

Happy Holidays! Thank you for supporting ThinkCure, a charitable fund dedicated to supporting cancer research and finding a cure for this deadly disease. The official charity of the Los Angeles Dodgers, ThinkCure provides funding to two leading cancer centers: City of Hope and Childrens Hospital Los Angeles. These organizations are finding new ways to work together to develop the cures of tomorrow. Andrea Park and John Kuhlken, both cancer survivors, are living proof of the importance of this work and of your support.

Young Tennis Ace Slams Cancer

For Andrea Park, tennis began as an enjoyable father-daughter activity. Andrea quickly fell in love with the game and started training and practicing every chance she could. Her dedication earned her a coveted spot on the Chatsworth High School varsity tennis team. After her first season, her right knee began to hurt. She assumed it was a typical sports injury, but an MRI brought 15-year-old Andrea to Childrens Hospital Los Angeles, where she was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a particularly aggressive bone cancer.



Cancer survivor Andrea Park and her father, Eric.

The conventional treatment for this cancer often meant amputation. But physicians at Childrens Hospital have pioneered innovative limb-salvage and reconstructive techniques that, together with advanced chemotherapy, can save both life and limb in the vast majority of cases.

A surgeon removed Andrea's tumor and replaced her damaged knee joint with an artificial joint. She underwent 33 weeks of chemotherapy. Despite the side effects, Andrea remained determined, and a few weeks after completing her treatment, she began preparing for the SATs. By her senior year, she was taking a heavy load of honors classes, and she was back on the tennis court.

Now a freshman at UCLA, Andrea recalls the first time she picked up her tennis racket again. "It felt so good," she says. She now mostly plays with her parents, Eric and Jennifer Park, and brother, Andrew. "The loser buys ice cream," she says.

Surfrider Coasts Back to Health

John Kuhlken is an experienced surfer, and as every surfer knows, the sport sometimes involves some pretty large waves. Kuhlken faced his biggest wave on land. In 1996, he was diagnosed with advanced non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, a cancer of the blood and lymph nodes that had spread to his bone marrow. He was treated with chemotherapy and radiation and went into remission, but relapsed two years later. That's when he turned to City of Hope for help.

Doctors at City of Hope recommended bone marrow transplantation. And though his recovery was difficult, Kuhlken made it through, thanks to the expertise of his health-care team and the latest in medical advancements. City of Hope has one of the largest and most successful bone marrow transplantation programs in the nation. "Things lined up in my favor," he says. With cancer firmly beaten, Kuhlken helps raise funds for cancer research by serving as a City of Hope patient speaker and participating in fundraising events such as a 100-mile long bike ride and benefit concerts where he performs on drums.

Kuhlken is optimistic about new medical discoveries being made every day: "We need to let people know that today there is hope, no matter what their diagnosis," he says. It is that spirit that helped Kuhlken ride the waves of medical innovation back to health.



John Kuhlken, cancer survivor, is back to surfing.

Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Dodgers in Los Angeles at their original home, the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, at an exhibition game against the world-champion Boston Red Sox on March 29, 2008. Net proceeds from the game will benefit ThinkCure. For information on special ThinkCure fundraising events or on how you or your organization can become involved, visit www.thinkcure.org.

City of Hope Speeds Treatments to Patients

City of Hope has been dedicated to saving lives for nearly a century. As a comprehensive cancer center, City of Hope not only treats cancer, but investigates how cancer starts, grows, spreads and survives. Scientists work together with doctors to speed discoveries from the lab to clinical trials so patients can get better treatments for cancer quickly.

City of Hope scientists have developed important medical advances, including the technology that led to the development of four of the world's top cancer drugs. Researchers also helped lead the way for bone marrow transplantation, applying it to cancers such as leukemia and lymphoma and making it safer than ever before.

Today, researchers are working on some of the most promising experimental strategies to treat cancer. T-cell therapy, for example, uses a patient's own immune system to fight cancer. And City of Hope uses some of the latest technology available in the treatment of cancer. For example, surgeons remove prostate cancer with minimally invasive surgery using the da Vinci surgical system, a highly sophisticated robotic technology. This technique allows surgeons to carefully avoid vulnerable nerves, sparing more patients from side effects and returning them to their regular lives sooner. Your support of ThinkCure will accelerate these advances and many more.

Childrens Hospital Offers Hope to Kids

Childrens Hospital Los Angeles is a sanctuary for the sickest, most critically injured children, and one of America's premier teaching hospitals. It is also a leader in pediatric research.

Childhood is a magical time. But when it's interrupted by serious illness or injury, a child's simplest dreams can seem impossible. Childrens Hospital Los Angeles can make a world of difference.

The real strength of Childrens Hospital is the people – doctors, nurses and other caregivers – and the comprehensive nature of its treatment programs. It is able to offer the best in multidisciplinary care through 100 pediatric subspecialty services.

The Childrens Center for Cancer and Blood Diseases is one of the nation's largest pediatric hematology/oncology programs. Its physicians are recognized



Dodgers All-Star Russell Martin autographs the baseball cap of a pediatric patient.

leaders and its treatments set the standard of care. Its research is recognized worldwide, as well. Childrens Hospital researchers showed how certain tumors successfully evade immune cells, which may suggest new treatments,

for example. They also discovered how to make aggressive cancers more vulnerable to chemotherapy.

Today, because of breakthroughs in the treatment of childhood cancers – many pioneered by the physician-scientists at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles – Childrens Hospital can provide the most advanced treatment available to children, teenagers and young adults. The Childrens Center for Cancer and Blood Diseases is in the business of preparing these youngsters for active, productive lives.

Collaboration Speeds Cures

Physicians and scientists from City of Hope and Childrens Hospital Los Angeles will converge at Dodger Stadium for a ThinkCure symposium on Friday, February 15 to discuss their latest research and opportunities to work together to speed promising treatments to patients. Learn more about their collaborations in the next edition of News from ThinkCure.

On behalf of everyone at ThinkCure, thank you for your support. You make possible the bold science and innovative treatments being developed at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles and City of Hope. We invite you to continue your support by visiting www.thinkcure.org or calling (866) 554-CURE (2873). May your holiday season be bright!

