

# The Rose Report

Spring 2024



## Join us at the 20th Annual *Run for the Rose* April 14, 2024 at Rice University



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Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the Dr. Marnie Rose Foundation. We would not be where we are today without the commitment of loyal supporters like you!

Whether brain cancer has affected you personally, or through friends and family, **we're here for you.** We invite you to join us in the fight by running/walking for a cause at the 20th Annual **Run for the Rose** and helping us end brain cancer forever!

We urge you to support the **Run for the Rose** by registering to participate, creating a team, volunteering, making in-kind donations, or sponsoring the event (limited opportunities available). Reach out to us at [info@drmarnierose.org](mailto:info@drmarnierose.org) for any assistance you might need. We are happy to help!

Please visit our website for additional details or click above to register/sponsor. Use the coupon code: **SPRINGRUN** for \$5 off your entry! Offer ends March 25th!

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# We are honored to share Kennedy's story with you.



## Kennedy's Story

By: Tony and Sigrid Vincent-Brown

Every year that we have is a special year. The Run for the Rose is one of our days for reflection in which we look forward to seeing old friends and making new friends. February 4, 2024, would have been Kennedy's 25th birthday and marks the tenth year of her forever fifteen birthday. She fought a 22-month fight with brain cancer, a formidable opponent. And like many that came before her, she was not victorious.

In her journey, she reminded us of the importance of family, being vulnerable, and being a part of something that is bigger than each one of us. Kennedy gave all of herself to family in the final weeks. Giving each family member a small piece of herself. Building up the strength to celebrate her daddy's birthday, writing words of encouragement to her brother Carson who was going to be a middle schooler in the fall, and sharing her favorite candy with May-May (Mason). It is truly a unique and special person who can show so much strength in the face of life's unrelenting challenger.

We created Team Kennedy Brown in January 2015; it was 6 months after Kennedy's passing and it was a night in which we were visiting with family, discussing how Kennedy was so special to each of us, and shedding a few tears. We were looking for a way to create forever memories and opportunities to stay connected to those closest to us and to Kennedy. From that discussion, Team Kennedy Brown was formed. Our inaugural year of participation in "The Run for the Rose" started with a splash, we were and have been one of the largest family teams for the last 9 years. Like Kennedy, Team Kennedy Brown strives to lead and participate with our whole heart; hoping to be an impactful supporter.

For Team Kennedy Brown, The Run for the Rose is our annual friends and family reunion. We look forward to this event each year. For 2024, we are planning for the largest team to date and the best fundraising team for the cure. See you at the race, we will be wearing the purple Team Kennedy Brown shirts.

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## **Donor Impact Update - Spotlight on MD Anderson**

(L-R) Frederick Lang, M.D.,  
Sanjay Singh, Ph.D., Vinay  
Puduvalli, M.D., Lanie Rose,  
founder of the Dr. Marnie Rose  
Foundation.

Since the inception of the Dr. Marnie Rose Foundation, your incredible generosity has truly made a difference. Your donations, totaling over \$7 million dollars, have been nothing short of transformative.

At MD Anderson specifically, your donations have funded numerous projects within the Brain Tumor Center, spanning twenty-seven research laboratories, and providing researchers with cutting-edge technology, including the Confocal Microscope that provides critical 3D imaging.

In February, we had the privilege of meeting with Dr. Lang, Dr. Puduvalli, Dr. Fueyo, and Dr. Gomez-Manzano to discuss how your generous contributions can directly impact the development of future treatments for brain cancer patients. It was an inspiring discussion, fueled by our shared hope of finding a cure. Together, we created a plan to allocate funds towards two new, complementary programs and a new microscope that we know will help get us closer to finding a cure.

The first program streamlines the acquisition and analysis of biospecimens from each brain tumor patient seen at MD Anderson, and enables the discovery of new targets and the development of novel therapeutics. All of this can happen with no time lost, as samples do not need to be transported to third-party labs for testing. This program continues to build a vital biospecimen bank which serves as a beacon of hope for researchers and clinicians alike, providing crucial resources for research and clinical trials dedicated to finding cures for brain cancer.

The second program supports preclinical research efforts across the Brain Tumor Center by providing centralized and specialized modeling, which enables uniform and reproducible experimentation.

Lastly, your donations will enable the purchase of a new microscope that is capable of live cell kinetic imaging. This microscope will allow researchers to grow and analyze cells over time because it has built-in environmental controls to maintain live cells and kinetic analysis software, thus enabling a better understanding of brain tumor cells and their microenvironment. These initiatives mark significant strides in our mission.

Your generosity is the driving force behind these transformative gifts and their profound impact on the lives of countless individuals affected by brain cancer. Thank you for your continued support in this journey towards a cure.

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# Donor Impact Update

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## End of Year Campaign

We were overwhelmed with the outpouring of support from our **End of Year Campaign**. With your generosity, we received nearly \$40,000 in donations. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! It makes a huge difference in finding a cure for brain cancer and pediatric initiatives.



### Yard signs are here!

We have a limited supply of 2024 **Run for the Rose** yard signs! Email us at [info@drmarnierose.org](mailto:info@drmarnierose.org) to get yours while supplies last!

## Thank you to our generous sponsors!

### Presenting Sponsor

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