



UPMC Cancer Centers *and*
University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute

July 27, 2011

Development

UPMC Cancer Pavilion, Suite 1B
5150 Centre Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
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Mr. Charlie Lustman
PO Box 791988
Paia, HI 96779

Dear Charlie,

We will be forever grateful to you for taking part in the 1st Annual Pittsburgh Cure Sarcoma 5K Run/Walk in Pittsburgh, PA on July 17th, 2011. The fact that you are a sarcoma survivor added a very meaningful element to the event, but it was your message of HOPE and empathy that clearly resonates with your audiences. You made your mark in Pittsburgh as a *Pied Piper* when you led approximately 650 runners and walkers out of the gate with guitar in hand. Not only did it make for a memorable moment for our race, but also a remarkable photo in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette!

Charlie, you are gifted with the ability to share your experience as a cancer patient and perfected this by combining it with a natural talent as a songwriter and musician. The result is a very effective method to share a message of hope with others. Please know that you share a priceless gift that truly makes a difference in the lives you touch.

In addition to participating in our 5K event, thank you also for the time and energy you willingly gave to visit and entertain at the Hillman Cancer Center, UPMC Shadyside Hospital and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh/UPMC. Your visits with the cancer institute research staff, entertaining patients and conducting room to room visits touched both staff and patients in a way that only those who are affected or work closely with cancer can appreciate. Staff appreciated the opportunity to hear and learn from you the significance of their work from a survivor's perspective, and patients and their families appreciated your creative talent to empathize with their experience. Seeing you rise above your challenges and move ahead is motivating for both patients and providers.

On behalf of the Pittsburgh Cure Sarcoma Planning Committee, thank you, thank you, thank you for the joy and inspiration you selflessly give others.

Sincerely,

Paula L. Hencel,
University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute and
UPMC Cancer Centers
Development Office