



November 2024

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your continued support of the Vasculitis Foundation (VF). Your generosity has been instrumental in the strides we've made in education, diagnosis, treatment, and research over the past four decades. Much work remains as we strive for early diagnosis and ultimately, a cure for vasculitis – a rare disease that strikes without warning and can be debilitating or even fatal if not quickly diagnosed and effectively treated.

Patients like Eliza, Christine, and Lynn experienced the devastating impact of delayed diagnosis. Eliza, at 15, endured months of misdiagnosis, leaving her with permanent hearing loss. Christine, a college student, spent more than seven years searching for answers while feeling profound loneliness, depression and grief. Lynn, a vital 72-year-old, lost her life within months due to a lack of expert care and a timely diagnosis.

"Vasculitis is difficult to diagnose because the initial symptoms can be very non-specific. Symptoms might linger for months before vasculitis comes up on someone's radar. It's rare enough that most doctors aren't thinking of vasculitis right away," said Dr. Vimal Derebail, a nephrologist and member of the VF's Board of Directors. "I would like to see us advance care so that we can connect with those providers who first see vasculitis patients so all patients can get a similar level of care."

Thanks to your unwavering support, the VF is helping address existing barriers by:

- Funding cutting-edge research, bringing us closer to new treatments and the potential for a cure.
- Expanding educational programs, empowering patients and their families with critical information and support.
- Advocating for early diagnosis and expert care, hosting summits and creating resources that reshape how vasculitis care is delivered.

Challenges remain however, and we need your help as we launch our year-end campaign. Your donation will directly impact those who have yet to experience their first symptoms. Your support also will empower patients, providing them with the education, resources, and emotional support they need to navigate their vasculitis journey.

By giving to the VF, you are providing hope and ensuring that no one faces vasculitis alone. Every dollar brings us closer to a world where vasculitis is no longer life-altering.

Thank you for standing with us in this fight. We are deeply grateful for your continued support. Wishing you and your loved ones a healthy and joyful holiday season.

With heartfelt gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joyce A. Kullman", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Joyce A. Kullman
Executive Director
Vasculitis Foundation