

Robert N. Taub MD PhD
Director, Mesothelioma Center



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Mesothelioma Center
Department of Medicine
161 Fort Washington Avenue
New York NY 10032
212 305 4076 Tel
212 305 8560 Fax
www.mesocenter.org

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To Whom It May Concern,

Today, Charlie Lustman and his one-man Musical HOPE Campaign arrived to celebrate with us HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS, a Columbia University Medical Center Sarcoma Day event not only for children and adults with Sarcoma but also their caregivers, and family members who play an integral role in care and nurturing of their loved ones.

Charlie Lustman kicked off our Sarcoma Day event with a heartwarming concert filled with exuberant song. His presence filled our Wintergarten Plaza with music engaging both children and adults of all ages. Joy and song filled the confines of Plaza spilling out into the entranceway of Babies Hospital drawing inside staff, administrators, and patients to hear his message.

Amid the snowflakes and holiday decorations Charlie described his overwhelming journey from diagnosis to remission, his acceptance and appreciation of those specialists who worked so diligently and tirelessly to conquer his cancer, and the HOPE and strength this experience gave him to express his message in song.

During the day, Charlie traveled around Columbia University Medical Center sharing his message with patients of all ages and walks of life, taking the time allow oncology patient's to share their own experience with him privately. From the floors of our Pediatric Oncology treatment center and Adult and Pediatric Oncology units to the Herbert Irving Adult Oncology treatment center, Charlie's warmth and compassion, gentle humor and vision, touched the depths of many patients, replacing their overwhelming feelings of despair and hopelessness with a moment of hope and peace.

Charlie's songs are quite unique, they succinctly express the challenges, fears, and loss that cancer patients experience during the diagnosis and treatment of their disease. Beyond the melody of his songs, Charlie's presence is unique in a way that cannot be described but will be remembered by all those he touched that day.

We hope Charlie will return to Columbia University Medical Center to share his message once again with our cancer patients.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Taub', written over a circular stamp.

Robert N. Taub, M.D., Ph.D.
Vivian and Seymour Milstein Family
Professor of Clinical Medicine
Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons