



Fighting the Fear – Empowering the Hope of Cancer Diagnosis, Treatment, and Survivorship

The David Benzer Torture Cancer Foundation

April 2014

Every Community
Every Person
One Day



On May 6, 2014, along with hundreds of charities across the America, The David Benzer Torture Cancer Foundation will participate in Give Local Everywhere. Donate on the Torture Cancer page on the [Give Local Everywhere](#) site.

You can help fight the fear a diagnosis of cancer creates. Forward our posts on Facebook and Twitter to your network and like our pages. Remodeling just one clinic waiting room has the potential to impact hundreds of thousands of cancer patients.

Jonny Gomes & Brady Wein Big League Buddies



Want to know why we love Jonny Gomes? Watch this short [Video](#) on MLB Tonight showing how Jonny got close to Brady Wein, a young fan who has been battling cancer most of his young life.

Help Us Change Fear to Hope

Today, more than 6,000 people in the U.S. will hear the words "You have cancer."

Your donation will have an immediate impact-- easing fear and providing comfort to thousands of people in cancer clinic waiting rooms across the country.



First of Two Waiting Rooms Updated

The first of two big screen TVs and BluRay disc players, donated to UCSF through their *Partners in Care* grant program, was installed in the 2nd floor waiting room at the Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center. It is because of your donations, both large and small, and more importantly, your support of our vision to provide comfort and ease suffering, that the Foundation was able to provide this gift.

In the photo at right, is Diana Bretzinger, Practice Manager of at the UCSF Breast Cancer Clinic, with David Benzer and Lynn Hammerschmidt. As this photo was being taken, a woman waiting for treatment exclaimed "You must be the people who donated the TV." When we acknowledged that we were, a spontaneous round of applause broke out, bringing us to tears. We talked to the patients, and their loved ones, about David's experience of surviving Stage IV throat cancer, subsequently starting the Foundation, and our work to provide comfort and distractions in cancer clinic waiting rooms.



After hearing David's story, one man volunteered, "This is my first visit for treatment and you give me hope that I can make it too." Another woman, leaned over to her mother and said, "Mom, isn't that encouraging?" There are no words

that can properly communicate the impact of this experience-- we will hold it in our hearts forever.

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Jonny Gomes Sports LoudMouth at the White House



How did Jonny find his inner fashion guru? At the Torture Cancer Golf Tournament of course. Outfitted by [LoudMouth Golf](#) for the tournament, he fell in love with the larger-than-life vibe and looked to them for inspiration on what to wear to the White House. Donning his patriotic red, white, and blue blazer for the Red Sox team's recent visit, President Obama remarked, upon meeting Jonny, "Nice Jacket."

Stetsons

Look for the Boston Red Sox players to be sporting customized Stetson hats this Spring. A major sponsor of the 2013 Torture Cancer Golf Tournament, Stetson provided baseball caps for all participants and donated a classic Stetson for the auction. Jonny ordered custom Stetson hats for his teammates complete with Red Sox and World Series Champions logos and each player's name and number on the inside hat band.



Visit [One Year, One City](#) on the Boston Globe website to check out Big Papi, David Ortiz, in his Stetson at the Boston Marathon finish line, one year later.

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Children's Media Center

A second flat screen TV and BluRay player are the central elements of a new "Children's Media Center" being created in the waiting room on the 4th Floor starting last Friday. Many of the 24,000 patients who visit this floor each year are children. A number of them will become amputees during the course of their treatment – frightening for both the children and their families. Currently there is no special area for children at the cancer center.

The Media Center corner will provide these children with "their own little (safe) area" that will offer a welcome and comforting distraction during treatment. It will also provide their parents with some relief while their children are engaged in a soothing activity that they do not have to create. If for one moment in time we are able to provide a distraction and a sense of joy for these young patients and their families, it will be because of you.



In the end, the only thing that survives is the love we share for one another.

Veronica Stagnaro Takes First Place in Torture Cancer Car at Victorville and Elk Grove



The Torture Cancer Car driven by Veronica Stagnaro, daughter of David and Judy Stagnaro, captured first place at the Victorville Soap Box Derby Rally on March 22, 2014. Veronica earned first place in the single elimination race and trophied with a fourth place finish in the double elimination race.

Veronica also finished in first place at the Elk Grove Spring All-American Rally the weekend of April 12th and 13th. With the win, she maintained her point lead in the Region 2 Stock Division and is on track to compete in the All-American Soap Box Derby Championship this July in Akron, Ohio.

