



Dear Friends,

Three years ago, when our daughter Annie was nine, our lives changed forever as she was diagnosed with an unusually rare disease called Friedreich's Ataxia.

Friedreich's Ataxia (FA) is a degenerative neuromuscular disease. Its effects are devastating. Initially impacting balance and coordination, the disease then leads to long-term medical conditions: scoliosis, diabetes, vision and hearing loss, as well as serious heart conditions. Like Annie, patients are generally diagnosed between the ages of 5 and 15. While FA progresses at a different pace for each individual, most require a wheelchair ten years after diagnosis and face an extremely shortened life expectancy. Annie is one of 15,000 people living with this debilitating condition worldwide.

As we tried to digest and make sense of this new reality, our family remained very private honoring Annie's request that we tell no one she is any different from her friends. As much as we want to continue to respect her wishes, we feel the time has come to share this diagnosis and to ask for your support now and not five years from now when the disease may have progressed too far.

Since receiving Annie's diagnosis we have dedicated our lives to finding a cure - spending most waking (and many sleeping) moments reading, meeting and strategizing ways to treat and to combat FA. Tom immediately joined the executive board of the Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA) on which he still serves. In February 2014, together with Karen's parents and FARA, we opened the Center of Excellence at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia/University of Pennsylvania where doctors and scientists work exclusively on FA. And last fall, Tom launched a biotech company that is moving a treatment into clinical trials.

Most recently we established The CureFA Foundation to advance and support FA research. We are fortunate that, unlike most other debilitating diseases, FA is a single gene defect and that gene has been identified. Researchers rarely use the word "cure" when studying a rare disease with no approved therapies, but with FA that word is now a part of the lexicon. With the many clinical trials and cutting edge therapies currently in place, we feel the time is now to make a significant investment in advancing FA research. At this critical juncture, we know we can change the course of Friedreich's Ataxia, which is why we are asking for your support now. A cure is within our reach.

We know that no life is without challenge, and that difficult times can strengthen and can bring unexpected grace. This diagnosis has given us the gift of perspective: allowing us to see and to value what is most important. We have been blessed with four wonderful children, a strong faith, a loving family and truly supportive friends. Although Annie can no longer play lacrosse, tennis or dance as she once did, she is happy. Her strong sense of self, buoyant spirit, and 'stubbornness' are serving her well. Her friends and those she loves are everything to her. They are everything to us.

It is in this spirit that we ask you to join us on September 29th to help us raise funds and awareness for The CureFA Foundation. This evening is not only about raising resources but more importantly about appreciating the support of family and friends.

On behalf of Annie and the many thousands of children and families living with FA, we extend our deepest thanks.

With Gratitude,

Karen and Tom

Tom and Karen Hamilton



2016 GALA

GOTHAM HALL
(1356 BROADWAY, NYC)

SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

COCKTAILS
6:30PM

DINNER
7:30PM

GALA CHAIRS
WILLIAM B. FINNERAN
NATHAN GANTCHER
TOD LEIWEKE
JAY WRIGHT

CO-FOUNDERS
KAREN AND THOMAS HAMILTON

HOST COMMITTEE
HELEN AND ROBERT APPEL
CLAUDE AND JOSEPH AUDI
MAUREEN AND DOUG BROWN
CLARE AND DAVE BUTLER
SHANNON AND TONY DINOTA
LISA AND BILL FALLON
THE FINNERAN FAMILY
THE HANNA FAMILY
SUSIE AND TOM LESLIE
PHYLLIS AND WILLIAM MACK
ROBERT NEDERLANDER
EILEEN AND BILL O'CONNOR
FRANCES AND ANDREW ROCHAT
KARA AND STEPHEN ROSS
KERRY AND MIKE TEPEDINO
KRISTI AND SCOTT WEDE
ELISABETH AND ED WOLFE

CUREFAFOUNDATION.ORG

CUREFA FOUNDATION FUNDS SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS AND
INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS THAT LEVERAGE NEW TECHNOLOGIES
FOR THE TREATMENT AND CURE OF FRIEDREICH'S ATAXIA.

TO PURCHASE TICKETS ELECTRONICALLY, PLEASE VISIT CUREFAFOUNDATION.ORG
OR SEND A SCAN OF THIS FORM TO EVENTS@CUREFAFOUNDATION.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: EVENTS@CUREFAFOUNDATION.ORG

PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP | \$250,000

- Two Front Row tables of ten at the CureFA 2016 Gala
- Thank you and recognition from stage during Founder’s speech
- Inclusion in event signage and media wall
- Platinum Sponsorship recognition in the CureFA 2016 Gala program
- Platinum Sponsorship level recognition on website
- Platinum Sponsorship level recognition in media alert and social media outreach
- A two-page Thank You in the Gala journal

DIAMOND SPONSORSHIP | \$100,000

- Front Row seating for ten at the CureFA 2016 Gala
- Thank you and recognition from stage during Founder’s speech
- Inclusion in event signage and media wall
- Diamond Sponsorship recognition in the CureFA 2016 Gala program
- Diamond Sponsorship level recognition on website
- Diamond Sponsorship level recognition in media alert and social media outreach
- A full-page Thank You in the Gala journal

GOLD SPONSORSHIP | \$50,000

- Premiere seating for ten at the CureFA 2016 Gala
- Gold Sponsorship recognition in the CureFA 2016 Gala program
- Gold Sponsorship level recognition on website
- Gold Sponsorship level recognition in social media outreach
- A full-page Thank You in the Gala journal

SILVER SPONSORSHIP | \$25,000

- Table seating for ten at the CureFA 2016 Gala
- Silver Sponsorship recognition in the CureFA 2016 Gala program
- Silver Sponsorship level recognition on website
- Silver Sponsorship level recognition in social media outreach
- A half-page Thank You in the Gala journal

BRONZE SPONSORSHIP | \$10,000

- Table seating for ten at the CureFA 2016 Gala
- Bronze Sponsorship recognition in the CureFA 2016 Gala program
- Bronze Sponsorship level recognition on website

GALA TICKET | \$1,000

- One ticket to the CureFA 2016 Gala

I/WE WISH TO ATTEND THE 2016 CUREFA FOUNDATION GALA. PLEASE RESERVE

<input type="checkbox"/> PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP \$250,000	<input type="checkbox"/> DIAMOND SPONSORSHIP \$100,000
<input type="checkbox"/> GOLD SPONSORSHIP \$50,000	<input type="checkbox"/> SILVER SPONSORSHIP \$25,000
<input type="checkbox"/> BRONZE SPONSORSHIP \$10,000	<input type="checkbox"/> GALA TICKET \$1,000

I/WE CANNOT ATTEND, BUT ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND A CONTRIBUTION OF \$_____

NAME_____

COMPANY_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____STATE_____ZIP CODE_____PHONE_____

GUEST NAMES_____

_____NUMBER OF VEGETARIAN MEALS_____

ENCLOSED IS A CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$_____ (Make payable to CureFA Foundation)

PLEASE CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD \$_____NAME_____ (as it appears on card)

CARD NO._____

EXP. DATE_____BILLING ZIP CODE_____CVV_____

INVOICE ME BY_____

RECOGNITION NAME_____