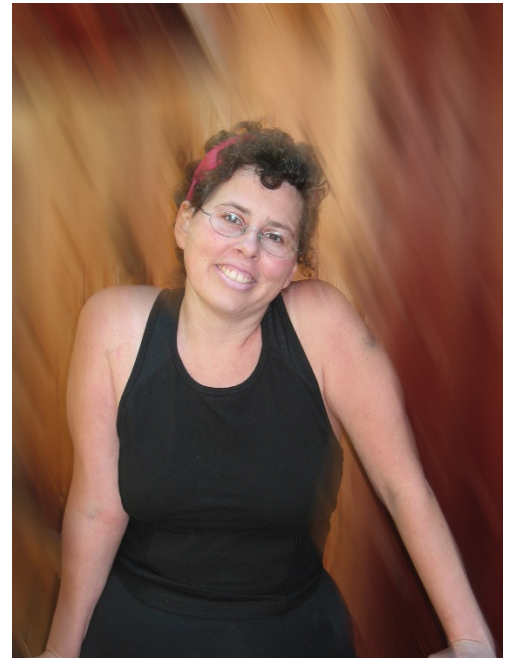


Some Comments Regarding the CTOS Liddy Shriver Early Research Award

Bruce and Beverly Shriver
Co-Founders, the Liddy Shriver Sarcoma Initiative

This award is named for our daughter, Elizabeth Ann Marie Shriver. She was called “Liddy” from the time she was a little girl. She was a young computer scientist at Bell Labs when sarcoma not only took from us a much loved and integral member of our family, but it also cut short her contributions to her chosen field.



Liddy was an inspiration to everyone who becomes aware of what she did during her 21-month encounter with sarcoma. People from around the world have read her journal. She helped them understand some of the complex medical issues involved in dealing with and treating cancer. She was a source of encouragement and consolation to many. She was much loved and admired. In recognition of these “her lessons of the human spirit,” we formed the Liddy Shriver Sarcoma Initiative. And, it is in this spirit that we worked with the CTOS Board of Directors to form the CTOS Liddy Shriver Early Career Research Award to annually recognize an outstanding, gifted early-career researcher working in sarcoma. This \$50,000 award has been established with a one-million-dollar endowment and is the final grant that will be made by the Initiative. We hope that with prudent management of these funds, the award amount may be inflation adjusted

every four or five years to reflect the increasing costs of conducting research.

We should say a few words about the Initiative. It was formed in 2003 to promote sarcoma awareness, fund sarcoma research, and support sarcoma patients and their loved ones. Summarized in our motto, “Sarcoma Knows No Borders,” our Initiative sought to help people around the world who are affected by sarcomas, including those dedicated to helping patients and improving treatments. We recognize that sarcoma not only takes a physical and emotional toll on patients, but also on their families and caregivers, and the nurses, physicians, technicians and staffs that attend them.

Prior to ending its active role in funding sarcoma research in 2015, the Initiative funded more than \$8M in grants which resulted not only in the publication of scores of scientific papers but also, in the formation of a number of ongoing international collaborations which have grown in size and acquired additional support through their accomplishments. The Initiative published well over a hundred peer-reviewed articles on sarcoma, many of which have been translated by sarcoma specialists into several languages. The *Faces of Sarcoma* gallery the Initiative created contains over 700 photos from around the world of sarcoma patients, survivors and those who have lost their lives to sarcoma. This gallery helps personalize the disease. From its inception, the Initiative was and remained an all-volunteer organization.

The CTOS Liddy Shriver Early Career Research Award is intended to recognize, with an elite international award and lecture, an outstanding early-career researcher working in the sarcoma field. It is not an award for future work, but an award based on a track record of internationally recognized, outstanding contributions by the researcher to the field of

sarcoma. We feel it is particularly important to publicly recognize and encourage gifted young researchers who have made important insights into understanding this complex and often deadly family of rare cancers. We believe that CTOS is the perfect venue to do this, particularly given its leadership role in the international sarcoma community. As we mentioned earlier, many of our previous grants have created teams of investigators and clinicians working across national borders who are focused on the multifaceted challenges of sarcoma. We hope the recipients of the CTOS Liddy Shriver Early Career Research Award will continue in this model of collaboration.

In closing, we want to thank the untold number of people who gave so generously of their time to help the us and the Initiative over the years – to the many patients, sarcoma families, caregivers, nurses, physicians, researchers, the reviewers of hundreds of grant applications and sarcoma articles, and the members of our Medical Advisory Board who helped us, we say thank you, thank you, thank you.