lived experience to inform research and study design. These gatherings bridge the patient and scientific communities to make participation easy, meaningful, and impactful.

Map



Ambassador Agents Training

GAHANNA BOARDROOM

Advocacy / Communication Track

JUNIPER A

Caregiver Research Bee

WORTHINGTON

Flower Room

COLUMBUS ABC

General Session

EASTON GRAND BALLROOM

Grief Room / Healing Hearts

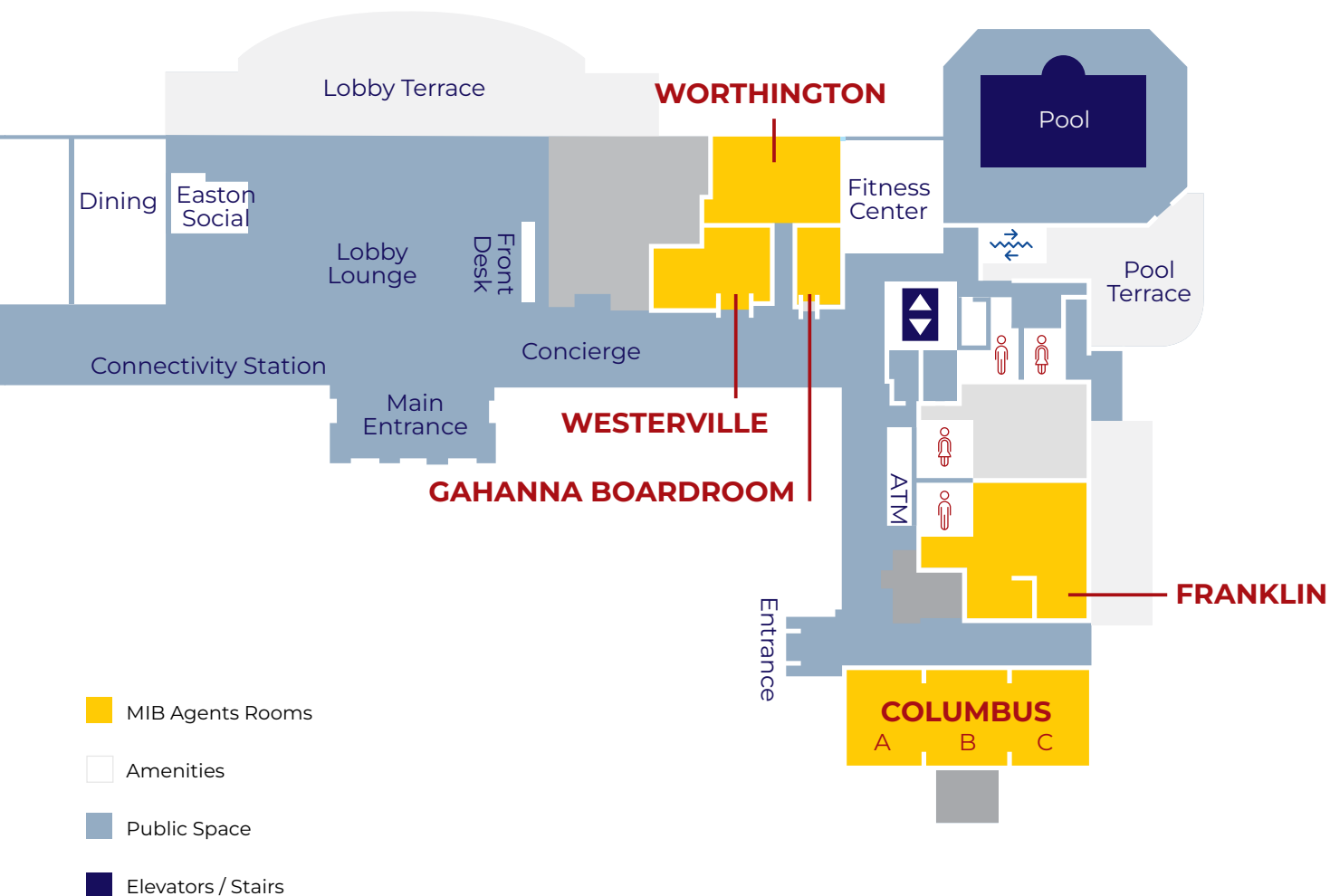
WESTERVILLE

HQ

FRANKLIN

MIB FACTOR Boutique

COAT ROOM



Nationwide Children's Gait Lab	JUNIPER B
Patient Research Bee	WORTHINGTON
Poster Session	EASTON/ JUNIPER FOYER
Registration	EASTON FOYER
Welcome Reception / Meals / Friday Dinner	REGENT BALLROOM
Wellness 1	MAGNOLIA
Wellness 2	LILAC

Agenda

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

2:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Registration Opens Easton Foyer
4:30 pm - 5:30 pm	FACTOR Family Welcome Reception Hosted by Family Funds Regent Ballroom
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Welcome Reception / Docs vs. Warriors Challenge Regent Ballroom
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	FACTOR Community Dinner PINS Mechanical Co.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

6:30 am - 7:15 am	WELLNESS ACTIVITY Center, Stretch, Balance, Breathe with Leslie Peterson Magnolia
7:00 am - 7:45 am	Breakfast <i>*note designated tables for Travel Awards and Mentor MeetUps</i> Regent Ballroom
7:00 am - 4:00 pm	Registration Easton Foyer
8:00 am - 8:10 am	PANEL 1: MIB PANEL Welcome Ann Graham <i>MIB Agents</i> Matteo Trucco, MD <i>Cleveland Clinic</i>
8:10 am - 8:20 am	Opening Keynote Mackenzie Maddry <i>MIB Agents</i>
8:20 am - 8:26 am	Events and Fundraising Anita Caldera <i>MIB Agents</i>
8:26 am - 8:32 am	Patient Programs Isabel Wolf <i>MIB Agents</i>
8:32 am - 8:40 am	Family Funds Karen Marsh <i>MIB Agents</i>
8:40 am - 8:48 am	Junior Advisory Board and NextGen Kara Skrubis <i>MIB Agents</i> Emelia Gapp <i>MIB Agents</i>

8:48 am - 8:56 am	Scientific Programs Christina Ip-Toma <i>MIB Agents</i> Kat Azima <i>MIB Agents</i>
8:56 am - 9:00 am	Sponsorship Hannah Hess <i>MIB Agents</i>
9:00 am - 9:10 am	Q&A
9:10 am - 9:20 am	PANEL 2: THERAPEUTIC IMPLICATIONS OF MOLECULAR HETEROGENEITY Introduction Max Penzer <i>MIB Agents</i> Moderator Anand Patel, MD, PhD <i>St. Jude Children's Research Hospital</i>
9:20 am - 9:30 am	Identifying tumor-specific vulnerabilities by mapping oncogenic structural variation in osteosarcoma Andrew Clugston, PhD <i>University of California, San Francisco</i>
9:30 am - 9:40 am	The Landscape of Extrachromosomal DNA and Its Functional Role in Osteosarcoma Weisong Zhao, MD <i>Shanghai General Hospital</i>
9:30 am - 11:00 am	WELLNESS ACTIVITY – BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT Introduction to Healing Hearts with Lori Krause Westerville
9:40 am - 9:50 am	Unravelling the phenotypic and clinical impact of complex genomic rearrangements in osteosarcoma Ilanthe van Belzen, PhD <i>EMBL's European Bioinformatics Institute</i>
9:50 am - 10:00 am	Canine osteosarcoma multiomic profiling provides new insights and therapeutic opportunities for dogs and humans Amy LeBlanc, DVM, DACVIM <i>NIH/National Cancer Institute</i>
10:00 am - 10:10 am	Implementing personalized, adaptive therapies in osteosarcoma Corey Weistuch, PhD <i>Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center</i>

All General Session Panels will be in
Easton Grand Ballroom unless otherwise noted.

10:10 am - 10:20 am **Distinct patterns of
chromosomal instability fuel
osteosarcoma progression and
influence patient outcomes**
Yanding Zhao, PhD
Mohamed bin Zayed University of
Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI)

10:20 am - 10:40 am **Q&A**

10:30 am - 11:30 am **Writing for Impact with Stacy Kim &
Gillian Okimoto**
Juniper A

10:40 am - 10:55 am **Coffee Break**
Easton Foyer

**PANEL 3: FROM CROSSTALK
TO TARGETS: EXPLOITING THE
TUMOR MICROENVIRONMENT**

10:55 am - 11:05 am **Introduction**
Molly Penzer | MIB Agents

Moderator
Dan Regan, DVM, PhD
Flint Animal Cancer Center,
Colorado State University

11:05 am - 11:15 am **Integrative Single-cell and Spatial
Transcriptomic Analysis of
Osteosarcoma Reveals Conserved
and Distinct Ecosystems Across Sites
and Species**
Yogesh Budhathoki, PhD Candidate
Nationwide Children's Hospital



OS THERAPIES

Developing new therapies for Osteosarcoma and other solid tumors

The "OS" stands for osteosarcoma. It was our first
mission when we started in 2018 - and still is!

ostherapies.com

Agenda

FRIDAY, JUNE 26 (CONT)

11:15 am - 11:25 am	Metastasis-Initiating Osteosarcoma Cells Shape Lung Microenvironment Through Paracrine Signaling Amy Gross, MS <i>Nationwide Children's Hospital</i>
11:15 am - 12:15 pm	WELLNESS ACTIVITY Flower Arranging 1 with Tedd Kapos Columbus ABC
11:25 am - 11:35 am	Spatial Transcriptomic Sequencing of Canine Osteosarcoma Reveals Immune Niches in the Tumor Microenvironment Rebecca Nance-Richey, PhD <i>University of Florida</i>
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	WELLNESS ACTIVITY Wellness with Nails with Elise Robinson Lilac
11:35 am - 11:45 am	Understanding the metastatic osteosarcoma tumor microenvironment using cross-species spatial transcriptomics Rebecca Makii, MS, DVM, DACVP <i>Colorado State University</i>
11:45 am - 11:55 am	Cell-type-resolved mapping of tumor-specific kinase networks in the osteosarcoma metastatic niche predicts effective Tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs) therapy Fatemeh Yazarlou, PhD <i>Nationwide Children's Hospital</i>
11:55 am - 12:15 pm	Q&A
12:15 pm - 12:30 pm	Breakthrough Cancer Defying Osteosarcoma Team Lab Katherine A Janeway, MD, MMSc <i>Dana-Farber Cancer Institute</i>
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch Regent Ballroom <i>*note designated tables for Family Funds and OutSmarting 2026</i>

1:30 pm - 1:35 pm	OUTSMARTING OSTEOSARCOMA 2026 AWARDS Moderators Christina Ip-Toma <i>MIB Agents</i> Matteo Trucco, MD <i>Cleveland Clinic</i>
1:35 pm - 1:40 pm	Modulating myeloid immunosuppression to improve CAR T-cell therapy using a novel patient-derived humanized mouse platform Lindsay Talbot, MD <i>St. Jude Children's Research Hospital</i> <i>Because of All Family Funds</i>
1:40 pm - 1:45 pm	TNF-alpha-armed CAR-T cell therapies for osteosarcoma Theodore Nowicki, MD, PhD <i>UCLA</i> <i>Because of Buddy</i>
1:45 pm - 1:50 pm	A Novel Strategy for Altering Osteosarcoma Macrophages to Allow Immunotherapy Seth Pollack, MD <i>Northwestern University</i> <i>Because of Patrick</i>
1:50 pm - 1:55 pm	A novel extracellular matrix remodeling therapeutic strategy in osteosarcoma Alice Browne, PhD <i>National Cancer Institute</i> <i>Because of Annaleigh</i>
1:55 pm - 2:00 pm	Advancing Pediatric Cancer Immunotherapy with CAR-NKT Cells Andrew Wahba, MD <i>Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital</i> <i>Because of Charlotte</i>
2:00 pm - 2:05 pm	Stretch Break
2:05 pm - 3:05 pm	WELLNESS ACTIVITY Sound Bath 1 with Nicole & Ryan Warner of Inner Wisdom Healing Center Magnolia
2:05 pm - 3:05 pm	WELLNESS ACTIVITY Flower Arranging 2 with Tedd Kapos Columbus ABC

All General Session Panels will be in
Easton Grand Ballroom unless otherwise noted.

2:05 pm - 3:05 pm	PATIENT KetoKids Research Bee Worthington Room Corey Weistuch, PhD <i>Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center</i> Laurie Graves, MD <i>Duke University</i>
2:05 pm - 2:15 pm	PANEL 4: EVOLVING STRATEGIES FOR LOCAL CONTROL Introduction Matthew Ceelen <i>MIB Agents</i> Moderator Tom Scharschmidt, MD <i>Nationwide Children's Hospital</i>
2:15 pm - 2:25 pm	MXene-Integrated Scaffolds for Localized Tumor Treating Field Delivery in Osteosarcoma Aleyna La Croix, MS, PhD Student <i>Dartmouth College</i>
2:25 pm - 2:35 pm	Functional Outcomes After Upfront Surgery for Osteosarcoma: A Pilot Study Anna R. Cooper, MD, MP <i>Montefiore Einstein</i>
2:35 pm - 2:45 pm	FLASH Ultra-high Dose Rate Radiotherapy in the Treatment of Osteosarcoma Theresa Busch, PhD <i>University of Pennsylvania</i>
2:45 pm - 2:55 pm	High LET Radiotherapy for Osteosarcoma Daniel Ebner, MD, MPH <i>Mayo Clinic</i>
2:55 pm - 3:05 pm	Sarcoma SBRT Task Force Erin S. Murphy, MD <i>Cleveland Clinic</i>
3:05 pm - 3:25 pm	Q&A
3:25 pm - 3:40 pm	Coffee Break Easton Foyer
3:40 pm - 4:40 pm	WELLNESS ACTIVITY Salsa Dancing with Andrew Bisaga Lilac

3:40 pm - 4:40 pm	WELLNESS ACTIVITY Write Warrior Mail with Bunnies and Sassy Pickard Juniper A
3:40 pm - 3:50 pm	PANEL 5: EXPANDING IMMUNOTHERAPY APPROACHES IN OSTEOSARCOMA Introduction Sloane Dyer <i>MIB Agents</i> Moderator Nancy Gordon, MD <i>UT MD Anderson</i>
3:50 pm - 4:00 pm	Development of EPHA2 CAR T Cell Therapy for Pediatric Osteosarcoma Ali Cihan, PhD <i>Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center</i>
4:00 pm - 4:10pm	Next generation dual-CAR $\gamma\delta$ T cells for the treatment of pediatric osteosarcoma Joseph Skeate, PhD <i>University of Minnesota</i>
4:10 pm - 4:20 pm	Improving Outcomes in Osteosarcoma: Vaccine-enhanced Adoptive Cell Therapy After Short-Course Chemotherapy in a Naturally Occurring Canine Model Jeffrey N. Bryan, DVM, MS, PhD <i>University of Missouri</i>
4:20 pm - 4:30 pm	Phase I evaluation of adjuvant cell therapy with TGF beta-resistant NK cells in dogs with osteosarcoma William Kisseberth, DVM, PhD <i>The Ohio State University</i>
4:30 pm - 4:40 pm	Dual targeting of osteosarcoma and stromal microenvironment using FAP-directed immunotherapeutics Julie Tomolonis, MD, PhD <i>Nationwide Children's Hospital</i>
4:40 pm - 5:00 pm	Q&A
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Poster Session Easton Foyer
6:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Free Time
6:30 pm - 6:45 pm	Dinner Arrival Regent Ballroom

Agenda

FRIDAY, JUNE 26 (CONT)

6:45 pm - 7:00 pm **Group Photo**
Outside Regent Ballroom

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm **Buffet Dinner**
Regent Ballroom

8:00 pm - 10:00 pm **FACTOR Formal**
Regent Ballroom

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

6:30 am - 7:00 am **WELLNESS ACTIVITY**
Run with Dr. Trucco
Meet in Lobby

6:30 am - 7:15 am **WELLNESS ACTIVITY**
Center, Stretch, Balance, Breathe with Leslie Peterson
Magnolia

7:00 am - 7:45 am **Breakfast**
Regent Ballroom
**note designated tables for Mentor MeetUps*

8:00 am - 5:00 pm **Registration and Partner Tables**
Easton Foyer

8:00 am - 8:10 am **Opening Keynote**
Carly Crockett
OsteoWarrior and Delta Airlines Pilot

8:10 am - 8:20 am **PANEL 6: MOLECULAR PATHWAYS AND THERAPEUTIC VULNERABILITIES**
Introduction
Gillian Okimoto | *MIB Agents*

Moderator
Ryan D. Roberts, MD, PhD
Nationwide Children's Hospital

8:20 am - 8:30 am **MYC Modulation Alters Metastasis in High-Risk Osteosarcoma**
Emily Seiden, PhD
University of Michigan

8:30 am - 8:40 am **Potentiating Cohesin Collapse With PARP Plus ATM Inhibition In Pediatric Osteosarcoma**
Janeala Morsby, PhD
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

8:40 am - 8:50 am **BET Bromodomain Targeting Induces TXNIP, DNA Damage, and Potentiates Salvage Chemotherapy in Preclinical Models of Osteosarcoma**
Pankita H. Pandya, PhD
Indiana University School of Medicine



healx

GenAI Tech &
Drug Discovery Expertise

Creating global impact for the rare disease community.

8:50 am - 9:00 am	Developing LRRC15-Targeted Radiotheranostics to Ablate Aggressive Osteosarcoma and Reprogram TGFβ-Driven Immuno-resistance H. David Ulmert, MD, PhD <i>UCLA</i>	10:35 am - 10:45 am	Eco-Evolutionary Strategies for Extinction-Based Therapy in Osteosarcoma Laurie Graves, MD <i>Duke University</i>
9:00 am - 9:10 am	Decoding niche organization patterns and signaling dynamics that underlie osteosarcoma cell fates Alexander Davies, DVM, PhD <i>Knight Cancer Institute</i>	10:45 am - 11:05 am	Q&A
9:10 am - 9:30 am	Q&A	11:05 am - 11:10 am	Stretch Break
9:30 am - 9:45 am	Coffee Break Easton Foyer	11:10 am - 11:20 am	PANEL 8: NOVEL THERAPEUTIC MODALITIES AND DELIVERY STRATEGIES Introduction Elise Robinson <i>MIB Agents</i> Moderator Richard Gorlick, MD <i>UT MD Anderson</i>
9:45 am - 10:45 am	WELLNESS ACTIVITY – BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT Preparing for the Future with Lori Krause <i>Westerville</i>	11:15 am - 12:15 pm	CAREGIVER KetoKids Research Bee Corey Weistuch, PhD Worthington Room <i>Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center</i> Laurie Graves, MD <i>Duke University</i>
9:45 am - 9:55 am	PANEL 7: ADDRESSING CHEMORESISTANCE IN OSTEOSARCOMA Introduction Sona Kockinsky <i>MIB Agents</i> Moderator Livia Garzia, PhD <i>McGill University</i>	11:20 am - 11:30 am	Epigenetic Targeting of Translation in Osteosarcoma Jay Sarthy, MD, PhD <i>Seattle Children's Hospital</i>
9:55 am - 10:05 am	Extracellular Matrix Density Mediates Osteosarcoma Phenotype Ram Rao, MD, PhD <i>Seattle Children's Research Institute</i>	11:30 am - 11:40 am	De Novo Design of Radium-binding Proteins Sagar Bhattacharya, PhD <i>UCSF</i>
10:05 am - 10:15 am	Evolving toward precision oncology: Leveraging collateral drug responses for personalized second-line osteosarcoma treatment Zachary Burke, MD <i>Cleveland Clinic</i>	11:40 am - 11:50 am	MicroRNA for Major Impact: Ligand-Mediated Delivery of Tumor-Suppressive miRNA-34a to Treat Osteosarcoma Iman Mevaa, PhD Candidate <i>Purdue University</i>
10:15 am - 10:25 am	Tracking tumor clonal dynamics in response to chemotherapy in metastatic osteosarcoma using molecular barcoding Aafrin Pettiwalla, PhD <i>UCSF</i>	11:50 am - 12:00 pm	Enhancing osteosarcoma immunotargeting efficacy by combination therapy Masahiro Hitomi, MD, PhD <i>Cleveland Clinic</i>
10:25 am - 10:35 am	Proteo-genomic profiling of chemotherapy persistence in Osteosarcoma PDX models Surabhi Menon, MD <i>Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center</i>	12:00 pm - 12:10 pm	Development of Antibody-Drug Conjugates in Osteosarcoma Jonathan Gill, MD <i>UT MD Anderson</i>

Agenda

SATURDAY, JUNE 27 (CONT)

12:10 pm - 12:30 pm **Q&A**

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm **Lunch**
Regent Ballroom

1:30 pm - 1:40 pm **PANEL 9: PATIENT PANEL**
Introduction
Camille Brady | *MIB Agents*

Moderator
Matthew Dietz, DO, MEd
University of Utah

1:40 pm - 2:40 pm **Akash Cotten** | *MIB Agents*

Alejandro Lopez | *MIB Agents*

Camille Brady | *MIB Agents*

Lincoln Zick | *MIB Agents*

Sammy Ulloa | *MIB Agents*

Q&A

2:40 pm - 2:50 pm **Coffee Break**
with LCC K9 Visit

2:45 pm - 3:15 pm **ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATION SESSION**
A Year with Cancer screening
of video performance with
Brannon Warn-Johnston
Juniper A

2:50 pm - 2:55 pm **PANEL 10: CURE-OS UPDATE –**
COLLABORATIVE UNDERSTANDING OF
OSTEOSARCOMA HETEROGENEITY
AND EVOLUTION
Overview, Background, Goals
Jovana Pavisic, MD
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

2:55 pm - 3:00 pm **Decoding the Osteosarcoma Tumor**
Microenvironment: A Review and
Outlook for Clinical Translation
Dan Regan, DVM, PhD
Colorado State University

3:00 pm - 3:05 pm **A roadmap for osteosarcoma:**
intratumoral heterogeneity
Anand Patel, MD, PhD
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

3:05 pm - 3:10 pm **Next Steps**
Corey Weistuch, PhD
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

3:10 pm - 3:20 pm **Q&A**

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm **WELLNESS ACTIVITY**
Sound Bath 2 with Nicole & Ryan Warner
of Inner Wisdom Healing Center
Magnolia

3:20 pm - 3:25 pm **Stretch Break**

3:25 pm - 3:35 pm **PANEL 11: CLINICAL TRIALS**
Introduction
Inaaya Shariq | *MIB Agents*

Moderator
Sarah Whittle, MD
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

3:35 pm - 3:45 pm **DFMO Maintenance for patients**
with relapsed/refractory Ewing sarcoma
or Osteosarcoma
Alice Lee, MD
Children's Hospital at Montefiore

3:45 pm - 3:55 pm **FIERCe: FOLR1 Immune**
Effector Cell Therapy against
Advanced Osteosarcoma
Michelle Choe, MD
Seattle Children's Hospital

3:55 pm - 4:05 pm **A Phase 1/2 Study to Evaluate LNTH-**
2403, a LRRC15-targeted 177Lutetium-
labeled Monoclonal Antibody, in
Participants With
Relapsed / Refractory Osteosarcoma:
A trial in progress
Noah Federman, MD
UCLA

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4:05 pm - 4:15 pm **Open-label, cohort-sequential dose-escalation and dose-confirmation Phase 1/2 clinical trial to evaluate the safety and efficacy of domatinostat in combination with sirolimus in adolescents and adults with relapsed, refractory sarcoma and osteosarcoma**
Amy E. Armstrong, MD
Washington University in St. Louis

4:15 pm - 4:25 pm **OstEvo: A Strategy-Based Clinical Trial Advancing New Treatment Strategies for Metastatic and Relapsed Osteosarcoma**
Filemon Dela Cruz, MD
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

4:25 pm - 4:45 pm **Q&A**

4:45 pm - 4:55 pm **Closing Keynote**
Matt Allen | *MIB Agents*

4:55 pm - 5:00 pm **Thank you, Announcement of FACTOR 2027 Host & Location, Closing Remarks**
Ann Graham | *MIB Agents*
Matteo Trucco, MD | *Cleveland Clinic*
FACTOR 2026 Team

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

9:00 am - 12:00 pm **Healing Hearts Retreat for Bereaved Parents of Osteo Angels**
Lori Krause, Grief Coach
Hand Holders LLC
Westerville

THE POWER OF WILL

SUPPORT AND ENHANCE THE LIVES OF SARCOMA PATIENTS AND THEIR LOVED ONES

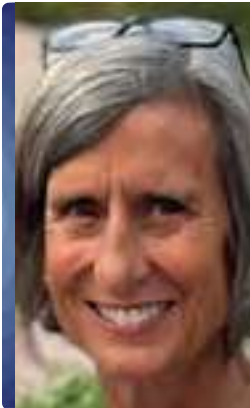
Established in honor of Will Hudson, The Power of Will is dedicated to changing the narrative for sarcoma patients. We focus on funding scientific research, providing educational resources, and offering financial assistance to adolescent and young adult sarcoma patients through our Quality of Life Grants.

JOIN US IN OUR MISSION TO FIND BETTER TREATMENTS AND IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR SARCOMA PATIENTS. TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



Visit our website
thepowerofwill.org

About Our Wellness Activities

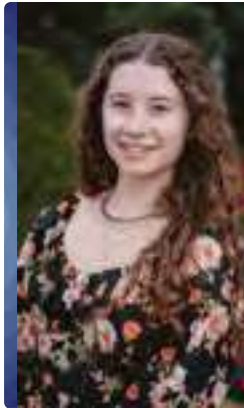


Center, Stretch, Balance, Breathe

Begin your day with gentle stretching and mindful movement to awaken your body, center your mind, and cultivate calm. Mats, Blankets & Towels will be provided.

LESLIE PETERSON

Mom of OsteoAngel Brooke, MIB Family Fund Holder, Leslie, completed yoga teacher training to deepen her practice and share its benefits.



Wellness with Nails

Join Elise for fun and relaxing manicures, complete with creative nail art to brighten your day!

ELISE ROBINSON

OsteoWarrior, Ambassador Agent and Junior Advisory Board Member, Elise, is a nail art enthusiast.



Flower Arranging

Tedd is a celebrated fixture at FACTOR! Join him to create beautiful centerpieces!

TEDD KAPINOS

Owner of Jasper & Prudence Floral Design, serving all of New England, as well as destination weddings and events.



Salsa Dancing

Join Andrew for a fun and beginner-friendly salsa class!

ANDREW BISAGA

OsteoWarrior, Ambassador Agent, and NextGen Member, Andrew, loves to playing and building guitars during his free time.



Sound Bath

Nicole and Ryan offer sound journeys that promote relaxation and emotional well-being. Mats, Blankets and Towels will be provided. Optional Reiki massage offers as well!

NICOLE & RYAN WARNER

Owners and practitioners of Inner Wisdom Healing Center in Westerville, Ohio.



Let's Write Warrior Mail with Bunnies

With Isabel Wolf and Sassy Pickard

Stationary, postcards, and stickers will be provided.

SASSY PICKARD

Devoted MIB Writer Agent, Writer Agent FB Manager, Founder of F5RS Bunny Rescue and Therapy Bunnies, assisted by Terri Cook.



Writing for Impact

A workshop with the common goal that can bring the patient and families and the researchers and clinicians together to become advocates for change, to help make it better! Everyone writes. "Good" writing is subjective, but writing that produces results is all about understanding your reader.

STACY KIM, PHD is a Social Scientist and Author of The Lighthouse Method and the soon to be released Envy. She has written for Real Simple, Wired, The New York Times, The Washington Post, & The Independent. She is mother of OsteoWarrior **GILLIAN BOMI OKIMOTO** who is a student at Brown University and the Rhode Island School of Design.



Healing Hearts Retreat for Bereaved Parents of Osteo Angels

*Lori Krause, Grief Coach,
Hand Holders LLC*

You are invited to join Lori and the MIB Healing Hearts Community for a post FACTOR gathering rooted in connection of shared experience. Choosing to sit together in reflection around loss can be both meaningful and tender. Lori, alongside bereaved parents, understands how vulnerable this can be. This space is designed to offer gentle, compassionate support—welcoming each person as they are and at their own pace.

We will create space to honor each child, explore grief with care, and connect with others who understand the experience of losing a child to osteosarcoma. Our hope is that participants leave feeling supported, with practical tools for coping and a renewed sense of connection and hope.

If you are comfortable with bringing a printed photo of your child, along with a small meaningful object, please do so.

This year's Retreat will take place following FACTOR26 on Sunday, June 28th from 9:00 AM to Noon in Westerville.

In addition to the Grief Retreat, Lori welcomes you to join **An Introduction to Healing Hearts** for both bereaved parents and siblings of Osteo Angels.

Friday, June 26th from 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM in Westerville

Lori has a new offering for FACTOR, **Preparing for the Future**, a supportive, guided workshop designed to help patients and families currently navigating osteosarcoma feel more prepared for what lies ahead. Together, we will gently explore how to approach difficult but important conversations around treatment options, personal values, and end-of-life preferences. This session offers practical guidance, thoughtful prompts, and emotional support to help you clarify choices, communicate openly with loved ones and care teams, and feel better prepared for what may come.

Saturday, June 27th from 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM in Westerville

Any parent in need of a private, one-on-one session with Lori can make a reservation for one of the Six 45 minute sessions we are offering to first time Healing Hearts bereaved Parents of Osteo Angels at the registration table.

LORI KRAUSE is a life coach with a focus on grief as well as end of life. A hospice-trained grief facilitator for both adults and children, Lori is an INELDA-trained End of Life Doula and has her professional coaching credential (PCC) with the ICF as an End of Life and Grief Coach. Lori's approach is to "hold hands" and walk alongside her clients as they process life's deep emotions, loss, and challenges. She creates a compassionate and supportive space by providing education on what is to be expected in grief and mourning, helping people discover coping tools and new perspectives, and creating hope for the future. MIB Agents is fortunate to have Lori leading our Healing Hearts group sessions and workshops.



Open to Morning Fun Run

Join Dr. Trucco for an early morning fun run in Columbus!

MATTEO TRUCCO, MD MIB FACTOR Co-Chair, Member of the Board of Directors, Scientific Advisory Board, and Director of the Children's Cancer Innovative Therapy Program and the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and Bone Marrow Transplant Department at Cleveland Clinic Children's



A Year With Cancer Video Performance

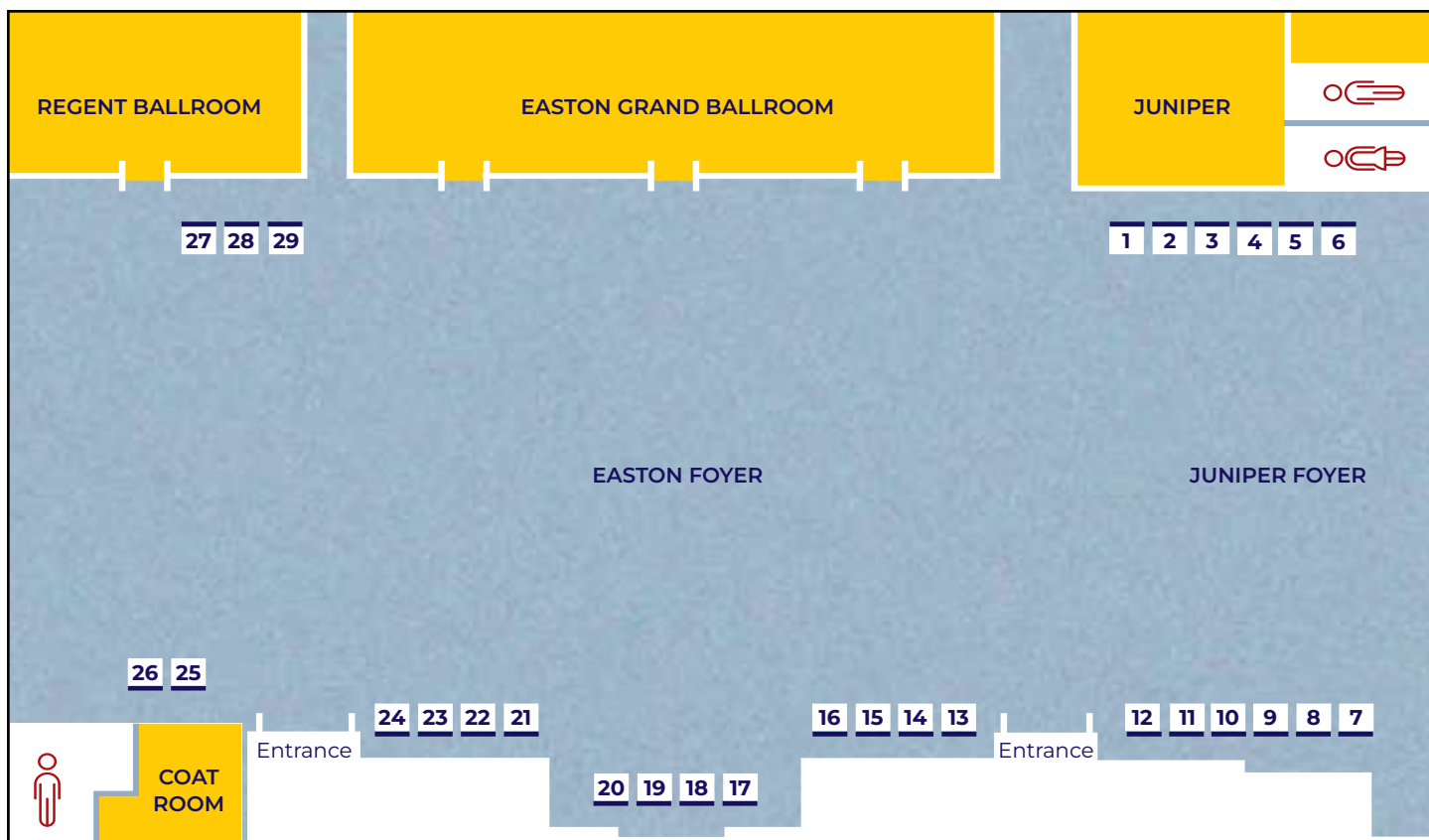
Young composer and OsteoWarrior Brannon hosts a screening of a video of her work, *A Year with Cancer*, for solo violin and hospital sounds.

BRANNON WARN-JOHNSTON

Young Composer and OsteoWarrior from Seattle

Poster Session

1. **Edward Greenfield, PhD**
Indiana University
Responses to repurposed FDA-approved drugs by patient-derived sarcospheres as a functional biomarker to inform precision medicine
2. **Nathaniel Ruppert, MD Student**
Cleveland Clinic
A novel sarcoma tumoroid platform preserving the tumor microenvironment to guide personalized therapy
3. **Haley Neumiller**
Seattle Children's Hospital
Bioengineering a 3D Fibrin-Based Microthrombus Model to Study Osteosarcoma Under Shear Stress
4. **Sriya Sagi, MS**
Seattle Children's Hospital
Impact of Osteosarcoma Tumor Configuration in a 3D Collagen Model
5. **Olivia Travis, PhD**
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
Murine Osteosarcoma Models with a Range of Metastatic Capacities to Uncover Disease Vulnerabilities
6. **Kailee Rutherford, PhD**
University of Colorado Denver, AMC and DC
Investigating Convergent Evolution in Osteosarcoma Through Integrative Drug Response Profiling in Patient-derived Organoids
7. **Geoffrey Smith, MD, PhD**
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Defining the in vivo tumor antigen landscape in murine osteosarcoma
8. **Jared Fischbach, PhD Student**
University of Guelph
Clinically-Informed in vitro Model Identifies GDNF Family Receptor Alpha-1 (GFRA1) as Potential Therapeutic Target in Platinum-Resistant Osteosarcoma
9. **Emma Vanderboon, PhD Candidate**
University of Guelph
Investigating MYC-Associated Vulnerabilities in Canine and Human Osteosarcoma
10. **Abigail Bueckert, MSc Student**
University of Guelph
Investigating the origin and evolution of metastasis-initiating cells in canine appendicular osteosarcoma
11. **Charles D. Kocher, PhD**
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Osteosarcoma as a Math Problem: Using Modeling to Guide the Development of New Therapies
12. **Max Penzer**
MIB Agents
Survivorship and peer support: Outcomes from youth leadership initiatives
13. **Serena-Jenna Rabi**
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Leveraging Lentiviral Systems to Uncover Osteosarcoma Metastasis Mechanisms
14. **Kelly Gutpell, MBBCh, PhD**
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Tumor Heterogeneity in Early Metastatic Osteosarcoma
15. **Leyre Jimenez Garcia, MS**
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Fibronectin-rich matrix-associated signals promote metastatic growth and survival in osteosarcoma
16. **Matthew V. Cannon, PhD**
Nationwide Children's Hospital
SCANBIT facilitates identification of tumor cell populations in scRNAseq data using pseudobulked SNV calls
17. **Matthew Gust**
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Efficacy and Overlap of Sequencing-Based Osteosarcoma Risk-Stratification Strategies
18. **Sophia Fernandes, PhD Student**
University of Guelph
Conserved microRNA signatures associated with aggressive behaviour in human and canine osteosarcoma cell lines
19. **Jaron Magstadt**
University of Minnesota
Extracellular Vesicle mRNA Signatures as Prognostic Biomarkers in Pediatric Osteosarcoma: Preliminary Results from the KIDSCAN Study
20. **Thomas Scharschmidt, MD**
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Change in Standard Uptake Value after Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy Correlates with Necrosis and Length of Survival in Pediatric Osteosarcoma



21. **Thomas Scharschmidt, MD**
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Postoperative Fever after Radical Resections of Pediatric Extremity Sarcomas is Not Associated with Positive Blood or Urine Cultures
22. **Daryn Strub, MHA**
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Metabolic Response and Tumor Mineralization on PET/CT as Predictors of Histologic Necrosis in Osteosarcoma
23. **Behzad Amirzade, MSc, PhD Candidate**
The Ohio State University
A Machine Learning Approach to Predict Fracture Risk in Osteosarcoma-affected Bones Stabilized by Intramedullary Implants
24. **Jonathan Bastick, MD**
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Treatment Outcomes and Toxicities of Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy for Sarcomas involving Weight-Bearing Bones - A Retrospective Single Institution Study
25. **Melissa Tatman, PT, MPT**
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Utilization and Effectiveness of Acute Care Physical Therapy for Pediatric Osteosarcoma and Ewing's Sarcoma Patients
26. **Jarrell Imamura**
Cleveland Clinic - Lerner Research Institute
Primary osteosarcoma of the short bones: A Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program (SEER) retrospective study
27. **Amy Li**
Baylor College of Medicine
Virus-specific T cells Present in Osteosarcoma Tumors have Potential for Anti-Tumor Activity
28. **Antonia Rotolo, MD, PhD**
University of Pennsylvania
Donor-derived Invariant Natural Killer Cell therapy for human and canine osteosarcoma
29. **Cyrus Eghtedari, MD student**
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
Identifying HER2 and GD2 Expression in Osteosarcoma as Immunotherapy Targets



Together, We're Taking Childhood Back from Cancer

Since 2005, the [St. Baldrick's Foundation](#) has funded nearly \$24.5 million in osteosarcoma research—bringing us closer to cures and giving kids the chance to simply be kids. Powered by volunteers and donors, we invest in the most promising research to find cures for all childhood cancers and give survivors long, healthy lives. [Join us.](#)

[StBaldricks.org](#)

Kaylee W.,
osteosarcoma,
age 11



WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR EDWARD CHEUNG AND LAIMAN WONG'S GENEROUS SUPPORT

of our video recordings at FACTOR 2026. Their contribution ensures that the valuable insights and presentations from all sessions will be captured and available post-conference on our YouTube channel for broader access and continued learning. Thank you to Isaac Cheung's family for helping us share this vital information with the global osteosarcoma community.

#BECAUSEOFISAAC

OsteoWarriors HQ Agenda

OsteoWarriors and Siblings ages 8-22

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

3:00 pm - 5:30 pm	HQ Opens Franklin
4:00 pm - 4:30 pm	HQ Welcome Meeting Franklin
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Welcome Reception Docs vs. Warriors Challenge Regent Ballroom
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	FACTOR Community Dinner PINS Mechanical Co, 2nd Floor
8:30 pm - 10:00 pm	HQ Re-Opens Franklin <i>Late Night Snack will be available</i>
8:30 pm - 9:00 pm	HQ Welcome Meeting **Make-up Franklin

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

7:00 am - 7:45 am	Breakfast Regent Ballroom
8:00 am - 10:00 am	HQ Opens Franklin
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	F5RS Bunnies Franklin
9:30 am - 10:30 am	Continental Breakfast Available Franklin
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	osTEAo Live Franklin <i>Live recording of osTEAo at FACTOR</i>
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	HQ Closes for Lunch Regent Ballroom
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	HQ Sound Bath Magnolia
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	HQ Photoshoot with Parents
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	HQ Nail Salon with Elise Robinson Franklin

6:45 pm - 7:00 pm	FACTOR Group Photo Regent Ballroom
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Dinner & FACTOR Formal Regent Ballroom
8:00 pm - 11:00 pm	HQ FACTOR Formal After-Party Franklin <i>Late Night Snack will be available</i>

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

7:00 am - 7:45 am	Breakfast Regent Ballroom
8:00 am - 5:00 pm	HQ Opens Franklin
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Breakfast with Bunnies Continental Breakfast Available Franklin
9:00 am - 10:30 am	HQ Carly Crockett Bad Ass Delta Pilot Franklin
10:00 am - 12:30 pm	HQ Pool Time Pool
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	HQ Yoga Lilac
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	HQ Closes for Lunch Regent Ballroom
1:30 pm - 2:40 pm	OsteoWarrior Patient Panel Easton Ballroom
1:30 pm - 3:45 pm	LCC K9 Visit Franklin
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	HQ Flower Arranging Lilac
4:30 pm	HQ Closes Franklin
4:45 pm - 5:00 pm	Thank You, Closing Remarks & Closing Keynote Easton Ballroom

Key Presenters



AAFRIN PETTIWALA
PHD

University of California,
San Francisco

**Tracking tumor clonal dynamics
in response to chemotherapy in
metastatic osteosarcoma using
molecular barcoding**

Aafrin earned her PhD in Cancer Biology from Institut Curie in Paris, France, where she studied therapeutic resistance and phenotypic plasticity in brain tumors. Her doctoral work focused on uncovering the molecular mechanisms that allow cancer cells to adapt and evade treatment. Currently, Aafrin is a postdoctoral researcher in the lab of Dr. Alejandro Sweet-Cordero at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). Her research centers on understanding chemotherapy resistance in metastatic osteosarcoma, with an emphasis on clonal dynamics, tumor evolution, and lineage tracing using high-throughput barcoding technologies.



ALEX DAVIES
DVM, PHD

Knight Cancer Institute Oregon
Health and Science University

**Decoding niche organization
patterns and signaling dynamics
that underlie osteosarcoma cell fates**

Dr. Alexander Davies graduated with a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and a D.V.M., with an interest in comparative oncology, from the University of California, Davis. He then completed a post-doctoral fellowship in cancer biology at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory before joining The Ohio State University as faculty in the Department of Veterinary Biosciences. While at OSU, he was a member of the Comprehensive Cancer Center and faculty in the Cancer Biology and Cancer Engineering programs. Currently, Dr. Davies is an Assistant Professor at the Knight Cancer Institute within the Division of Oncological Sciences and Cancer Early Detection Advanced Research Center (CEDAR), with a joint appointment in the Department of Pediatrics. His work focuses on dynamic tumor-microenvironment signaling cross-talk, signal integration, and the development of 3D organotypic and tissue models to study these interactions using advanced live-cell microscopy techniques.



ALEYNA LA CROIX
MS, PHD STUDENT

Dartmouth College

**MXene-Integrated Scaffolds for
Localized Tumor Treating Field
Delivery in Osteosarcoma**

Aleyna La Croix is a second-year Ph.D. student at Dartmouth College in the Hixon Lab. Her research focuses on bone tissue engineering and the development of innovative biomaterials to promote bone regeneration while combating cancer recurrence. She is particularly interested in translational strategies that integrate materials science and bioelectrical approaches to improve outcomes in musculoskeletal oncology.



ALI CIHAN
PHD

Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

**Development of EPHA2 CAR T-Cell
Therapy for Pediatric Osteosarcoma**

Dr. Ali Cihan is a research scholar at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, where he focuses on immunotherapy with a particular emphasis on advancing cellular therapies for pediatric solid tumors, including osteosarcoma. He received his Ph.D. from The Rockefeller University, where his research explored how chromosomal abnormalities and transcriptional dysregulation contribute to the development of high-risk pediatric leukemias. Motivated by the urgent need to improve outcomes for children with cancer, especially those facing limited treatment options, Dr. Cihan turned his focus to bridging laboratory discoveries and clinical application. His current work aims to develop immune-based therapeutic strategies that address the unique biological and clinical challenges of pediatric cancers.



ALICE LEE
MD

Children's Hospital at Montefiore

**DFMO Maintenance for patients with
relapsed/refractory Ewing sarcoma
or Osteosarcoma**

Dr. Alice Lee is a pediatric oncologist at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore (CHAM) who specializes in the treatment of patients diagnosed with sarcoma. In addition to leading the pediatric sarcoma program, she founded the Pediatric Oncology Early Phase Clinical Trials program at CHAM. This program allows her to provide access to novel treatment agents for patients with relapsed or refractory cancers through research studies. She is passionate about developing new treatments with the goal of improving survival for patients with sarcomas.



AMY E. ARMSTRONG
MD

Washington University in St. Louis

**Open-label, cohort-sequential dose-
escalation and dose-confirmation
Phase 1/2 clinical trial to evaluate
the safety and efficacy of
domatinostat in combination with
sirolimus in adolescents and adults
with relapsed, refractory sarcoma
and osteosarcoma**

Dr. Armstrong is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Hematology/Oncology at Washington University School of Medicine. She is a pediatric oncologist who is Director of the Solid Tumor Team and Co-Director of the Adolescent and Young Adult Sarcoma Program. Dr. Armstrong serves as Principal Investigator for WashU of the Children's Oncology Group, Neurofibromatosis Clinical Trials Consortium, and National Pediatric Cancer Foundation, and leads research efforts in renal tumors, sarcomas, and peripheral nervous system tumors associated with NF1. She is excited to present her multi-institutional trial for the treatment of relapsed and refractory sarcomas, specifically targeting osteosarcoma, in collaboration with the National Pediatric Cancer Foundation.

Key Presenters



AMY C. GROSS
MS

Nationwide Children's Hospital

Metastasis-Initiating Osteosarcoma Cells Shape Lung Microenvironment Through Paracrine Signaling

Amy C. Gross, MS, is a Project Manager and experienced bench scientist at Nationwide Children's Hospital, where she has managed the research program of the Roberts Lab for 11 years. Her work focuses on tumor-host interactions that drive metastasis in pediatric cancers, with a particular emphasis on lung metastasis in osteosarcoma. Amy has extensive experience in animal modeling, preclinical drug testing, and single-cell DNA and RNA sequencing, including library preparation and sample processing. She has contributed to the development and characterization of more than 250 patient-derived xenograft models and the generation of over 270 single-cell libraries from human, canine, and murine samples. With over 14 years of research management experience, she has overseen core facilities, coordinated multi-center clinical studies, managed IACUC protocols, and supported successful R01-level grant applications. She has co-authored more than 20 peer-reviewed publications and is committed to scientific rigor and timely project completion.



AMY LEBLANC
DVM, DACVIM

NIH/National Cancer Institute

Canine osteosarcoma multiomic profiling provides new insights and therapeutic opportunities for dogs and humans

Dr. Amy LeBlanc is a board-certified veterinary oncologist, senior Scientist, and the Director of the intramural NCI's Comparative Oncology Program. In this position, she conducts preclinical mouse and translational pet dog studies that are designed to inform the drug and imaging agent development path for human cancer patients, specifically those with osteosarcoma. She directly oversees the NCI Comparative Oncology Trials Consortium (COTC), which provides the infrastructure necessary to connect participating veterinary academic institutions with stakeholders in drug development to execute fit-for-purpose comparative clinical trials in novel therapeutics and imaging agents. Her program provides support to several extramural NCI-funded initiatives, including the Integrated Canine Data Commons and Cancer Moonshot-funded canine immunotherapeutic clinical trials conducted under the PRECINCT network.



ANAND PATEL
MD, PHD

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Moderator: Therapeutic Implications of Molecular Heterogeneity

Dr. Anand Patel is an Assistant Member and pediatric oncologist at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. His research focuses on pediatric solid tumors, using three-dimensional cell culture models and single-cell sequencing to investigate mechanisms of treatment resistance and disease recurrence. He collaborates with the MIB community to analyze intratumoral heterogeneity in osteosarcoma, aiming to identify biological drivers of resistance and to inform a strategic roadmap for future research and clinical implementation. His work bridges high-resolution tumor profiling and actionable therapeutic insights to improve patient outcomes in sarcoma.



ANDREW CLUGSTON
PHD

University of California,
San Francisco

Identifying tumor-specific vulnerabilities by mapping oncogenic structural variation in osteosarcoma

Andrew Clugston grew up in Lake Luzerne, NY, and earned his BS in Biochemistry and MS in Chemistry at the Rochester Institute of Technology. He earned his PhD in Integrative Systems Biology at the University of Pittsburgh, where he studied developmental diseases of the kidney, using both wet-lab and bioinformatics approaches to understand the role of enhancers in disrupting RNA expression. His studies introduced him to the work of the Sweet-Cordero laboratory at the University of California, San Francisco, where he would later begin his postdoctoral fellowship studying osteosarcoma. His efforts focus on the use of advanced genomics techniques to understand the tumor-specific genomic changes that produce the osteosarcoma phenotype, and his goal is to apply these approaches in the pursuit of patient-specific treatments that anticipate tumor vulnerabilities.



ANNA R. COOPER
MD, MPH

Montefiore Einstein

Functional Outcomes After Upfront Surgery for Osteosarcoma: A Pilot Study

Anna R. Cooper, MD, MPH, FAAOS, FAOA, is the Orthopedic Oncology Fellowship Director at Montefiore Einstein and an Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Dr. Cooper treats both children and adults with bone and soft-tissue tumors. She has a particular interest in the management of pathologic fractures and megaprosthetic reconstruction and is passionate about trainee education. Dr. Cooper's research interests include patient-reported outcomes in orthopedic oncology and the impact of frailty on postoperative orthopedic outcomes. She has authored numerous peer-reviewed journals, case reports, and book chapters. Dr. Cooper is a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and a member of several professional organizations, including the Musculoskeletal Tumor Society, the Children's Oncology Group, the American Orthopaedic Association, and the New York State Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons, among others. In 2025, she was voted as a Member of the Nominating and Development Committees of the American Orthopaedic Association.



CARLY CROCKETT
OSTEOWARRIOR

Saturday Opening Keynote

Carly Crockett is a pilot for Delta Air Lines on the A320 and considers herself immensely fortunate to love what she does. In March 2020, at age 28, she was diagnosed with osteosarcoma after her right humerus fractured while she was doing what she loves most—flying a jet. She often reflects on why that moment happened in the flight deck; in many ways, having it occur in her sanctuary brought her a sense of peace and a powerful determination to find her way back. She is honored to share her story at the FACTOR conference as a reminder that even when our path changes, our passions can still take flight—sometimes in ways we never imagined.

Key Presenters



COREY WEISTUCH
PHD

Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

Implementing personalized, adaptive therapies in osteosarcoma

I am an Assistant Attending Physicist in the Service for Predictive Informatics with the Department of Medical Physics at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. My work is focused on developing mathematical models to understand cancer development, progression, and metastasis by integrating multimodal data. Central to this approach is the recognition that tumors occupy a finite spectrum of cell states, each characterized by distinct treatment sensitivities and metastatic tendencies that evolve over time and in response to therapy. My research centers on two primary objectives: 1) developing innovative mathematical tools to identify cancer drivers, and 2) precision modeling of cancer evolution and metastasis. By leveraging my interdisciplinary training in mathematics and biology, I collaborate closely with experimental biologists and clinicians to ensure that my computational predictions are effectively translated into tangible clinical applications and trials.



DAN EBNER
MD, MPH

Mayo Clinic

High LET Radiotherapy for Osteosarcoma

Daniel K. Ebner, MD, MPH, is a radiation oncologist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology at Mayo Clinic. His research centers on particle radiotherapy, especially high linear energy transfer (LET) proton and carbon-ion approaches, to overcome osteosarcoma radioresistance and metastatic relapse. In collaboration with Japan's National Institutes of Quantum Science and Technology (QST), he investigates how high-LET radiation induces complex DNA damage, and potential combinatorial therapy to improve local control and stimulate durable systemic immunity. He leads integrated in vitro, in vivo, and biobank-enabled translational studies aimed at accelerating combination trials. His work has been supported by the Particle Therapy Cooperative Group and the Sarcoma Foundation of America.



DAN REGAN
DVM, PHD

Flint Animal Cancer Center,
Colorado State University

Moderator: From Crosstalk to Targets: Exploiting the Tumor Microenvironment

Dr. Regan received his DVM degree from the University of Georgia, and subsequently completed residency training in veterinary anatomic pathology and a PhD in tumor immunology at Colorado State University. He is currently an Associate Professor in the Flint Animal Cancer Center and Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Pathology at Colorado State University. The focus of Dr. Regan's laboratory is to increase our understanding of the interplay between the immune system and non-immune tumor stroma, and how these compartments of the tumor microenvironment (TME) promote metastasis as well as mediate extrinsic mechanisms of resistance to anti-cancer therapy, with a specific focus on therapeutic targeting of macrophage-fibroblast cross-talk in osteosarcoma lung metastasis.



EMILY SEIDEN
PHD

University of Michigan

MYC Modulation Alters Metastasis in High-Risk Osteosarcoma

Emily is a postdoc who joined Patrick Grohar's lab in January 2025. She graduated from The University of Alabama in Huntsville in 2019 with a BS in biology and chemistry. She went on to earn her PhD in anatomy and cell biology from Indiana University School of Medicine in 2024. For her PhD, she worked in Ed Greenfield's lab repurposing FDA-approved therapies to treat metastatic osteosarcoma using a 3D cell culture model and metastatic mouse model. Throughout her PhD research, Emily became passionate about translational research and finding ways to improve treatments for patients with osteosarcoma. She joined the Grohar lab to continue to pursue research on new therapies for MYC-amplified osteosarcoma. In addition to cancer research, Emily is also interested in educational research and really enjoys teaching and mentoring. Following her postdoc training, she plans to pursue a career as an academic faculty member. Outside of the lab, she enjoys playing with her dog Jessa and weight lifting.

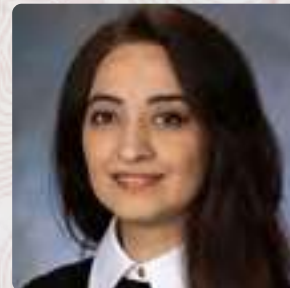


ERIN S. MURPHY
MD

Cleveland Clinic

Sarcoma SBRT Task Force

Erin S. Murphy, MD, is a Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology at the Cleveland Clinic. She completed residency at the Cleveland Clinic and a fellowship in pediatric radiation oncology at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. She specializes in radiotherapy and radiosurgery/stereotactic body radiotherapy for brain tumors and pediatric tumors. She is the Co-Chair of the Children's Oncology Group Study, ACNS 2321, investigating response-based reduced radiotherapy for CNS Germinoma. She has institutional trials evaluating the role of dose-escalated neoadjuvant radiosurgery for large brain metastases and the impact of sarcoma SBRT on the patient's own immune system. She has initiated an International Sarcoma SBRT Task Force.



FATEMEH YAZARLOU
PHD

Nationwide Children's Hospital

Cell-type-resolved mapping of tumor-specific kinase networks in the osteosarcoma metastatic niche predicts effective Tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs) therapy

I am a postdoctoral scientist in the Roberts Lab at Nationwide Children's Hospital studying mechanisms of osteosarcoma metastasis. My work develops KITE-SCAN (Kinase Inhibitor Targeting through Expression and Single-Cell Activation Networks), a precision oncology platform integrating single-cell transcriptomics, CROP-seq functional screening, and phospho-proteomics to identify signaling dependencies and predict effective tyrosine kinase inhibitors for individual tumors. This multi-omic approach, combined with computational modeling, aims to uncover multicellular drug response mechanisms within the tumor microenvironment and support patient-matched therapeutic strategies. I hold a Ph.D. in Medical Genetics and completed postdoctoral training at Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences, where I studied regulatory functions of the noncoding genome in human disease.

Key Presenters



FILEMON DELA CRUZ
MD

Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

OstEvo: A Strategy-Based Clinical Trial Advancing New Treatment Strategies for Metastatic and Relapsed Osteosarcoma

Dr. Filemon Dela Cruz is a pediatric oncologist and researcher at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center dedicated to developing better treatments for children with bone cancers such as osteosarcoma. His research focuses on creating patient-derived tumor models that allow scientists to test promising new drugs and identify therapies most likely to benefit patients. He is also involved in leading and participating in clinical trials that bring these discoveries to children and adolescents with cancer. Dr. Dela Cruz leads national collaborations that accelerate pediatric cancer drug development, including the Pediatric Research in Oncology Xenografting Consortium (PROXC) and the NCI-supported Pediatric Preclinical In Vivo Testing (PIVOT) program. Through these efforts, his work helps identify and advance the most promising new treatments for children with osteosarcoma and other pediatric cancers.



H. DAVID ULMERT
MD, PhD

University of California, Los Angeles

Developing LRRC15-Targeted Radiotheranostics to Ablate Aggressive Osteosarcoma and Reprogram TGFβ-Driven Immunoresponse

As a physician-scientist in oncology, I have focused my career on translating biomarker discovery into targeted immunotheranostics. My research integrates disease-specific immunology to improve therapeutic efficacy and overcome resistance. Using high-throughput screening, tumor biobanks, patient cohorts, and engineered mouse models, I developed antibody-based targeting of uncomplexed human kallikrein 2 (hK2/KLK2), defined its FcRn-dependent endocytosis mechanism, and leveraged irradiation-induced AR-driven hK2 upregulation. These discoveries led to multiple clinical-stage therapies, including hK2-targeted radioimmunotheranostics, CAR-T therapy, and the bispecific T-cell engager Pasritamig, now in an ongoing Phase 3 trial. I also invented a Terbium-161-labeled KLK3 antibody, entering clinical testing in 2025. Additionally, my lab developed LNTH-2403, a Lutetium-177-labeled LRRC15-targeted therapy for immunotherapy-resistant tumors, now advancing in two Lantheus-sponsored Phase 1/2 clinical trials.



IANTHE VAN BELZEN
PHD

EMBL-EBI (European
Bioinformatics Institute)

Unravelling the phenotypic and clinical impact of complex genomic rearrangements in osteosarcoma

Dr Iantje van Belzen is a postdoctoral fellow at the European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI, UK), where she develops computational methods to study complex rearrangements in cancer genomes. During her PhD at the Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology in the Netherlands, she developed a strong interest in osteosarcoma. Although highly rearranged genomes are a hallmark of this disease, these rearrangements are often considered too complex to interpret and are largely ignored in clinical practice. Determined to change this, Iantje focuses on the biological and clinical consequences of genomic complexity and instability. She currently leads an interdisciplinary osteosarcoma project as an EIPOD-LinC fellow, supervised by Prof Adrienne Flanagan (UCL) and Dr Isidro Cortés-Ciriano (EMBL-EBI). By combining histopathological expertise with novel sequencing technologies, we aim to gain new insights into complex rearrangements in osteosarcoma and ultimately improve patient care.



IMAN MEVAA
PHD CANDIDATE

Purdue University

MicroRNA for Major Impact: Ligand-Mediated Delivery of Tumor-Suppressive miRNA-34a to Treat Osteosarcoma

Iman is a third-year PhD Candidate in the Kasinski Lab at Purdue University. Iman comes from Cameroon, grew up in France, and obtained her Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry from Purdue. As an undergraduate student, Iman gained experience in labs focused on bacteriophage research, agricultural engineering, and computational biology. Iman started her graduate studies in labs specializing in natural-killer-cell immunotherapy and in the synthesis of small-molecule inhibitors. Now, Iman's doctoral research focuses on tumor-suppressive microRNAs in osteosarcoma. Specifically, her project aims to reintroduce tumor-suppressive microRNAs that are lost in osteosarcoma (such as microRNA-34a) to restore antitumorigenic activity. To circumvent the limitations of standard therapies, Iman investigates the impact of ligand-mediated delivery of microRNA-34a on osteosarcoma. Through targeted delivery and microRNA chemical modifications, Iman's project strives to address key challenges in RNA therapeutics while exploring a novel avenue for osteosarcoma treatment.



JANEALA MORSBY
PHD

St. Jude Children's
Research Hospital

Potentiating Cohesin Collapse With PARP Plus ATM Inhibition In Pediatric Osteosarcoma

My name is Janeala Morsby, and I hail from the beautiful island of Jamaica, where I was born and raised in Port Antonio, Portland. My journey to the United States began when I received a full honors scholarship to attend Claflin University, where I completed my Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, summa cum laude. I then went on to complete my PhD at the University of Notre Dame under the supervision of Dr. Bradley Smith. At the University of Notre Dame, my work focused on the detection of hypoxia in cancer cell models in addition to diagnostics and imaging. I am now a postdoctoral associate at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (SJCRH) in Dr. Lillian Guenther's lab. At SJCRH, my work focuses on exploring the mechanism of synergy of the dual inhibition of ATM and PARP for the treatment of pediatric osteosarcoma. I am very passionate about the proposed research project and hope that the findings of the proposed work will be beneficial to pediatric osteosarcoma patients.



JAY SARTHY
MD, PHD

Seattle Children's
Research Institute

Epigenetic Targeting of Translation in Osteosarcoma

Jay Sarthy, MD, PhD, is a physician-scientist at Seattle Children's Research Institute. His clinical practice focuses on the treatment of children and young adults with high-risk cancers, and his research program focuses on cancer epigenetics. Through this lens, his work focuses on enhancing the effectiveness of chemotherapies while making them safer.

Key Presenters



JEFFREY BRYAN
DVM, MS, PHD

University of Missouri

Improving Outcomes in Osteosarcoma: Vaccine-enhanced Adoptive Cell Therapy After Short-Course Chemotherapy in a Naturally Occurring Canine Model

Dr. Jeffrey Bryan earned his D.V.M. from the University of California - Davis in 1993. He received certification by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and Masters degree from the University of Missouri in Oncology in 2005. He received his PhD from the University of Missouri in 2007. He is the Director of the Tom and Betty Scott Endowed Program in Veterinary Oncology, the Director of the PET Imaging Center of the University of Missouri, Associate Department Chair for Research, and the Associate Director of Comparative Oncology for Ellis Fischel Cancer Center. Dr. Bryan's research focuses on comparative examination of cancers in companion animals to better understand cancers in all species. His particular areas of interest are targeted imaging and therapy, epigenetics, and immunotherapy of cancers, including osteosarcoma.



JONATHAN GILL
MD

The University of Texas MD
Anderson Cancer Center

Development of Antibody-Drug Conjugates in Osteosarcoma

I am a Pediatric Oncologist with a focus on sarcomas. I conduct translational research in the development of new agents for the treatment of osteosarcoma. Much of our focus in recent years has been on the development of Antibody-Drug Conjugates targeting surface proteins that we have identified on the surface of osteosarcomas.



JOSEPH SKEATE
PHD

University of Minnesota

Next generation dual-CAR $\gamma\delta$ T-cells for the treatment of pediatric osteosarcoma

As an Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota, Dr. Joseph Skeate's primary research goal is to develop innovative cellular therapies for rare pediatric cancers through cross-disciplinary collaborations and train the next generation of scientists in genome engineering. His previous research experience at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center focused on basic and translational science in cervical cancer. Following completion of his PhD in 2020, Dr. Skeate completed postdoctoral training at the University of Minnesota, gaining expertise in developing and applying transposon and Cas9 genome engineering technologies in primary immune cells. This specialization enabled him to establish effective engineering and testing pipelines, demonstrating in vitro and in vivo efficacy in multiple cancer models. Now, Dr. Skeate is dedicated to leveraging these advanced skills to develop and implement impactful cell therapies for pediatric diseases, especially in the areas of rare and poor-prognosis cancers.



JOVANA PAVISIC
PHD

Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

CURE-OS Update

Dr. Jovana Pavisic is a pediatric oncologist on the Sarcoma Service in the Department of Pediatrics at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. She earned her MD from Yale University, completed pediatric residency at Stanford Children's Hospital, and fellowship in pediatric hematology/oncology at Columbia University, where she also completed a postdoctoral fellowship and master's degree in Biomedical Informatics. Her research applies computational systems biology approaches to identify regulatory drivers of aggressive cancer phenotypes such as chemotherapy resistance and metastasis using tumor gene expression data, including single-cell sequencing. In osteosarcoma, she uses regulatory network analysis to define tumor cell states, discover prognostic biomarkers, and nominate therapeutic vulnerabilities. Her work aims to translate these findings into novel combinatorial treatment strategies designed to address intratumor heterogeneity and treatment resistance. She co-leads the MIB Agents CURE-OS Single-Cell Working Group, advancing single-cell technologies to improve treatment strategies for osteosarcoma.



JULIE TOMOLONIS
MD, PHD

Nationwide Children's Hospital

Dual targeting of osteosarcoma and stromal microenvironment using FAP-directed immunotherapeutics

Dr. Tomolonis is a Pediatric Hematology, Oncology, and BMT fellow and physician scientist at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, OH. She completed her MD/PhD training at Baylor College of Medicine, where she studied the role of abnormal TNF α signaling in the neuroblastoma tumor microenvironment. She then completed her pediatric residency at Nationwide Children's Hospital, where she first joined the lab of Dr. Cripe and began her work on using the lab's rAAV-based T cell engager platform to target proteins in the tumor microenvironment. As a fellow, she continues to develop new models and therapies focused on cancer-associated fibroblasts in sarcoma. Her work is supported by New Idea and Accelerator Awards from the CancerFree Kids Foundation.



KATIE JANEWAY
MD, MMSc

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Update: Break Through Cancer - Defying Osteosarcoma TeamLab

Dr. Janeway is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics and a Senior Physician who cares for young people with sarcoma. She is Pediatric Oncology Section Chief and Director of Clinical Genomics at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Dr. Janeway's research is focused on genomics, precision oncology, and bone sarcomas. She leads clinical trials in osteosarcoma and Ewing sarcoma, both as an independent investigator and as the Chair of the Children's Oncology Group (COG) Bone Tumor Committee. The Janeway Laboratory has uncovered the genomic events causing and sustaining difficult-to-treat childhood solid malignancies. The laboratory leads several studies, which have enrolled and sequenced more than 2,500 patients with childhood cancers. They are using this data to deepen the understanding of clinical and genomic factors explaining prognosis and treatment response and resistance, with a focus on sarcomas. In collaboration with the Broad Institute and Count Me In, the group is innovating patient partnerships in sarcoma research.

FACTOR 2025





Key Presenters



LAURIE GRAVES
MD

Duke University

Eco-Evolutionary Strategies for Extinction-Based Therapy in Osteosarcoma

Dr. Laurie Graves is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and pediatric oncologist at Duke University. She has a clinical focus in the care of pediatric and young adult sarcomas. Her research utilizes cross-species osteosarcoma models to characterize and target therapy-induced adaptations in treatment-resistant osteosarcoma.



LIVIA GARZIA
PHD

McGill University

Moderator: Addressing Chemoresistance in Osteosarcoma

Dr. Livia Garzia is an Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery at McGill University and a Principal Investigator in the Cancer Research Program at the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (RI-MUHC). She is also an associate member of the Department of Medicine. Her research focuses on the molecular mechanisms driving metastasis and therapy resistance in pediatric solid tumors, particularly bone sarcomas and brain tumors. Dr. Garzia earned her PhD in Life Sciences at the Telethon Institute for Genetics and Medicine (TIGEM) in Naples, Italy, and completed postdoctoral training in Cancer Genetics at The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. Her work integrates functional genomics and epigenetics to identify drivers of tumor progression. Her laboratory pioneered the use of Sleeping Beauty transposon forward genetic screens to uncover mechanisms of metastasis and drug resistance. More recently, her research has focused on epigenetic regulation in pediatric cancers, including the role of histone mutations and the epigenetic modifier EZHIP in osteosarcoma progression.



MASAHIRO HITOMI
MD, PHD

Cleveland Clinic Research

Enhancing osteosarcoma immunotargeting efficacy by combination therapy

Dr. Masahiro Hitomi is a Project Staff studying sarcoma in the Department of Genomic Sciences and Systems Biology at the Cleveland Clinic Research. After finishing his medical school curriculum and PhD study in biochemistry in Japan, he joined the Cleveland Clinic as a postdoctoral fellow to pursue his interest in oncogene signaling and cell growth control. Since then, he has been studying cell cycle regulation, DNA damage response, cancer stem cell biology, PTEN tumor suppressor gene function, and tumor therapeutic resistance evolution. His current research focus is to increase the susceptibility of osteosarcoma to antibody-based immunotargeted therapy by inducing immunotarget molecule expression.



MATTEO TRUCCO
MD

Cleveland Clinic

FACTOR Conference Co-Chair

Matteo Trucco is a Pediatric Oncologist at Cleveland Clinic, specializing in sarcomas and rare tumors such as Osteosarcoma. He is also a member of the MIB Agents' Board of Directors and Scientific Advisory Board. He is the Scientific Co-Chair of the FACTOR conference and moderates MIB Agents' virtual tumor board for Osteosarcoma, TURBO.



MATTHEW DIETZ
DO, MSed

Moderator: Patient Panel

Moderator: Patient Panel

Dr. Dietz is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology. Clinically, Dr. Dietz focuses on the care of pediatric and young adult patients with bone and soft tissue sarcoma, as well as children with retinoblastoma. He leads the Primary Children's Hospital Solid Tumor clinical trial enterprise and directs the Comprehensive Retinoblastoma Program. Dr. Dietz is committed to delivering cutting-edge clinical care, as well as providing patients with access to experimental therapeutics and discovery programs. Dr. Dietz's research efforts include team science approaches to better understand the biology driving cancer progression and treatment resistance, with a focus on translating this work into new therapies. He is a member of the Huntsman Cancer Institute's Experimental Therapeutics Program and actively involved in the development of early-phase clinical trials through multiple cooperative consortia.



MICHELLE CHOE
MD

Fred Hutch Cancer Center/Seattle Children's Hospital

FIERCe: FOLR1 Immune Effector Cell Therapy against Advanced Osteosarcoma

My journey as a pediatric oncologist and transplanter has been greatly influenced by my personal experience being diagnosed with osteosarcoma as a young adult. I was fortunate to be ultimately found to have parosteal osteosarcoma, requiring only surgery as treatment. However, having to navigate my diagnosis as a young adult, a first-generation immigrant daughter whose family's primary language was not English, allowed me to gain a unique perspective and a way to connect with patients and families, whether they came to know of my own history or not. I wrestled with the question of "Why me?" which transitioned to "Why not me?" once I learned of my good prognosis. The answers to these questions have fueled my motivation for finding better ways to help those with a worse prognosis. I am currently an Assistant Professor at Fred Hutch Cancer Center and an attending physician at Seattle Children's Hospital, where my research is focused on the development and clinical translation of cellular therapies for pediatric solid tumors.

Key Presenters



NANCY GORDON
MD

The University of Texas MD
Anderson Cancer Center

Moderator: Expanding Immunotherapy Approaches in Osteosarcoma

Dr. Nancy Gordon is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics–Research at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and a nationally recognized leader in osteosarcoma translational research. Her work has helped redefine the targeting of lung metastases, by pioneering aerosolized, lung-directed therapies that moved from preclinical models to investigator-initiated clinical trials including inhaled IL-2 and gemcitabine. She established the Fas (CD95) pathway as a key regulator of metastatic potential and therapeutic vulnerability, informing new strategies to overcome immune evasion. Dr. Gordon's lab integrates tumor biology, immunotherapy, and advanced imaging to develop and refine NK cell-based therapies, CAR-NK approaches, and microenvironment reprogramming strategies. Her research has identified novel targets such as CD70, defined autophagy-driven mechanisms of chemotherapy resistance, and developed imaging platforms to track immune cell trafficking in vivo. Dr. Gordon is committed to translating biologically informed discoveries into transformative, less toxic therapies for children with metastatic osteosarcoma.



NOAH FEDERMAN
MD

University of California, Los Angeles

A Phase 1/2 Study to Evaluate LNTH-2403, a LRRCL5-targeted 177Lutetium-labeled Monoclonal Antibody, in Participants With Relapsed / Refractory Osteosarcoma: A trial in progress

Dr. Noah Federman is the Director of the Pediatric Bone and Soft Tissue Sarcoma Program at UCLA, part of the UCLA Sarcoma Program and UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Federman specializes in treating children, adolescents and young adults with these aggressive cancers. He runs an incredible comprehensive and multidisciplinary program involving pediatric and medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, orthopedic oncology surgeons, musculoskeletal radiologists and pathologists, nuclear medicine specialists, physical therapists, and prosthetic specialists. Dr. Federman also specializes in conducting clinical trials and leads an experienced clinical research team devoted to providing access to clinical trials for children with refractory, recurrent, and metastatic bone and soft tissue cancers.



PANKITA H. PANDYA
PHD

Indiana University School
of Medicine

BET Bromodomain Targeting Induces TXNIP, DNA Damage, and Potentiates Salvage Chemotherapy in Preclinical Models of Osteosarcoma

Dr. Pankita H. Pandya is an Assistant Research Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Indiana University School of Medicine. She is heavily involved in team science, where she works in partnership with the Pediatric Precision Genomics Program (PPGP) at the Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health, as well as under the mentorship of Dr. Karen E. Pollok at the Herman B Wells Center. Her research initiatives involve leveraging multi-omics data for prioritization and testing of novel targeted therapies for improving therapeutic outcomes while minimizing toxicity in pediatric and young adult sarcomas. Dr. Pandya is part of a team that has established over 30 osteosarcoma models from children and adolescents treated within the PPGP. These models aid in the identification of risk signatures, biomarkers of therapeutic response, and other clinically-relevant therapeutic vulnerabilities in pediatric sarcoma patients for functional validation using molecularly characterized preclinical models.



RAM RAO
MD, PHD

Seattle Children's
Research Institute

Extracellular Matrix Density Mediates Osteosarcoma Phenotype

Dr. Rao is an Acting Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Washington and a PI at Seattle Children's Research Institute (SCRI). A physician-scientist, Dr. Rao earned a PhD in Biomedical Engineering and an MD from the University of Michigan. His graduate research in biomaterials was supported by an NSF Fellowship, resulting in 12 manuscripts and awards from the Society for Biomaterials and the Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society (TERMIS). After a Pediatric Hematology/Oncology fellowship at Stanford supported by the NIH K12 Pediatric Scientist Development Program, Dr. Rao launched an independent lab in 2024. The Rao Lab utilizes tissue engineering to design 3D pediatric cancer models, investigating how biochemical and biophysical cell-matrix interactions drive chemoresistance. He recently received one of the 2025 SCRI Mentor of the Year awards.



REBECCA MAKII
MS, DVM, DACVP

Colorado State University

Understanding the metastatic osteosarcoma tumor microenvironment using cross- species spatial transcriptomics

Dr. Rebecca Makii is a board-certified veterinary pathologist, postdoctoral fellow, and PhD student in Dr. Dan Regans investigational pathology laboratory at Colorado State University's Flint Animal Cancer Center. She earned her Master's in Comparative Medicine and Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University before completing a residency in anatomic pathology at Colorado State University. Her research focuses on the spatial organization of metastatic osteosarcoma and how tumor cells, the immune system, and surrounding stroma interact to promote therapeutic resistance.



REBECCA NANCE-RICHEY
PHD

University of Florida

Spatial Transcriptomic Sequencing of Canine Osteosarcoma Reveals Immune Niches in the Tumor Microenvironment

Rebecca Nance-Richey, PhD, is an Assistant Scientist at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine specializing in clinical and translational comparative oncology, with a primary focus on canine osteosarcoma. Her research integrates advanced multi-omics technologies and computational biology to investigate tumor heterogeneity, neoplastic evolution, and the tumor microenvironment, including mechanisms of metastasis, immune interactions, and treatment resistance. Dr. Nance-Richey leverages veterinary clinical specimens and comparative genomics to identify conserved immune mechanisms and therapeutic targets that improve outcomes for both veterinary and human cancer patients. Her work emphasizes reproducible bioinformatics workflows and cross-disciplinary collaboration to advance precision medicine in oncology.

Key Presenters



RICHARD GORLICK
MD

The University of Texas MD
Anderson Cancer Center

**Moderator: Novel Therapeutic
Modalities and Delivery Strategies**

Dr. Richard Gorlick is division head and chair of Pediatrics and holds the H. Grant Taylor, W.W. Sutow, and Margaret P. Sullivan Distinguished Chair in Pediatrics at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. His molecular pharmacology laboratory is the founding Bone Tumor Resource Laboratory for the Children's Oncology Group. Dr. Gorlick is a member of the NCI funded Pediatric Preclinical In Vivo Testing (PIVOT) Program. As a principal investigator (PI) of a Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Multi Investigator Research Award, he leads efforts to reduce morbidity and mortality from pediatric osteosarcoma by developing new treatments and applies this same collaborative research leadership as a multi-PI of an NCI-funded Specialized Program of Research Excellence on sarcoma. Dr. Gorlick is a past president of the Connective Tissue Oncology Society and currently chairs the CPRIT Advisory Committee on Childhood Cancers.



RYAN D. ROBERTS
MD, PHD

Nationwide Children's Hospital

**Moderator: Molecular Pathways
and Therapeutic Vulnerabilities**

Ryan Roberts, MD, PhD, is a tenured Associate Professor at The Ohio State University and a Principal Investigator at Nationwide Children's Hospital. His research targets the mechanics of bone tumor metastasis. Utilizing a sophisticated pipeline of patient-proximal animal models, "tumor-on-lung" organoids, and single-cell analytical tools, the Roberts Laboratory seeks to elucidate the "conversations" that occur between tumor cells and lung tissues, and to understand how these interactions help metastatic lesions survive, proliferate, and evolve more aggressive behaviors. Beyond the lab, Dr. Roberts chairs the Children's Oncology Group's Osteosarcoma Biology Committee. In this role, he bridges the gap between bench science and clinical research, ensuring that biological insights drive smarter clinical trials and that patient outcomes directly inform future research. His mission is to build a foundation for novel therapeutics that will transform survival for high-risk patients.



SAGAR BHATTACHARYA
PHD

University of California,
San Francisco

**De novo design of radium-
binding proteins**

Sagar Bhattacharya is a Connie and Bob Lurie Postdoctoral Fellow of the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation at University of California, San Francisco. His primary research focuses on designing proteins from scratch for cancer therapy. Prior to this, he conducted his doctoral research at Syracuse University, where he worked with peptide and protein engineering for developing highly efficient enzymes. He is the recipient of several awards: 2025 Nobel Laureate Signature Award for Graduate Education in Chemistry from American Chemical Society, 2024 IUPAC-Solvay International Award for Young Chemists from International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, W.H. Peterson Award from ACS Division of Biochemical Technology, The Dr. Elizabeth A. Schram Award from American Peptide Society, Outstanding Achievement in Chemistry Award from Central New York local section of American Chemical Society. He served as a member of American Chemical Society, American Peptide Society, and American Association for Cancer Research.



SARAH WHITTLE
MD

St. Jude Children's
Research Hospital

Moderator: Clinical Trials

Sarah Whittle, MD is a pediatric oncologist who specializes in the care of children and young adults with bone sarcomas. Her research efforts are focused on designing and conducting therapeutic clinical trials for patients with sarcoma as well as improving risk stratification for these diseases. She is a member of the Children's Oncology Group Bone Tumor Committee and leads efforts through this group as well as leading several institutional clinical trials.



SURABHI MENON
MD

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer
Center/ New York Presbyterian
Weill Cornell

**Proteo-genomic profiling of
chemotherapy persistence in
Osteosarcoma PDX models**

Surabhi Menon is a third-year pediatric hematology-oncology fellow at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and New York Presbyterian Weill Cornell. She is currently working in the lab of Dr. Asmin Tulpule. Her clinical focus is on treating children and young adults with pediatric cancers, and she has a particular interest in sarcomas. Her research is centered around understanding the molecular mechanisms that drive chemotherapy resistance and persistence in osteosarcoma, with the goal of identifying novel, targeted therapies. Long term, she aims to develop clinical trials for sarcoma patients to improve treatment outcomes and extend survival. She is dedicated to finding innovative ways to personalize and optimize therapies for pediatric patients, with the ultimate goal of improving outcomes for all children with sarcomas.



THERESA BUSCH
PHD

University of Pennsylvania

**FLASH Ultra-high Dose Rate
Radiotherapy in the Treatment
of Osteosarcoma**

Theresa M. Busch, PhD is Professor and Vice Chair of Biology Research, Department of Radiation Oncology, and co-director of the Radiobiology and Imaging Program of the Abramson Cancer Center, University of Pennsylvania. Her laboratory performs translational research of tissue and tumor microenvironments in response to radiation therapy, delivered as nonionizing radiation in the form of photodynamic therapy or ionizing radiation generated by photons or protons. This includes investigation of high dose rate FLASH proton radiotherapy in sparing of normal tissues. Using mechanistic knowledge gained from these studies, her laboratory investigates clinically relevant approaches to improve the therapeutic window of cancer treatment.

Key Presenters



TOM SCHARSCHMIDT
MD

Nationwide Children's Hospital

Moderator: Evolving Strategies for Local Control

Thomas J. Scharschmidt, MD, MBOE, FAOA, FACS, has served as Director of the Pediatric Musculoskeletal Oncology Program at Nationwide Children's Hospital since 2009, while working jointly with The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center (OSUCCC James). Starting in May 2023, Dr. Scharschmidt transitioned to working exclusively with Nationwide Children's. An orthopedic oncologist, Dr. Scharschmidt's clinical interests include bone and soft tissue sarcomas, benign bone and soft tissue tumors, complex limb reconstruction, advanced reconstruction options in the growing child, care of the oncologic amputee patient and spine tumors. His research interests include basic biology and the molecular mechanisms of sarcoma, advancing the care of amputee patients, prosthetic implant design and technique, and improving expandable implants and limb salvage for pediatric patients. He has published more than 100 articles and eight book chapters.



WEISONG ZHAO
MD, PHD CANDIDATE

Shanghai Bone Tumor Institute,
Shanghai General Hospital

Deciphering Complex Oncogenic Amplicons in Osteosarcoma

I am a PhD candidate at the Shanghai Bone Tumor Institution, under the supervision of Dr. Yingqi Hua. My research focuses on using genomic approaches to understand the development and progression of osteosarcoma. Currently, my work centers on the mechanisms of oncogene amplification in osteosarcoma, particularly MYC, and how these events drive downstream biological phenotypes and clinical outcomes. In addition, I am involved in the development and management of a sarcoma patient-derived xenograft (PDX) biobank comprising more than 150 models. My main responsibilities include the bioinformatic characterization of the genomic landscapes of these models and the development of resources to support downstream preclinical studies.



WILLIAM KISSEBERTH
DVM, PHD

The Ohio State University

Phase I evaluation of adjuvant cell therapy with TGF beta-resistant NK cells in dogs with osteosarcoma

Dr. Kisseberth is a board-certified veterinary oncologist and professor in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences and senior attending medical oncologist in the Veterinary Medical Center at The Ohio State University. He conducts translational pet dog studies designed to improve diagnosis and treatment for osteosarcoma and other cancers. His clinical and research interests are focused on early-phase drug development and new treatment strategies, including adoptive NK cell therapies.



YANDING ZHAO
PHD

Mohamed bin Zayed University of
Artificial Intelligence

**Distinct patterns of
chromosomal instability fuel
osteosarcoma progression and
influence patient outcomes**

Dr. Yanding Zhao is an Assistant Professor of Computational Biology at Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence. He previously completed his postdoctoral training at Stanford University in the laboratories of Christina Curtis and Howard Y. Chang. Research in the Zhao lab focuses on understanding tumor evolution through integrative analysis of cancer genomes and regulatory landscapes. His work has contributed to defining an evolutionary trajectory associated with non-canonical homologous recombination deficiency in osteosarcoma. These findings aim to translate insights from cancer genome architecture into precision therapeutic strategies.



YOGESH BUDHATHOKI
PHD CANDIDATE

Nationwide Children's Hospital

**Integrative Single-cell and Spatial
Transcriptomic Analysis of
Osteosarcoma Reveals Conserved
and Distinct Ecosystems Across Sites
and Species**

Yogesh is a doctoral student enrolled in the Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology (MCDB) Program at The Ohio State University. He obtained his undergraduate degree with a double major in Biology and Chemistry from Berea College in May 2022. He is a part of Roberts lab, which studies pediatric sarcomas at Nationwide Children's Hospital. His research interests include exploring the intricacies of genetic and epigenetic alterations contributing to osteosarcoma tumor heterogeneity, metastasis, and therapy resistance by leveraging a blend of wet-bench and computational approaches.



ZACHARY BURKE
MD

Cleveland Clinic

**Evolving toward precision
oncology: Leveraging
collateral drug responses
for personalized second-line
osteosarcoma treatment**

Zachary Burke, MD, is a physician-scientist at the Cleveland Clinic whose research focuses on the evolutionary biology of osteosarcoma and mechanisms of therapeutic resistance. His work integrates functional genomics, tumor modeling, and translational approaches to identify vulnerabilities that emerge as osteosarcoma adapts to chemotherapy and immune pressure. Dr. Burke develops experimental systems—including lineage tracing, barcoding, and spatial transcriptomics—to study tumor evolution across time and treatment. Clinically, he cares for patients with sarcoma and works to translate laboratory discoveries into improved therapies. His research program aims to uncover targetable pathways that drive resistance and to develop rational combination strategies that improve outcomes for patients with osteosarcoma.

OutSmarting Osteosarcoma 2026

HERO GRANT RECIPIENTS



Granted by All Family Funds

LINDSAY TALBOT MD

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
Modulating myeloid immunosuppression to improve CAR T-cell therapy using a novel patient-derived humanized mouse platform



Granted Because of Patrick

SETH POLLACK MD

Northwestern University
A Novel Strategy for Altering Osteosarcoma Macrophages to Allow Immunotherapy

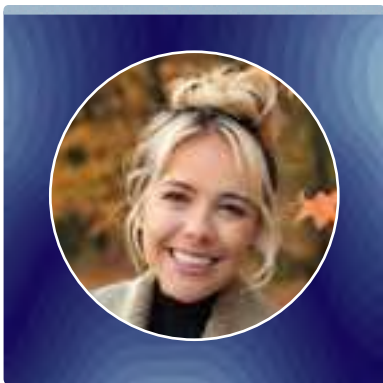


Granted Because of Buddy

THEODORE S. NOWICKI MD, PHD

University of California, Los Angeles
TNF-alpha-armed CAR T-cell therapies for osteosarcoma

HOPE YOUNG INVESTIGATOR GRANT RECIPIENTS



Granted Because of Annaleigh

ALICE BROWNE PHD

National Cancer Institute
A novel extracellular matrix remodeling therapeutic strategy in osteosarcoma



Granted Because of Charlotte

ANDREW WAHBA MD

Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital
Advancing Pediatric Cancer Immunotherapy with CAR-NKT Cells



Honoring the Family Funds

Powering OutSmarting Osteosarcoma

The OutSmarting Osteosarcoma grant program would not be possible without the extraordinary generosity and dedication of the MIB Agents Family Funds, families who have turned their love for an OsteoWarrior or the memory of an OsteoAngel into hope for every child facing osteosarcoma. We are deeply grateful to each Family Fund that has contributed to advancing research toward better, kinder treatments.

Because Of Adyson, Aiden, Alex, Allisen, Ally, Andrew, Annaleigh, Arnav, Ava, Avery, Brenton, Briana, Brooke, Buddy, Carson, Charlotte, Chris, Christien, Clayton, Daniel, Danielle, Dylan, Edward, Eli, Ella, Gavin, Gillian, Ian, Isaac, Jack, Jaden, Krysty, Kyle, Leah, Marisa, Matthew, Megan, Mia, Michael, Mikaela, Mohan, Molly, Natalie, Nicholas, Nora, Patrick, Penelope, Ryan K., Ryan T., Seth, Sierra, Sloane, Sydney, Tyler M., Tyler Y., Victoria, Wren and Zachary.

This year, we are especially honored to recognize the Family Funds who have gone above and beyond to fully sponsor entire grants: Because of Annaleigh, Because of Buddy, Because of Charlotte, and Because of Patrick. Their commitment has directly enabled scientists to pursue bold ideas with the potential to change the trajectory of this disease.

Because of **ANNALEIGH**

After our 18-year-old daughter, Annaleigh, passed from osteosarcoma, we found a will she had written on her phone. She requested that the money she saved be donated to help other children battling osteosarcoma. We are grateful to fund a grant in Annaleigh's name, honor her wishes and allow her legacy to continue. We miss Annaleigh every day, but the opportunity to make it better for others fighting this disease helps us heal. Thank you MIB.



Because of **BUDDY**

We have an urgent need to develop smarter, more strategic approaches to treat osteosarcoma. Just as this disease is biologically heterogeneous, so too are the human lived experiences of those who face it. Our family has chosen to support research through the MIB Agents OutSmarting Grant, to help fund innovative research. We are honored to sponsor Dr. Nowicki's research through a \$100K Hero Grant — something we know our son Buddy would be deeply proud of. His compassionate spirit and amazing determination is the force behind this effort. Buddy and all those before and after him deserve better. Through our collective action and commitment, we will create a better future for all.



Because of **CHARLOTTE**

Charlotte passed away when she was 18 years old. Osteosarcoma took the future she deserved. Each day, her family and friends think of her, talk about her, and miss her. With an infectious smile, Charlotte did life her own way. Her personality was full of charisma, humor, and tenacity. She loved deeply and was loved deeply. In her memory, we are honored to fund a Hope YI Award, holding onto the belief that meaningful discoveries will bring us closer to better treatments and outcomes. Our commitment to osteosarcoma research endures just as Charlotte endures in all of us.



Because of **PATRICK**

Patrick touched so many lives in his much too brief nineteen years on earth. Osteosarcoma robbed us all of the impact that this brilliant young man would have made in the world. Patrick's final pledge was that "all my money go for research for the other kids with osteo... I don't want anyone else to suffer like me." Moved by his courage, Patrick's friends, family, and even strangers matched his gift many times over. We are immensely thankful to the researchers who strive tirelessly to find solutions for this devastating disease.



Junior Advisory Board



KARA SKRUBIS

MANAGER
EAST AMHERST, NY

Hi! My name is Kara Skrubis and I am from Buffalo, NY. I am proud to be MIB Agents' Social Media Manager & Junior Advisory Board Manager. I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in 2020, underwent 9 months of chemotherapy, an above-the-knee amputation, and 8 months of immunotherapy. I also work in finance and enjoy photography, dancing, fostering dogs, and playing with my own pup. I am grateful every day for a second chance at life and to Make It Better!



MACKENZIE MADDRY

PRESIDENT
BELLA VISTA, AR

Hello, my name is Mackenzie Maddry. I am 19 years old from NW Arkansas. At the end of 2020, I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in my left femur. I had 9 months of chemo and a limb salvage with a cadaver bone replacing where the tumor was. A year after being NED my surgery site got infected. I had 3 more leg surgeries. Between those surgeries and past chemotherapy it put a lot of stress on my heart and I went into end stage heart failure in 2022. I had an LVAD (heart pump) put in to keep my heart pumping for almost 2 years before having a heart transplant in 2024. I love advocating for childhood cancer research. I am now a freshman in college studying to become a nurse. My dream job is to work in pediatrics in either oncology or cardiology to make it better for other kids.



ELISE ROBINSON

VICE PRESIDENT
THE WOODLANDS, TX

Hello! My name is Elise Robinson, I am 19 and attending school at Texas A&M University for nursing. I am currently 10 years NED from osteosarcoma with a right rotationplasty. I have been on MIB's Junior Advisory Board for 6 years and have enjoyed helping MIB Agents in every way I can. Some of my hobbies include thrifting, advocating, and diamond art.



AKASH COTTEN

NORTHBOROUGH, MA

Hi, my name is Akash. I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in May 2022 when I fell at school and broke my left femur. I did the standard 9 month MAP treatment alongside a limb salvage surgery which was complicated by necrosis, leading to me getting a free flap from my right thigh (now I have two cool scars!). Throughout the years following, I had a few more hiccups in my limb recovery, including several infections and several more full leg reconstruction surgeries alongside months of IV and oral antibiotics to control, suppress, and kill the infections in my hardware. I currently have a titanium rod that goes from the top of my femur to the top of my tibia! I love to draw, make music, spend time with my family and friends, swim, and learn. I'm currently a sophomore studying Biomedical Engineering at Boston University right now, and I have hopes of making a real difference in patients with osteosarcoma by a means of advocacy, research, and hopefully becoming a physician myself someday.



AVERY KRAUSE

LA VISTA, NE

Hi! My name is Avery Krause. I'm a 16 year old from Omaha, Nebraska. I was diagnosed with a 6-inch tumor in my right tibia bone in May of 2025. I did 14

rounds of chemo, and got a below the knee amputation. I have some heart and kidney problems because of the chemo. I'm in remission! There are a lot of kids out there who don't have the same outcome as me and I want to know why. My goal in life is to help as many their kids make it through just like I did.



AVI COTTEN

NORTHBOROUGH, MA

Hi, my name is Avi Cotten, I am 18 years old and a high school senior in Massachusetts. I became familiar with MIB through my older brother, Akash, who was

diagnosed with osteosarcoma in 2022. Seeing the numerous complications he had to deal with, even once his chemotherapy ended, motivated me to want to bring more overall awareness to osteosarcoma and its long-lasting impacts. Beyond this, I am currently applying to college with hopes of studying finance or economics, and my goal is to work in finance after college.



CAROLINE RAY

CROFTON, MD

My name is Caroline Ray, I'm a 18-year-old high school senior from Crofton, Maryland. I was diagnosed with high grade 3 osteosarcoma of my left distal

femur in May of 2023 and underwent an allograft reconstruction in August of that year, as well as 6 rounds of MAP protocol and a revision surgery in July 2024. My diagnosis and subsequent journey led me to start Cards Against Cancer, a club at my school that gives back to Johns Hopkins Children's Hospital, where I received treatment. I plan to attend college in the fall and major in biomedical sciences with the hope of becoming a pediatric oncologist in the future.



DANIEL SAPTARI

LEXINGTON, MA

My name is Daniel Saptari, and I am an 19-year-old OsteoWarrior from Massachusetts! I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in my left distal femur in July

2020. I then underwent over a year of chemotherapy and immunotherapy and a bone-growth limb-salvage procedure, and I have been NED ever since. In July 2023, I had a rotationplasty amputation. I'm currently a first-year at Georgia Tech studying mechanical engineering, but in my free time, I love to work on projects and play music. I am grateful for this opportunity to be able to serve on MIB's Junior Advisory Board.

Junior Advisory Board



DARYA GOLESORKHI
RESTON, VA

My name is Darya Golesorkhi. I'm a 15-year-old high school freshman from Northern Virginia and I recently lost my brother to metastasized osteosarcoma.

He was initially diagnosed in 2019, eventually relapsing multiple times and passing away in 2025. He endured over a dozen surgeries, two being amputations of his left leg, and multiple clinical trials. My goal is to try to make it better for other kids and families going through osteosarcoma. I love playing volleyball, spending time with friends and family, and binge watching cheesy TV shows.



ERIN COX
DANVILLE, IL

Hi my name is Erin Cox. I am 15 years old from Danville, Illinois. On New Years Eve of 2019, I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in my left femur. I had 11 months of

chemo and a limb salvage surgery. In November 2025, I reached 5 years NED. I still have my original implant, Lefty Lou! I am a freshman in high school and doing the things I love including theater, showchoir, and dance team. I want to become a Music Therapist knowing how much music therapy helped me during my treatment. I want to be able to share that comfort and healing through the arts with others.



EVAN SAPTARI
LEXINGTON, MA

My name is Evan Saptari. I am a 17-year-old OsteoSibling and a senior at Lexington High School in Massachusetts. My brother was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in

his left distal femur during the COVID years of 2020. He went through chemotherapy and immunotherapy for over a year, working towards a bone-growth limb-salvage series of procedures. After complications, he underwent a rotationplasty amputation in July of 2023. In my free time I love to play guitar for my church, and tennis both recreationally and for the high school team. I enjoy learning new skills, and I love spending time with my friends and family. I am very grateful for this opportunity to serve on the MIB Junior Advisory Board, and I am excited to see what we can do!



GILLIAN BOMI OKIMOTO
NEW YORK, NY

My name is Gillian Bomi Okimoto, and I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma at age 11 in December of 2017. I went through

nine months of chemotherapy and nine surgeries in a process called distraction osteogenesis. I am now 7 years NED. Now, I'm a sophomore in college studying environmental science and illustration, and I spend my time taking photos for the school paper, learning woodcarving, and cheering for my favorite sports teams. With MIB Agents, I hope to continue to push for improvements in pediatric cancer research and support newly diagnosed families in tough times.



HARLEY LOPEZ

TUCSON, AZ

My name is Harley Lopez. I am 20 years old and live in Arizona. My brother was diagnosed in December of 2023 with osteosarcoma in his left ankle.

Only a few months later, halfway through his treatments, he had a below the knee amputation. This was a very difficult journey for my family, but thankfully we had amazing doctors, caregivers and friends to guide us. Since then it has been my family's mission to advocate for cancer research. My brother's story is one of the many reasons why I continue to choose a career path in healthcare.



INAAYA SHARIQ

NAPERVILLE, IL

Hi my name is Inaaya Shariq and I am 17 years old. During October 2020 I was first diagnosed with osteosarcoma at 11 after breaking my right femur. I did 10 months

of MAP chemotherapy and in the middle of treatment, the day before my 12th birthday, I had a limb salvage surgery (rod through my femur + knee replacement). I rang the bell July 2021! My freshman year of high school, November 2023, I relapsed at 14 years old with the osteosarcoma in the same leg. Since the reoccurrence was around 2 years, I was told that if I did not amputate, the osteosarcoma would come back in 2 years time. So after 6 months of ifos+etop chemotherapy, I had my hip-disarticulation amputation when I was 15 at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. I am now 1 year cancer free, 2 years in April! I am now fully reliant on a prosthetic and use for arm crutches. I'll be a senior in high school in the fall. I love to read, play cards, and watch movies in my free time. I swim, rock climb, and ski.



JACOB KNUDSEN

WINDSOR, CA

My name is Jacob Knudsen, I am a 18 year old OsteoWarrior and I live in Northern California. I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in my right femur at 12 years old in

September 2019. I underwent chemotherapy and a limb salvage surgery, so now I have an internal prosthetic and knee replacement in my right leg. I completed treatment in May 2020, then relapsed in my lung in May 2021. Since then I have been able to get to NED, but not for long periods of time. I have had 6 recurrences total including the worst one in February 2023, when my recurrence included a nodule in my lung, one in my lymph node, and one in my kidney. I've been on several treatment regimens including two clinical trials. I'm currently on a clinical trial and am two months NED. My hobbies include sports, working out, hanging out with friends and family, traveling and trying to spread kindness, and awareness for childhood cancer.



KEELY TAMAYOSE

PEARL CITY, HI

Aloha everyone! My name is Keely Tamayose, and I am an OsteoSibling. I am a sophomore at Pearl City High School in Pearl City, Hawaii. My sister Ally was

diagnosed with osteosarcoma in 2018 and passed away in 2023. I loved helping my sister with all the fundraisers she did for MIB, and I hope to help continue her legacy. I was a part of the MIB Junior Advisory Board this past year, and I am so excited to be on the MIB Junior Advisory Board again! I love playing soccer and spending time with my family and friends.

Junior Advisory Board



LEELA KOCINSKY

LOS ANGELES, CA

My name is Leela Kocinsky. I am an OsteoSibbling to my older sister, Sona, who was diagnosed in 2019 and is now six-years cancer free.

I am currently a sophomore at the University of Southern California studying biology. In my free time, I enjoy spending time outdoors (usually running or hiking), discovering weird music, and spending time with family and friends. I am honored to be a part of MIB Agents JAB this year and I look forward to contributing to a great year!



LINCOLN ZICK

LOS ANGELES, CA

My name is Lincoln Zick and I am a 17-year-old OsteoWarrior survivor living in Los Angeles. I was diagnosed twice, once in the right tibia, and then in the right

humerus. I have always had an active lifestyle and even after my treatments and surgeries, I still participate in my high school's swimming and golfing teams. Currently in remission, I am excited to serve my second year as a member of the JAB!



LUKE CARTER

MCLEAN, VA

Hi, my name is Luke Carter. I'm 17 years old and from Mclean, Virginia. My uncle Scott passed away from osteosarcoma in his tibia when he was 13, and our

family created the Scott Carter Foundation, which has raised over a million dollars for cancer research. This is my third year serving on the JAB, and in particular, I have loved advocacy and lobbying on Capitol Hill. In my free time, I like to run, play piano, and hang out with my two brothers.



MAX BISAGA

SAINT JOHN, IN

My name is Max Bisaga and I am the youngest brother to OsteoWarrior Andrew Bisaga. I was 6 years old when my brother was diagnosed with

osteosarcoma. I am now 15 years old and a freshman in high school. I have been fortunate to attend multiple MIB FACTOR conferences and participate in HQ. It has helped me grow as a person and shown me the good that can come from a terrible situation. I am excited to offer support, understanding and acceptance to the osteosarcoma community and provide a unique perspective as a sibling to a survivor.



MOLLY PENZER

MELVILLE, NY

Hi, I'm Molly Juliet Penzer and I am pleased to say this is my third year of MIB JAB! I am eighteen years old and a freshman at University at Buffalo! I am

studying Library Sciences and hope to one day become a school librarian for elementary aged children. I have a deep connection with MIB, as my family has been with this organization for over five years and I have fond memories of attending FACTOR conferences as a child, meeting other survivors and survivors siblings. I am a sibling of a survivor, my brother Max was diagnosed with osteosarcoma at ten in his right femur, and went through a multitude of treatments before being declared NED. I love the JAB because of its strong support system and the close bonds I have with fellow members and am grateful to be back another year!



ROSHI COTTEN

NORTHBOROUGH, MA

Hi, my name is Roshi Cotten. I'm 15, and currently a freshman attending Bancroft School in Worcester, Massachusetts. My eldest brother was diagnosed

with osteosarcoma in his left femur in May of 2022. He's had several limb salvage surgeries, replacing titanium femoral-tibial mega prosthetics and undergoing skin grafts. After a little under a year of chemotherapy, he was discharged. I love tennis and basketball, but my pride and joy is art. I enjoy all mediums, especially music production. I am extremely grateful for this opportunity on the Junior Advisory Board.



MISSION POSSIBLE

Junior Advisory Board



SABINA MCMAHON
PORTLAND, OR

Hi! My name is Sabina McMahon I'm 17 years old and from Portland, Oregon. In September of 2021 I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in my right femur.

I endured 9 months of chemotherapy, with a total knee surgery 3 months in to remove the tumor and replace it with an internal titanium prosthetic. I finished treatment in 2022 and was NED for 18 months before relapsing for the first of what has now been 4 times. I love advocating for for childhood cancer research and have been since I was diagnosed. It is crucial that we work harder to find a cure. My dream is to be a singer. I have a couple songs out on streaming (and more on the way!) and hopefully my songs will someday inspire kids fighting cancer to chase their dreams and live life to the fullest.



SEBASTIAN WANG
KINGWOOD, TX

My name is Sebastian Wang. I am a 16-year-old high school junior living in Houston, Texas. My brother Jaden was diagnosed on April 26, 2021, when he was 7, with

osteosarcoma in his right humerus. He fought hard for 3 and a half years before passing away in October 2024. We loved playing Minecraft, Monopoly, and Mario together. He inspires me to do my best to help others, and I hope to make an impact by serving on the JAB. In my free time, I enjoy hanging out with friends and playing chess, piano, and basketball.



VIVIAN EAGLE
AVON, IN

Hi! My name is Vivian Eagle (19), and I'm an OsteoWarrior from Indiana. I was first diagnosed with osteosarcoma at the age of 15 in my left knee. After nine months of intense chemotherapy

and a limb salvage surgery, I was cancer-free for a year before relapsing in my lungs at age 17. I then underwent several more months of chemotherapy and multiple lung surgeries due to repeated recurrences over the next year. Thankfully, I am now cancer-free and a sophomore at Purdue University studying Biomedical Engineering, with hopes of designing new and improved endoprosthetics like the one I currently have. I am currently on the National Women's Sitting Volleyball Development Team and won gold at the 2025 Youth Parapan American Games in Santiago, Chile. I am a huge advocate for adaptive sports, as my limb salvage surgery took away my ability to play the sports I once loved. Outside of this, I enjoy traveling, reading, sit-skiing, listening to music, and spending time with friends. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to serve on the MIB Junior Advisory Board and am excited to see the differences we can make!



Sanofi's Childhood Cancer R&D Program

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Childhood Cancer **R&D** program focuses on accelerating and developing novel therapies for children with cancer. We **drive innovation** by **expanding our pipeline** and **partnering across the public and private** sectors.



Save the Date

Stay tuned for our next Symposium to learn more!

Sept 29th: 8am - 12pm EST

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NextGen



**PRESIDENT
WALKER
SMALLWOOD**

Verona, KY

My name is Walker Smallwood. I am 22 years old and from Northern Kentucky and am currently in medical school at the University of Kentucky. I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma of my left proximal tibia in August of 2018 and underwent typical MAP chemotherapy along with opting for a limb salvage surgery to remove the primary tumor. Upon diagnosis, imaging revealed "suspicious nodules" in my right lung that would be removed via thoracotomy and came back benign. Following treatment I was NED for just under two years when I relapsed with a nodule in my left lung. I have thankfully been NED since the resection of that nodule. Outside of class I enjoy spending time with friends, family, being active, and cheering on the Kentucky Wildcats. This is now my 5th year being a part of MIB and second with NextGen. I'm excited to see all the great things that this new group will do in the osteosarcoma community.



**VICE PRESIDENT
MATT
ALLEN**

Langhorne, PA

My name is Matthew Allen, and I am a Pennsylvania native and longtime member of the MIB community. I first connected with MIB in 2017 after losing my brother Mason to osteosarcoma, and through that connection I found purpose, healing, and a way to honor his legacy. I became a founding Gamer Agent, later served on the Junior Board from 2020 to 2022, and continue to support the organization through logistics, marketing, and events. I am now honored to serve as Vice President of NextGen and as a member of the Board of Directors, where I help guide the growth and impact of MIB's mission. Outside of MIB, I work as a Client Advocate supporting individuals and families navigating difficult legal circumstances and am preparing to apply to law school to continue building a career rooted in service. I am grateful to carry forward MIB's work in memory of Mason and in support of every warrior we serve.



**MAX
PENZER**

Melville, NY

My name is Max Penzer, I am a 21-year old osteosarcoma survivor from Long Island NY. Currently, I am an undergraduate pre-med student at Tufts University. I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in my right distal femur when I was ten years old, in 2015. I was treated at New York-Presbyterian and am almost 10 years NED. I'm an MIB Ambassador Agent, and have served on the JAB for four years. In my free time, I enjoy crocheting and new reality TV shows.



**ALEJANDRO
LOPEZ**

San Antonio, TX

My name is Alejandro Lopez, I'm a 23 year old OsteoWarrior from San Antonio, Texas. I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma at the end of 2023, in my left ankle just 10 days after my 21st birthday. I underwent the standard MAP therapy and decided to go through with a left below the knee amputation in April of 2024. After the completion of my chemotherapy in October of 2024 I have since been NED. I love fishing, spending time with friends and most of all getting deeper in my faith with Christ! I am very involved in the Sarcoma community, as I help run a local Sarcoma Foundation at home in San Antonio. I love advocating on behalf of OsteoWarriors, OsteoAngels and their families. This is my 2nd year being involved with MIB. I am very excited what 2026 has in store for NextGen and for MIB!



SLOANE DYER

Denton, TX

My name is Sloane Dyer, I am a 21-year-old OsteoWarrior, and I'm from Chicago but currently live in DFW, Texas while I complete my undergrad degree. I was diagnosed in 2016 when I was 12 years old and underwent MAP protocol and initial limb salvage surgery. I am thankful to be 8 years NED, yet in that time I have dealt with a lot of surgical issues. Six years after my diagnosis, I had an elective above knee amputation. Outside of class I love to hang out with my friends, create music, draw, and cook and bake. I have spent many years on the Junior Advisory Board, and can't wait to be apart of NextGen.



SHANNON MCCORMACK

Long Island, NY

Hello everyone! My name is Shannon McCormack, and I am 23 years old from Long Island, New York. My older brother Dylan was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in 2013. 11 months later, he was cured. However, he continued to face several health complications after finishing treatment. In 2021, Dylan sadly passed away after a lifelong battle to regain his health. Due to this, I felt drawn back to the medical field, and I hope to pursue a career as a Physician Assistant. I currently work as an EMT, and graduated from Binghamton University with a degree in Biology this past year. I am so excited to see what NextGen accomplishes this year, and I am thrilled to be a part of it!



MATTHEW CEELEN

Mequon, WI

My name is Matthew Ceelen, and I am a 23-year-old OsteoWarrior from Mequon, Wisconsin. During a freshman football intra-squad scrimmage in 2017, I broke my humerus, which eventually revealed osteosarcoma. Undergoing multiple rounds of MAP chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and two major limb salvage surgeries, I am proud to say that I am eight years NED (no evidence of disease). Recently, I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, receiving a degree in biomedical engineering. While applying to medical schools, I currently work at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin as a nursing assistant, on the same unit I was treated at. In my free time, I enjoy reading classic novels, running, learning about history, and exploring the Milwaukee area, the place I call home. This is my fourth year on a MIB board and my second on NextGen, and I cannot wait for my favorite year in MIB.



CAMILLE BRADY

Washington, D.C.

My name is Camille Brady (23), and I'm an OsteoWarrior from New Jersey. I was first diagnosed with Ewing's sarcoma at 12-years-old, and remained in remission for five years before I was diagnosed with radiation-induced osteosarcoma during my senior year of high school. In addition to undergoing chemotherapy for the second time, I underwent an extremely invasive surgery, receiving a total left hip replacement and pelvic reconstruction. This surgery significantly impacted my motor function in my left leg. Today, I use a crutch to walk and wear a brace to mediate my foot drop. While I'm not sure if I'll ever ditch the crutch, it doesn't slow me down. I love traveling the world, going to concerts, and walking countless blocks through New York City with my best friends. When I'm not on my feet, you'll find me watching true crime documentaries or teaching myself how to crochet. I'm a recent graduate of Cornell University '25 and work full-time in Washington, D.C. at the leading trade association for the nuclear energy industry. I'm incredibly honored to serve on MIB Agent's NextGen '26 and continue advocating for the pediatric cancer community.

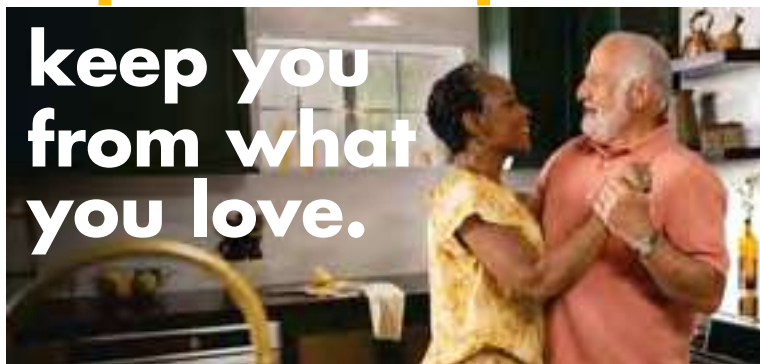
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**MAEVE
SMART**

Hanover, NH

Hi! My name is Maeve and I am a two-time osteosarcoma survivor and am eleven years No Evidence of Disease. I served as President of the Junior Advisory Board in 2021 and FACTOR HQ Co-Lead in 2024 and 2025. Currently, I am a NextGen team member and Ambassador Agents volunteer. I completed my undergraduate degree in Health Science at Northeastern University in 2022 and worked as a Senior Clinical Research Coordinator in the Janeway Genomics Lab at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute until 2024 before beginning medical school at Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth.

NextGen



**ANNE-KATRIN
URZYNECOK**

Abingdon, MD

My name is Anne Urzynecok, and I am a sibling to an OsteoWarrior. I am 20 years old and am from Baltimore, but am currently a junior at the University of Michigan, where I am studying biomedical engineering. I want to pursue a career in cancer research, hopefully in sarcomas specifically. My little brother was diagnosed with multifocal osteosarcoma in both of his knees in 2018, just two days after his 11th birthday. He underwent MAP therapy and had a double limb salvage surgery, along with multiple lung surgeries to remove metastatic tumors. Since then, he has relapsed no less than four times, going through so many surgeries and countless nights in the hospital. Now, he has joined me at the University of Michigan and is loving his freshman year of college. We've enjoyed studying and hanging out on campus together, and I also love to spend time with my friends. I am looking forward to this year with NextGen!



**SAMMY
ULLOA**

Redlands, CA

Hi, I'm Sammy, I am 23 years old from Southern California pursuing a degree in psychology. I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma at 19 in August 2022 in my right proximal tibia. I underwent limb salvage surgery in November 2022 and completed treatment in May 2023, I've been NED ever since. I co-host MIB Agents' osTEAo podcast, where I share my journey alongside other osteosarcoma warriors, and I'm passionate about giving back to the community that supported me while advocating for better outcomes for children and AYA cancer patients, all while honoring friends who are no longer here through my work.



**SONA
KOCINSKY**

Boston, MA

My name is Sona Kocinsky. I was born and raised in Connecticut, and I graduated from Tufts University in the spring of 2025. I am currently a first-year medical student at Harvard Medical School in Boston. I am also an OsteoWarrior. In 2019, I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma of the scapula at age 16. During my junior and senior years of high school, I underwent MAP chemotherapy and surgery to remove and replace my scapula. Now 22, I am six years out from completion of treatment. My experience with cancer continues to be a driving force in my medical career aspirations and my interest in pediatric oncology. I hope to someday provide my future patients with the type of compassionate, patient-centered care I was fortunate to receive as a young cancer patient. Outside of medical school, I enjoy running, rock climbing, hiking, and baking (especially macarons). After serving on the Junior Advisory Board for the past two years, I am thrilled to join NextGen this year and continue supporting the mission of MIB Agents.



**ANDREW
BISAGA**

Saint John, IN

My name is Andrew Bisaga, and I am a 19-year-old OsteoWarrior. In late 2017, I was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in my right proximal femur, undergoing MAP chemotherapy and a limb salvage surgery. I was declared NED in early 2018 and have been since. I'm currently a junior at Creighton University studying biology on the Pre-Med track, but in my free time I like to bake, salsa, and play guitar.

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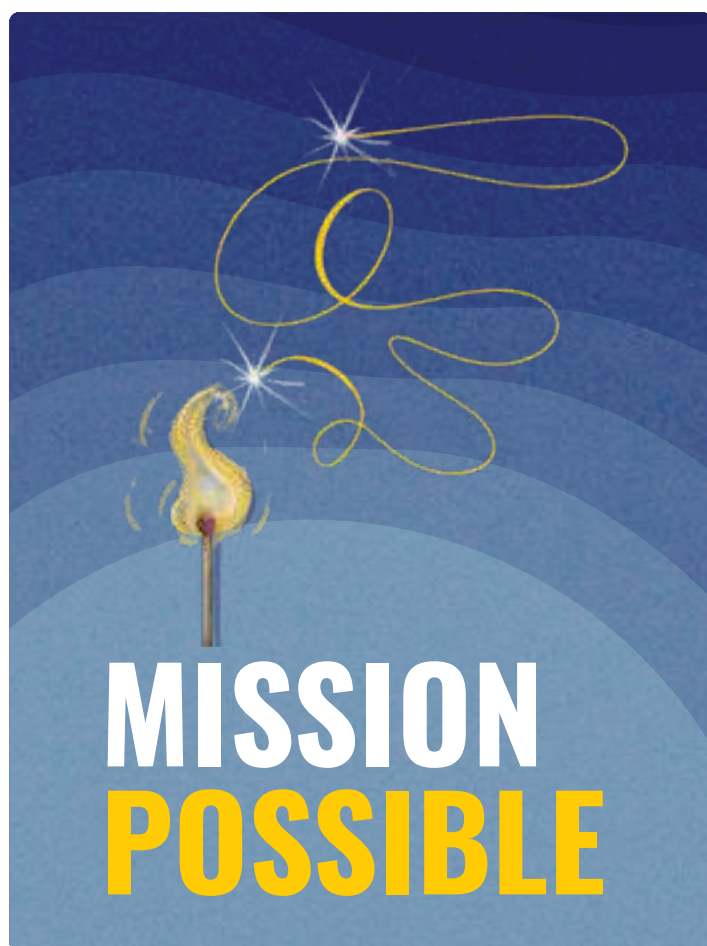
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ANN GRAHAM

Ann is the founder and Executive Director of MIB Agents. At age 43 she was diagnosed with osteosarcoma. She was treated in the pediatric cancer center at Memorial Sloan Kettering in NYC where she was awed and inspired by the courage and cheerfulness of the kids she was treated with. Today as a survivor, and together with MIB Agents everywhere, the mission to Make It Better (MIB) for kids with osteosarcoma is wholeheartedly undertaken. Ann serves on the SARC Board of Directors, NCCN Bone Tumor Panel, ACCELERATE - FAIR Working Group and on the Advocate Alliance Leadership Council with the A2A Alliance and with The Mighty.



CO-DIRECTOR OF
SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS

**CHRISTINA
IP-TOMA**

Christina's son Dylan was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in 2016, and throughout his treatment journey, their family found a tremendous community of support in MIB Agents. Following Dylan's passing in 2021 after bravely battling osteosarcoma for five years, Christina joined the MIB Agents team as the Director of Scientific Programs. In addition to being a proud owner of a MIB Agents Family Fund honoring Dylan, she is also a CDMRP consumer reviewer and a founding member of the Battle Osteosarcoma team that has partnered with St. Baldrick's Foundation to fund over \$3 million in osteosarcoma research grants since 2019. She is grateful to MIB Agents and these programs for these opportunities to transform senseless loss into a sense of purpose, BecauseOfDylan.



CO-DIRECTOR OF
SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS

KAT AZIMA

Kat Azima joined MIB Agents in 2026 and has worked in different forms of corporate and start-up healthcare branding, marketing communications for over 20 years. In 2019, her son Buddy was diagnosed with metastatic Osteosarcoma at the age of five. Kat and her family set on a 6 year journey to find better treatments and new options that might help save Buddy's life. After Buddy's passing in 2025 she decided to turn her grief into passion and advocacy and is determined to help make it better for others battling this disease.



DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

**CAROLYN
RICHTARSIC**

Carolyn Richtarsic joined MIB in 2022 as the Director of Finance. In addition to owning her own Accounting Services firm, she has over a decade of non-profit fundraising and management experience. She has been confronted by the realities of a cancer diagnosis of those she loves and because of this is passionate about ensuring that MIB is maximizing every dollar toward the goal of beating osteosarcoma.



DIRECTOR OF
PROGRAMS

ISABEL WOLF

Isabel Wolf joined MIB Agents in April of 2021 where she serves the osteosarcoma community as MIB's Director of Programs. She came to MIB via the Matthew Lehrman Osteosarcoma Fund. OsteoAngel Matthew called her "My second Mom." Isabel was an artist manager of opera singers and classical musicians for more than 30 years and has served on not-for-profit boards of directors in the US and Europe. She vowed to Matthew that she would help Make it Better for other children and their families, suffering with osteosarcoma.



FUNDRAISING &
EVENTS MANAGER

ANITA CALDERA

Anita Caldera joined MIB Agents as Fundraising and Events Manager in May of 2022. She has worked in the non-profit space for over 15 years, leading with compassion and advocating for families navigating Early Intervention Program and executing small to mid-scale events with the National Hemophilia Foundation. She is passionate about wellness, building relationships and continues to Make It Better for families facing osteosarcoma alongside her teammates and MIB Agents everywhere.



SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER
& JUNIOR ADVISORY
BOARD MANAGER

KARA SKRUBIS

Kara is the MIB Agents Social Media and Junior Advisory Board Manager. She was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in January of 2020, and underwent 9 months of chemotherapy, a left above-the-knee amputation, and 8 months of immunotherapy. She went on to serve on the MIB Agents JAB for three years, becoming the president in 2022, and then joining the staff. She takes pride in all that MIB Agents does for the community, and our work to Make It Better!



MISSION &
DEVELOPMENT LEAD

HANNAH HESS

Hannah Hess is proud to serve as MIB Agent's Mission and Development Lead. A recent graduate of Boston University, Hannah is passionate about spreading hope alongside her colleagues and the amazing MIB community. It is because of each of YOU that MIB is able to Make It Better - thank you for being a valuable part of this mission.



MARKETING
COORDINATOR &
NEXTGEN MANAGER

EMELIA GAPP

Emelia Gapp joined MIB Agents in July 2025 as Marketing Coordinator and also serves as NextGen manager. She has worked with several nonprofit organizations in marketing, communications, and development. She was introduced to MIB through her best friend Penelope, who was diagnosed with osteosarcoma during their junior year of college and passed away two years later. Witnessing Penelope's journey and the support she received from the MIB community inspired Emelia to get involved in MIB's mission and work towards a better future for patients and families facing osteosarcoma.

Family Fund Advisory Council

The Family Fund Advisory Council are experienced Family Fund Members who are available to share and discuss Family Funds with OsteoWarrior and OsteoAngel Families.



**NICHOLE
BEUTLICH**

I am OsteoMom to OsteoWarrior Aiden, who was diagnosed with Osteosarcoma in 2021. My family and I live in San Diego, California. We are so thankful to be part of the MIB community and enjoy being Writer Agents for Warrior Mail. Having a Family Fund has given our family the opportunity to help Make It Better by furthering research and patient support programs.



**BRONWEN
GREENE**

I am mom to OsteoAngel, Ian, who passed away from osteosarcoma in May of 2020 after being diagnosed only 6 months prior. We started our Family Fund to honor Ian's memory by fighting on behalf of every other OS patient and their families. While our primary goal is to fund research into new and better treatments for OS (and a cure!), we have seen how MIB Agents' programs also provide support and encouragement for OsteoWarriors during treatment and into survivorship, as well as support for other bereaved families like us. I live in Greenville, SC, with my husband, two teenage daughters, and our sweet golden retriever, Tucker.



**LINDA
CHELSKY**

I am an OsteoMom to OsteoAngel Leah, and our family is from Portland, Oregon. Leah's 3 ½ year osteosarcoma journey started when she was 21 years old and a recent grad from University of Oregon. Family Funds at MIB Agents has allowed us to continue Leah's fighting spirit through osteosarcoma research and other family support programs.



**KAREN
MARSH**

I am mom to OsteoAngel Victoria, who was diagnosed at age 13. I found MIB Agents through another Delaware family whose son had just received an MIB mission. We were fairly early in our journey and needed resources. I reached out and, within a day, Ann called me—and our family has been involved with MIB ever since. I attended the first FACTOR conference thanks to a generous sponsorship, and I will be forever grateful. We immediately started a Family Fund through MIB, which our friends and family continue to support to this day. Knowing we are supporting state-of-the-art research—and that we, as Family Fund holders, have a say in how the money is allocated—is unprecedented in any nonprofit we've supported before. I look forward to becoming more involved as we continue to Make It Better.



**ROBERTA
LEHRMAN**

My name is Roberta Lehrman and I live in Delray Beach, Florida. Nine years ago my son, Matthew, passed away from osteosarcoma at the age of 24. From his hospital bed, Matthew raised money that was donated to MIB Agents, initiating our Family Fund. It is my honor to be a member of MIB Agents' Family Fund Advisory Council and to be a part of their mission to support children and families suffering from this devastating illness.

About MIB Agents Family Funds

WHAT IS A FAMILY FUND?

Each Family Fund honors a child who has experienced or is in treatment for osteosarcoma, or the memory of a child who has passed from osteosarcoma. Their efforts fund desperately needed osteosarcoma research, educational resources, and programs that support kids and families in treatment.

HOW DOES MIB AGENTS HELP ME HONOR MY LOVED ONE?

Every Family Fund honoree has a personal page on our website with customized content for each honoree's story. We share those stories on our website, twice a year on social media, at our FACTOR conference, and during other MIB events throughout the year.

Family Funds have an opportunity to co-brand Outsmarting Osteosarcoma research grants and provide valuable patient perspective during our grant review process. Thanks to MIB Family Funds, MIB Agents has supported \$2.9 million in research grants since 2017.

HOW DO I SET UP MY FAMILY FUND?

It is easy to open your Family Fund. Visit <https://www.mibagents.org/about-family-funds> to learn more about how to establish your Family Fund. You may also email Isabel Wolf, Director of Programs, Isabel@MIBagents.org or speak with one of our Family Fund Advisory Council members: Nichole Beutlich, Linda Chelsky, Bronwen Greene, Roberta Lehrman, or Karen Marsh.

Family Funds are an essential part of the mission of MIB Agents to Making It Better for those facing osteosarcoma. Please consider being part of this important program.

Scan below to learn more



MISSION POSSIBLE

MIB Agents Family Funds

In honor and memory of their children, Family Funds raise money to Make It Better for kids and young adults with osteosarcoma. Their efforts fund programs that support kids in treatment and bereaved families, educational resources, and desperately needed osteosarcoma research. Family Funds have an opportunity to co-brand research grants and provide valuable patient perspective during our grant review process.



OsteoAngel
ADYSON OLIVIA FRANZ



OsteoWarrior
AIDEN BEUTLICH



OsteoAngel
ALEX ETHERIDGE



OsteoWarrior
ALLISEN RAMBUR



OsteoAngel
ALLY TAMAYOSE



OsteoWarrior
ANDREW BISAGA



OsteoAngel
ANNALEIGH GRILO



OsteoAngel
ARNAV AGGARWAL



OsteoWarrior
AVA LEVIN



OsteoAngel
AVERY JUAREZ



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BRENTON GAUDREAU



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BRIANA LOEDING



OsteoAngel
**BROOKE PETERSON
GABSTER**



OsteoAngel
BUDDY GOLESORKHI



OsteoAngel
CARRIGAN NELSON



OsteoAngel
CARSON HARTWIG



OsteoAngel
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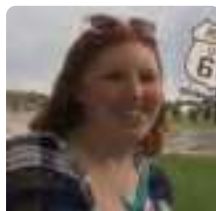
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CHRIS TAYLOR



OsteoAngel
CLAYTON LAUPUS



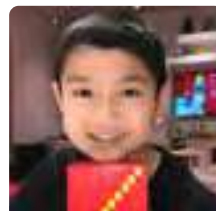
OsteoWarrior
DANIEL SAPTARI



OsteoAngel
DANIELLE EASTON



OsteoAngel
DECLAN HENCKEN



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DYLAN TOMA



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GAVIN MCCLAIN



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**GILLIAN BOMI
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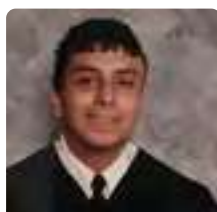
OsteoAngel
MATTHEW LEHRMAN



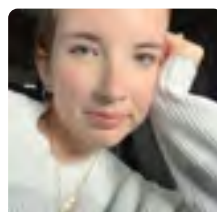
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TYLER YAMAGISHI



OsteoAngel
VICTORIA MARSH



OsteoWarrior
WREN HUFFMAN



OsteoAngel
ZACHARY WALL

FACTOR Family Fund Travel Awards

FACTOR Travel Awards are supported by MIB Agents Family Funds. Their dedication to *Making It Better* and fostering collaboration and education within the scientific community helps us bring together passionate and engaged scientists from across the U.S. and around the world at FACTOR. MIB Agents Family Funds also generously support the attendance of OsteoWarrior families who have been nominated by their care teams, allowing them to experience FACTOR.

Thank you to our 2026 Family Fund Travel Award Sponsors!



ABELLERA/WHIPPLE FAMILY
#BecauseofPenelope



CHEUNG FAMILY
#BecauseofIsaac



GOLESORKHI FAMILY
#BecauseofBuddy



HOLMES FAMILY
#BecauseofMegan



KAPLAN FAMILY
#BecauseofSydney



LEHRMAN FAMILY
#BecauseofMatthew



MARSH FAMILY
#BecauseofVictoria



NEWMAN FAMILY
#BecauseofPatrick



OKIMOTO FAMILY
#BecauseofGillian



SAPTARI FAMILY
#BecauseofDaniel



TOMA FAMILY
#BecauseofDylan



WALL FAMILY
#BecauseofEli



YAMAGISHI FAMILY
#BecauseofTyler

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BURT TOMA

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MICHELLE PRESTON, CCLS

OsteoWarriors HQ Co-Chief

RANDI BARTLES

Onsite Welcome & Registration

REBECCA ROGERS

Onsite Welcome & Registration

ROB MARSH

Floor Manager

RYAN ROBERTS, MD, PHD

Caretaker of FACTOR Shipments

SAMMY ULLOA

OsteoWarriors HQ Co-Chief

SARAH NICKELS

Registration & Housing

SASSY PICKARD & TERRI COOK

F5RS Rabbit Rescue & Sanctuary

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FACTOR 2026 Musical Guests



Y-mAbs is now a **part of SERB.**

We are all **proud to sponsor MIB Agents.**

Collaborating to Make It Better
for the pediatric osteosarcoma community
of patients, caregivers, doctors, and researchers

MIB AGENTS
OSTEOSARCOMA ALLIANCE

FACTOR

OSTEOSARCOMA CONFERENCE

COLUMBUS June 25th - 27th, 2026



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