



Connecting to Cure Crohn's and Colitis

Connecting to Cure Crohn's & Colitis (CtoC), founded in 2012, unites the Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) community in order to promote public awareness about Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis; to fund research into finding new treatments and a cure for IBD; and to support patients and their families living with these chronic illnesses.

CtoC has created a niche specifically to bring the IBD community together in the Los Angeles area, and has also established connections on the East coast. With each year the dollar amounts raised by our fundraising efforts have significantly increased.

Stacy Dylan, whose son has severe Crohn's Disease, and Dana Zatulove, the parent of a child with ulcerative colitis, started CtoC primarily to raise money for new treatments and cures. We have established connections with top doctors and researchers in the IBD field and maintain up-to-date information about the latest gains.

C to C also works to increase awareness of the impact that IBD has on patients and their families, and to provide support for people living with these diseases. We have grown into an inclusive community of doctors, researchers, patients, families, caregivers, friends and supporters, and we have expanded outreach to those who might never have known about IBD.

The C to C Difference

While there are other charities for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, CtoC has filled a gap by bringing the IBD community together in a grassroots way, reaching a diverse demographic with a variety of unique events. Our signature annual fundraiser, Rock the Night to Cure Crohn's and Colitis, features music by Jakob Dylan and special guests as well as a silent auction; it is a fun-filled, inspirational evening that appeals to people who might not attend a more traditional kind of fundraiser. We also hold smaller events throughout the year, including an annual golf tournament and a children's piano recital, and we are an official charity partner of the Los Angeles Marathon. Since our 2012 inception we have raised over \$2,000,000, funds which have been distributed primarily to organizations that conduct IBD research.

Connecting to Cure Crohn's and Colitis is an all-volunteer organization with one paid part-time intern. We receive generous donations of items to be auctioned, as well as in-kind services. We have been able to keep our expenses very low, which means a large percentage of the money our donors give us goes directly to the research and programs we support.



We Provide Community & Support

Although we are based in Los Angeles, California, we also hold fundraising events in New York City, and we serve patients and families throughout the country via social media and “Connections,” our peer-to-peer support program. Anyone can contact our volunteers directly by email, connections@connectingtocure.org, publicized on our website. We hold a monthly support group in Los Angeles as well as a yoga class for people with IBD. We also sponsor children with IBD to attend summer camp at The Painted Turtle in Lake Hughes, CA.

Our peer-to-peer support system helps families who are frequently confused and misunderstood as they try to make tough decisions about medical treatments, navigate school and social issues, and deal with the psychological impact of chronic conditions. Many people do not understand how serious Crohn's Disease and ulcerative colitis can be; we focus attention on these diseases in order to drive funding for research and to let people know they have somewhere to turn for support.

Donor Impact

Proceeds of our efforts have benefitted the Susan and Leonard Feinstein Inflammatory Bowel Disease Clinical Center at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York; the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Program at Cedars Sinai Medical Center; the Inflammatory Bowel Disease program at the Mayo Clinic; and The Painted Turtle summer camp.

Our Board

A volunteer Board of Directors governs the organization. The Board has diverse members who are personally involved with and knowledgeable about the needs of the IBD Community. The Board provides direct oversight of daily operations, including event planning, service delivery, administration, and financial management. The Board also leads CtoC in fund development and identifying organizational priorities and capacity. CtoC's Scientific Advisory Council recommends and advises the Board of Directors on research projects that will advance and accelerate our mission to find cures and treatments for Crohn's Disease and ulcerative colitis