



We need your support;

Many of you know, my daughter Tabitha has Usher Syndrome. Usher Syndrome is retinitis pigmentosa (RP), a congenital, degenerative eye disease, combined with deafness. Tabitha was diagnosed at six months old with profound deafness. It was a shock to all of us, but we worked through it every day, and it was just a part of who she was. Deafness for Tabitha was never an issue and it never held her back.

When she was in her first year of college at RIT in Rochester, New York, she visited an eye doctor at Strong Hospital in Rochester after noticing serious vision changes. Upon examination she found out the devastating truth—she has Usher syndrome. This means that her vision and her visual means of communication would disappear as she became older and may eventually be completely blind! Today, Tabitha is legally blind and maintains enough vision (approximately 10 degrees of field vision) to use sign language and is currently going to the University of Texas at San Antonio for her master's degree in social work.

After we found out about Tabitha's disease, we turned to The Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB). With their support and aggressive research, a cure is a reality. FFB provides support for people who are afflicted by retinal degenerative diseases. Approximately nine million Americans experience the adverse effects these diseases have on their own lives and the lives of their families. With the promising advances in research that FFB is sponsoring, we strongly believe there will be a cure in Tabitha's lifetime.

To help raise funding for FFB's research, Tabitha and I will be walking in the 2nd Annual VisionWalk in San Antonio! Our goal is to have a minimum of 250 walkers, which also includes people with vision loss, and to raise at least \$80,000.

We are asking you to support our efforts by walking with us and getting others to walk. You can sponsor us or organize your own team! If you cannot join us in person, you can still make a donation. VisionWalk San Antonio will be held at Brackenridge Park at the Joske Pavilion, on Saturday, March 13, 2010.

There are several ways you can donate. You can donate cash or make a check payable to Foundation Fighting Blindness and give to me before the walk. Don't forget to write VisionWalk-San Antonio 2010 on the check.

You can also go online to our team page “Crush Ushers” at www.visionwalk.org, scroll the states and select TX-San Antonio, select donate, search for a team, type in Crush Ushers, to make a secure donation. Please feel free to share this letter for support from all of your friends, family, businesses, and professionals to get the word out about finding a cure for blindness.

Thank you for your support and because of you “A Cure is in Sight!”

Sincerely,

Diana Kryger & Tabitha Borko