## 2025 Cure-A-Thon

Phoenix/Scottsdale February 22nd



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Dear Friends of SSBTR.

As we proudly embark on our milestone 24th year anniversary, I wanted to personally extend an invitation to you to join us in our efforts toward making our 2025 fundraising Event the biggest success ever, by donating to or becoming a Sponsor of our upcoming Students Supporting Brain Tumor Research Cure-A-Thon.

Our ongoing mission is to provide education and leadership development of our youth, promote awareness of how common brain tumors are as the leading cause of cancer deaths among their peers, and act as an outreach to support affected individuals and their families. Our centerpiece is an annual Cure-a-Thon, which serves as a vehicle toward raising support for brain tumor research through community and corporate involvement.

At our signature event in February 2025, along with other smaller scale, year-round fundraiser and awareness events throughout Arizona, we expect 3000 participants from over 100 schools in Maricopa County and beyond. Because of generous support such as yours, our total funds raised since we began is now well over \$4.4 Million! As always, these funds are distributed directly toward brain tumor research at such leading local centers as Phoenix Children's Hospital, Barrow Neurological Institute and T-Gen.

Being the largest student run non-profit in Arizona, SSBTR provides unique opportunities for our young people to act as principal players in a grand scale philanthropic organization. They work hand in hand with managers of large companies about services for the walkathon, contact media and conduct television and newspaper interviews on their own, and meet with school administrators. The students also have the rare privilege of observing live brain surgery, touring a brain tumor research laboratory, and hearing lectures from scientists.

There exists a tremendous need for an organization such as ours on several levels. In the United States alone, a staggering 700,000 individuals are currently struggling with their brain tumors, and as many as 90,000 new cases will be diagnosed within the next year. This disease has now displaced leukemia to become the **number one** cause of cancer deaths among students. It is therefore vital to increase education and awareness as to just how common a threat this disease now is to ourselves and our children.

SSBTR is all about creating future leaders and team players among our young people, stimulating their interest in philanthropy and selfless giving, connecting with and supporting their friends and classmates who are currently in the process of fighting brain tumors and often struggling for their lives, and ultimately **finding that cure** through research.

On behalf of our dedicated students, adult advisory board, and all of those afflicted young people, we thank you for becoming an integral part of our SSBTR "Family" as we conquer this disease together.

Yours truly,