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At this Thanksgiving season, I'd like to personally express my appreciation for your participation in the CleftStrong 5K held on September 18, 2016 in San Antonio, Texas. Your involvement, along with other generous donors and sponsors, resulted in CleftStrong 5K donating \$25,000 to our foundation. <u>Thank you!</u> We are incredibly grateful for your support.

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to the CleftStrong 5K organizers and volunteers for their hard work and dedication to this cause. With all of your help, we continue to provide key information and connections to people in the United States affected by cleft and craniofacial conditions.

Here are just a few of the ways we're putting your support to work:

- We connect patients to specialty medical care. As you may know, the best outcomes for patients receiving cleft or craniofacial treatment are achieved when several types of specialists work together as a team. We help families connect with qualified specialty teams in their area, since many families don't know about team care or how to find a team until they contact us.
- Provide educational resources and financial information. We are the most reliable stop for accurate information on cleft and craniofacial care in every stage of life. Families often need financial assistance too and we provide guidance to available funding and seek solutions to insurance challenges. Not only that, we offer college scholarships for students and grants for young researchers!
- Support families socially and emotionally. You're aware of the social and emotional challenges families going through cleft care can face. We provide resources for children who experience bullying, offer personalized support to individuals and families, and share stories from others in the cleft community who have been down this road.

Because of friends like you, we can continue to help families at the critical crossroads of cleft care. Please reach out to us if you or your loved ones ever need a hand on your own cleft-craniofacial journey.

We hope you'll continue to support the CleftStrong 5K— and we may see you there next year!

With gratitude and best wishes for a wonderful holiday season,

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Marilyn A. Cohen President

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