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is today®**

Patti Robinson Kaufmann
**First Connection
Program**



PATTI ROBINSON KAUFMANN

Patti Robinson Kaufmann First Connection Program

The *Patti Robinson Kaufmann First Connection Program* is a free service of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) that enables patients and their loved ones to connect with a trained peer volunteer who has gone through a similar experience.

Before her death from lymphoma in 2008, Patti Robinson Kaufmann was an ardent LLS volunteer, organizer and fundraiser.

For nearly 10 years, Patti's commitment as a volunteer inspired others to get involved, raised awareness of blood cancers and provided much-needed support for research, patient services and advocacy. Patti was diagnosed with lymphoma in 1997, before LLS launched *First Connection*. Now that her name has been given to the program, the compassion and comfort Patti extended to others touched by blood cancer continues.

Connecting patients and families to resources

LLS *First Connection* peer volunteers are in a unique position to provide support and community resource information to others facing a similar cancer diagnosis. Patients and their family members are matched with peer volunteers. The match is based on diagnosis, age, gender and other factors that might create a mutual understanding and ease of communication.

Special understanding from a person who has walked in your shoes

If you are a blood cancer patient or a family member of a patient and wish to speak with someone who has been treated for a similar diagnosis, you can request a *First Connection* match at www.LLS.org/firstconnection or you can contact your LLS chapter. Your peer volunteer will then arrange for one or two phone calls or meetings with you at a mutually convenient time and place. The information shared between a trained peer volunteer and a patient or family member is strictly confidential.

Why Get Support from a *Patti Robinson Kaufmann First Connection* Volunteer

The LLS peer-to-peer support program is a unique service. All LLS *First Connection* volunteers

- Are screened
- Have completed training
- Are at least 1 year post diagnosis (able to provide an “experienced” perspective)
- Are regularly updated about LLS and community resources
- Are committed to providing support and sharing knowledge
- Are committed to confidentiality
- Provide regular feedback about matches to LLS staff
- Discuss with LLS staff ways to improve the program

Kathy was wonderful. She shared very helpful information and useful resources to help me navigate my recent diagnosis. Sharing common experiences definitely took the isolation factor away. She gave me hope and perspective. I would strongly recommend this valuable resource.

—Multiple Myeloma Patient



LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY®

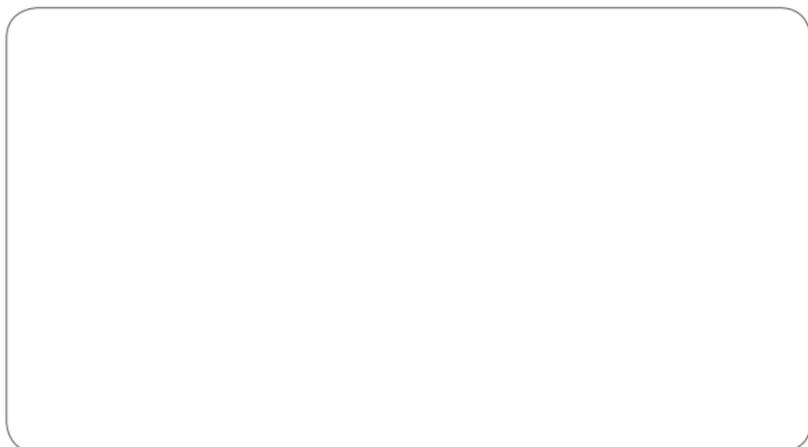
fighting blood cancers

To receive a *Patti Robinson Kaufmann First Connection Program* match through one of the LLS chapters across the United States and Canada, you can

- **Contact your LLS chapter.** To find your LLS chapter, visit www.LLS.org/chapterfind.
- **Speak with an Information Specialist** at 800.955.4572 Monday through Friday from 9 am to 9 pm ET.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society does not provide medical care, medical treatment or medical advice.

For more information, please contact our Information Specialists 800.955.4572 (Language interpreters available upon request) www.LLS.org



or:

National Office

3 International Drive, Suite 200
Rye Brook, NY 10573

Our Mission:

Cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

LLS is a nonprofit organization that relies on the generosity of individual, foundation and corporate contributions to advance its mission.