

**Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center's  
Cycle for Survival Raises More than \$2.4 Million  
to Support Research on Rare Cancers**

*\*Fundraising Doubles Previous Year's Total\**

NEW YORK – February 20, 2010 – More than 2,500 indoor cyclists teamed up at the fourth annual Cycle for Survival, raising over \$2.4 million in support of research on rare cancers at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

The fundraiser's \$2.4 million total is double the amount raised in 2009, and more than the total of the first three events combined. A total of 2,000 cyclists participated in the "ride against cancer" on January 31 at two New York City Equinox fitness center locations, and an additional 500 joined the ride on February 6 in Chicago. Over fifty satellite teams participated from locations around the world, including Kids for Survival, a Manhattan event hosted by teenager Ali Wasserman, which raised over \$300,000.

Proceeds from Cycle for Survival benefit research on forms of cancer that often lack the funding necessary for progress in treatment. More than half of all cancers are classified as rare, including such well-known forms of the disease as pancreatic cancer, pediatric cancers, sarcoma, uterine cancer, cervical cancer, brain cancer, melanoma, and stomach cancer. Together, these cancers affect millions of people.

"Each year, we all come together to support this research, and I can't begin to tell you how thankful we are at Memorial Sloan-Kettering," said Dr. Gary Schwartz, chief of the melanoma and sarcoma service at MSKCC. "A number of great things have been made possible with money raised from this event. Pathways are now being targeted that can pave the way for new therapies with better outcomes for patients. This has made a real difference, and it's been made possible by Cycle for Survival."

Proceeds from the past events have funded a new, more effective chemotherapy regimen, and the 2009 event has funded two new clinical trials as well as new research toward a better understanding of the basic biology of rare cancers.

Highlights of the day-long event included visits from *Saturday Night Live's* Seth Myers and *Survivor's* Ethan Zohn, speeches by physicians and survivors, and the check presentation ceremony, featuring an emotional speech by event founder Jennifer Goodman Linn.

"I'm in awe of what's been already accomplished at Memorial Sloan-Kettering, and on behalf of the millions of people like me with rare cancers, I thank you," said Linn. "I've just received a sobering reminder as to why the continued success of Cycle for Survival is so critical. As most of you know, I've spent the past five years battling sarcoma, and I've just learned that I've relapsed for the fifth time. The progress that this event has funded brings so much hope to me and so many others."

The event began in 2007 as a grassroots fundraiser founded by Linn and has doubled in size each year, raising a total of more than \$4.5 million to date. While Cycle for Survival team fundraising

closed on February 28, donations to the cause can be made throughout the year. Visit [www.cycleforsurvival.org](http://www.cycleforsurvival.org) for more information.

**About Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center**

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center is the world's oldest and largest private institution devoted to prevention, patient care, research, and education in cancer. Our scientists and clinicians generate innovative approaches to better understand, diagnose, and treat cancer. Our specialists are leaders in biomedical research and in translating the latest research to advance the standard of cancer care worldwide. For more information, go to <http://www.mskcc.org/>.

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