

Reuniting for a Cause

Dr. Birgit Millauer, long-time friend of Clarity Founder Dr. Laura Shawver, will be hosting a fundraising event in San Francisco in mid-November with co-hosts Aimee Jungman and Stefanie Rosenberg. Birgit and Laura go way back publishing a seminal paper together in Nature showing that tumor angiogenesis was driven by Flk-1 (now called the VEGF receptor). Along with Clarity Foundation Scientific Advisor Dr. Julie Cherrington, the three cancer researchers used this information and were pioneers of personalized medicine when they worked together in the 1990s at SUGEN. It was there at the biopharmaceutical company that they led the innovative approach of molecular profiling patient samples as part of clinical trials that evaluated targeted anti-cancer agents, and successfully developed a drug for kidney and stomach cancers.



Their careers took them on different paths, but they've always remained close. As demand for Clarity's services has grown requiring more resources, Birgit, Laura Aimee and Stefanie decided to tap their Rolodex of former SUGEN colleagues and biotech industry executives and invite them to an event in her home. They are planning a mini reunion of sorts – a terrific excuse to reconnect with biotech colleagues who are associated in one way or another to cancer research; they have a natural affinity to and appreciate the value of how Clarity is helping patients individualize their treatments and improving their success. Birgit has a close friend who is fighting a rare cancer and Clarity Foundation has stepped in to help her with access to molecular profiling.

Aimee Jungman and Stefanie Rosenberg have both benefitted directly from Clarity's profiling expertise. Prior to joining Clarity's board, Aimee was struggling in her battle with ovarian cancer using standard therapy, until she learned more about her own genetic profile and changed her treatments accordingly. She has said that Clarity saved her life and her fundraising efforts will benefit another patient in a similar situation. Her friend Stefanie learned from Aimee's experience and took action to understand her genetic risks for cancer. She is volunteering her support of this fundraiser to help raise awareness.

It's sure to be an informative event including wine, live music, and a presentation from a physician thought leader. The women will pool resources to solicit in-kind donations and discounted entertainment, so that when the hat is passed, they will meet their goal of raising enough money to underwrite the profiling costs of twenty patients. The cost to profile one patient is approximately \$2,500, making their fundraising goal for the event \$50,000. Birgit has committed to personally donating enough to provide tumor profiles to four patients, so they are already making good progress towards their goal. Birgit has also rallied the support of her partners, the law firm Chao Hadidi Stark & Barker, to help with the event. With the Twin Peaks as the backdrop, this festive event will reunite friends and professional colleagues while supporting a cause near and dear to everyone in attendance!

Addr: 4365 Executive Drive, Suite 300, San Diego, CA 92121

Tel: 858.459.5177 | Fax: 858.657.0265

www.clarityfoundation.org