



February 2018

To our friends at 100 Voices of Hope:

As you know, we have been planning for an exciting clinical trial here at the IU Simon Cancer Center based on research that began with a 100 Voices of Hope hunch. We are delighted to tell you that our first patients are now receiving a two-drug combination that no other patient in the world has experienced. Our hopes are high, thanks to you and your incredible support.

As breast cancer researchers, our goal each day is to make discoveries in the laboratory that will lead to life-saving treatments for the patients in our clinic and every woman impacted by breast cancer. Your support has allowed us to realize that goal and we could not be more grateful.

With the funding for Hunch #4 in 2011, we were able to compare triple negative tumors to samples of healthy breast tissue to determine the biomarkers that make triple negative breast cancer so unique. Based on this analysis, our team had the idea of using a new drug combination to combat this most aggressive type of breast cancer. Now, we embark on a Phase 1 trial, which means this is the *first* time these two drugs will be utilized in combination to treat patients.

No targeted therapy currently exists for triple negative breast cancer. Over the course of this trial, we will discover if we can change that. Instead of being told there is no viable treatment for their disease, patients will now hear that there is a new option. Over the next several months, we will pour through data and follow trial participants closely. We are incredibly thankful to the brave women who will enroll in this trial, as discovery would not be possible without their willingness to participate in cutting-edge research.

We are reminded that it takes a team to move research forward. This study was made possible by our selfless volunteers who donated healthy breast tissue for research; years of laboratory testing – trying new drugs and continually learning from each experiment; and philanthropy, a cornerstone of medical research, which fuels unfettered innovation. Thank you for collaborating with us to make this work possible. We hope to update you later this year on our progress. In the meantime, on behalf of everyone at the IU Simon Cancer Center, we express our deepest appreciation for your continued support.

Most Sincerely,

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