

November 15, 2021

Dear Friends of the Scleroderma Foundation Rocky Mountain Chapter,

As our twentieth year of service to the Rocky Mountain scleroderma community comes to a close, we celebrate our achievements and look forward to a bright future. We launched our 20th Anniversary Imagine Campaign in an effort to raise \$100,000 to expand our services into the larger Rocky Mountain region, expand healthcare provider outreach and fund more peer-reviewed scleroderma research.

We are proud to say that we have almost met our fundraising goal, raising over \$91,000 to date! Thank you to all that have supported this effort so far.



Our community continues to connect via virtual support groups and virtual education events. The chapter launched three new support groups in 2021 in Salt Lake City, Northern Utah and Wyoming. Salt Lake City also held their first scleroderma education summit. It was viewed by people from across the U.S., Canada, and even Australia.



The pandemic kept us from hosting our annual walks so we pivoted to the Rocky Mountain Adventure. Team captains got creative and held their own 'adventures.' Participants rallied and raised over \$50,000 setting a new fundraising record for highest net revenue! Rena's Rebels was our highest fundraising team bringing in over \$9,500 with their Strike Out Scleroderma bowling event. Sgt. Avery's Army, June's High Steppers and EGG-cellent Adventures all brought in over 50 individual donations! Team Adventure Pets ran a pet voting contest. Cooper was crowned as Chapter Mascot of the Year!



Cyndy Besselievre has continued to lead our advocacy team. In 2021, members of our team attended 25 advocacy meetings in Colorado, Montana, and Utah. The goal of this outreach is to ask our legislators for continued funding at \$5 million for the Scleroderma Research Program at the Department of Defense.



Our community came together on October 1st to celebrate 20 years of service and to honor those key contributors that got us here. It was a beautiful evening for our reunion. There were lots of laughs, a few tears and everyone left excited for our future! The entire party program can be viewed on our YouTube channel @coscleroderma.

Chapter staff, board and volunteers thank all of you for your contributions to our success in 2021. We would love to hear from more of you! If you are looking for support, a physician or just need someone to talk to about living with scleroderma, please contact us! Join our Imagine Campaign or Colorado Gives Day efforts by making a donation to the chapter. Tell your story or volunteer. Attend our 2022 events. Follow us on the different social media channels. Thank you for being part of our scleroderma family.

Maria Dastur
Executive Director

Mike Pursel
Chapter Board President

