

Kathy's Commentary: Walking The Walk

Becky Cunningham's Commitment to the Fight Against Cancer

*"Almost everyone has been touched by cancer,
either through their own personal battle or through someone they love."*

~ [American Cancer Society](#)

What inspires you to make a difference? What motivates you to take that first step toward changing a life? For Becky Cunningham, Marketing Director for KMAC & Associates, her inspiration to take **many** steps in the fight against cancer began with her grandfathers.

Last month, Becky put on her tennies, rallied her friends, family and neighbors, and participated in the American Cancer Society's [Relay for Life](#). The first time she participated in Relay for Life with her team – [Friends for Life](#) – she walked for her grandfathers, Howard Wolcott and John McClung.

That was 6 years ago.

This year, her inspiration came from a 3 year old boy named Alan Sanders.



Alan and his parents Judy and Harold are close friends with Becky and her family. In fact, Alan is friends with Becky's son Dylan, so Becky has watched Alan's battle against cancer since he was diagnosed when he was just 18 months old.

"Dylan and Alan are the same age, but have led very different lives," Becky wrote on her Relay for Life [personal page](#). "While Dylan was out running around and playing like a toddler should, Alan was often spending time in hospitals receiving chemo treatments or having surgeries."

Noting their strength and positive attitude, Judy and Harold also are motivating Becky. "They are my inspiration to continue fighting the battle against cancer" Becky wrote.



Alan Sanders with his parents Judy & Harold

Currently, Alan is on an 8-month cycle of chemotherapy, which should end in November. Although Alan had been in a hip cast until March following surgery in December, he was able to participate in the Relay for Life with Becky and her teammates.

"I got to walk a few laps with Alan, my biggest inspiration this year," Becky told her supporters. Alan even had the honor of cutting the ribbon to begin the Relay for Life.



As in years past, the Friends for Life team held fundraisers in anticipation of the Relay for Life, including their annual Bunco / Silent Auction, which raised \$2,349.00 for the team. Individually, each team member also turned to their network of supporters to raise money for the American Cancer Society.



Friends for Life Team Picture

Thanks to their efforts, Becky and the Friends for Life team had a banner year. As a team, Friends for Life raised **\$10,721.99** for the American Cancer Society, making them the

Relay's Top Team for the Greater Randolph event. Becky also had a record year, raising **\$1,710.75** to fight cancer – the second-highest individual fundraiser this year!

Congratulations, Becky, and thank you for your commitment to creating more birthdays! We are so proud to have you on our KMAC & Associates team!