



6/21/12

Dear Friends and Family of Kathryn, Jeff, and Melissa Carleton:

As most of you know, in June 2011 Kathryn received the life-changing news that she has brain cancer (GBM, glioblastoma multiforme). Since then she has been on a journey to restore her health, while adapting to changes in her vision that prevent her from driving. Throughout this time, Kathryn and Jeff and the entire family have been deeply touched by the outpouring of love and support from family and friends. The community has reached out in many wonderful ways, with meals lovingly prepared and delivered; rides to radiation and the grocery store along with company on walks generously shared; and prayers and positive thoughts heartfully offered. Kathryn, Jeff, and Melissa are so grateful for your support during this challenging time.

In April, Kathryn received news of some regrowth at the original tumor site. Her treatment regimen was changed, and, while this has made a difference in the original site, there's evidence of some growths in other parts of her brain. In addition to consulting with oncologists in Palo Alto, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, Kathryn has incorporated a variety of modalities into her healing plan, including increased nutrition, supplements, exercise, prayer, and meditation, as well as medications that have been shown to make a difference for



cancer survivors. Her healthcare team has been instrumental in sharing the latest research and findings for this cancer. And it's great to see how diligent Kathryn has been in connecting with others who treat GBM, as well as with long-term survivors of GBM, which helps expand the options available to her. Her courage and positive perspective are truly inspiring.

Kathryn, Jeff, and Melissa have with good grace met the challenges facing them over the past year — including major abdominal surgery for Jeff within a month of Kathryn's brain surgery, major dental work for Kathryn made more difficult due to chemotherapy, and having to spend nearly five months in a motel this spring while repairs were made to their home due to flooding caused by a plumbing failure. Throughout, Kathryn has kept her focus on healing and on her loved ones. While they're all very happy to be back home as of mid-June, they're drowning in a sea of paperwork and bills from Kathryn's medical treatments. With a major illness like this, insurance doesn't begin to meet all the needs; besides copays and deductibles, there are expenses for items that insurance simply doesn't cover, including rehabilitation therapy for her vision, nutritional supplements, and some of the prescribed medications. And



Stanford Hospital and Palo Alto Medical Foundation are owed tens of thousands of dollars beyond what the insurance company covers.

As I helped Kathryn go through piles of medical and insurance statements recently, it became clear that the burden is simply more than one family can bear. As someone who over the years has helped organize fundraisers for many good causes (as have Kathryn, Jeff, and Melissa, and as has my mother, Ruth Carleton), I realized that it's time to appeal to the larger community so that Kathryn's attention can remain focused where it belongs — on her healing.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could help lighten Kathryn's load? I'm sure, like me, you want to see Kathryn restored and enjoying her time with Jeff and Melissa (who just celebrated her twelfth birthday) free of worry about medical bills. And I'd love to see them plan a trip somewhere healing and beautiful. If you're willing to support this very good cause, there are two ways to contribute to Kathryn's healing fund:

Transmit funds via credit card to Kathryn's account at [paypal](#) (log in, select Send Money, then Personal/Gift, and make your contribution to KathrynCarleton1@gmail.com)

Or make a check out to Kathryn Carleton, and mail it to Kathryn c/o Nancy Carleton, 3044-B Halcyon Court, Berkeley CA 94705.

Any amount you're able to give — whether \$10, \$100, \$1,000, or anything that works for you — will be greatly appreciated and put to good use on behalf of an amazing, creative, and inspiring woman who has given so much to so many over the years.

Please continue to hold Kathryn, Jeff, and Melissa in your thoughts and prayers. To receive updates on Kathryn's progress or to volunteer to help with specific needs, I encourage you to sign onto her community support page at www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/642608 if you haven't already. And please pass this letter on to others who might be willing to help.

With gratitude,
Nancy Carleton (*Kathryn's sister-in-law*)

