



Gerard J. Boyle, M.D.
Chairman, Department of Pediatric
Cardiology Medical Director, Pediatric Heart Failure/Transplant
Associate Professor of Pediatrics

August 19, 2009

Mrs. Sarah Calaway
Alyssa's Hike for the Hearts
2899 Lynn Road
Kent, Ohio 44240

Dear Sarah,

The Pediatric Cardiology team at Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital is very grateful for your continued support of viral myocarditis research through Alyssa's Hike for the Hearts.

Since 2007, the event has provided more than \$30,000 to fund research that is increasing awareness and understanding of viral myocarditis.

Our initial study "Myocarditis in Children: Initial Clinical Presentation in Cuyahoga County, Ohio 1990-2005," allowed us to determine a process by which physicians can definitively diagnose viral myocarditis, which can lead to earlier diagnoses and treatment.

We are currently planning to initiate a study that will look at risk factors, such as vitamin or mineral deficiencies that may be used as biomarkers to identify those most at risk for developing myocarditis, and thereby help prevent the disease.

Alyssa's Hike for the Hearts laid the foundation and continues to provide momentum for our viral myocarditis research, and we are seeking additional research funding from sources who share your dedication to improving viral myocarditis diagnosis and treatment.

As we share our findings with physicians through presentations, discussions and submission to medical journals, we continue to recognize the invaluable support from you and Alyssa's Hike for the Hearts. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (216) 444-3803, or Heather Huston Barkley at (216) 445-1038.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerard J. Boyle".

Gerard J. Boyle, MD
Chairman, Pediatric Cardiology
Children's Hospital, Cleveland Clinic