



February 11, 2009

Hello,

On behalf of the ITP Foundation, we feel most honored to have become a part of this most beautiful and inspiring of endeavors. I would like to thank everyone for your devotion to this cause, specifically as we move toward the Cleveland Marathon, but larger than that, for allowing the ITP Foundation to join you in this pursuit, and beyond.

The ITP Foundation is a nonprofit focused on creating a substantial and enduring movement intent on connecting this disorder with those in the general public. To receive adequate funding for family assistance programs and to support therapeutic and medical breakthroughs in treating ITP, it is imperative that the effects of ITP be felt and empathized with in homes throughout the country, and the world.

Unlike many other causes that have a strong following and cross-cultural support-system, simply put, not enough work has been done by the medical and pharmaceutical industries, the philanthropic community, or the informed public minority, to provide enough resources to the public necessary for ITP to resonate in the heart and mind. Despite ITP's prevalence in the US and around the globe, the public at large remain unfamiliar with ITP, its symptoms, and treatments.

However, this band of support is truly a beacon of hope for a brighter future.

Over the past three weeks, we at the ITP Foundation have been deeply affected by the countless message boards, photographs, and methods of support that Stephanie's family and friends have developed via this wonderful thing called the internet.

I have now had the pleasure of speaking with many of you in this group. With each mention of Stephanie's laugh and friendly, playground nature, a voice is harmonizing perfectly with the stunningly beautiful little girl in all of these pictures.

And while our hearts break for your loss, seldom, if ever, can you run across a group, a family, as strong and loving as this; it speaks volumes for Stephanie's life, and it leaves no wonder how her love has brought you all together.

The letter that this had once intended itself to be - I could never write. Please know that the ITP Foundation will do all it can to live up to your mission to help raise awareness, guarantee more research, and ensure better training when dealing with such a rare and delicate disease.

Again, we are greatly humbled to join you.

Thank you for your time, and for this very special group. I hope you feel it a wonderful way to honor Stephanie's memory.

Kind regards,

Christopher Landino
Executive Director
ITP Foundation