



MAN & WOMAN OF THE YEAR®



Dear [REDACTED]

I hope you and your family are doing well. I am writing to you with a humble request.

Every year in communities across the country, dynamic and passionate candidates engage in a ten-week fundraising competition to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The individuals who raise the most funds during the campaign are awarded the titles of Man and Woman of the Year.

I am honored to be a candidate this year for the Los Angeles Woman of the Year competition. I have built a team, the **Sgt. Bobby's Full of Hearts Club Band**, that is working to achieve a fundraising goal of \$81,000 between April 5th and June 18th. Every dollar counts as one vote for our campaign.

I experienced the realities of cancer from a very young age. I lost my grandmother to ovarian cancer, a childhood friend to several cancers, and Buddy, my golden retriever, to bone cancer. In July 2011, I lost my grandfather to leukemia at the age of 81 (hence our fundraising goal), and in March 2018 I lost my beloved brother Shaun to a heart attack at the age of 29. He had participated in an LLS Team in Training fundraiser in 2010 so it was surreal when, just two weeks before my own open heart surgery, I received this nomination for MWOY. The decision to accept was obvious. It was almost like Shaun and my grandpa were telling me to put my grief to good use.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society has invested close to \$1.3 billion in cancer research since 1949, and its primary focus is to find cures for leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma, and other blood cancers. Its current research initiatives focus on understanding how mutations can lead to blood cancers, how to prevent recurrence after treatment, and how preventing precursor diseases can prevent blood cancer. Past research has led to breakthroughs in immunotherapy, genomics, and personalized medicine. The LLS Children's Initiative is a \$100 million endeavor that is fighting for more pediatric research grants and clinical trials, expanding free education and support services to children and their families, and driving policies that break down barriers to pediatric care.

Our efforts will help fund life-saving cancer therapies and treatments. Over the years, support from people like you has been responsible for advancements that have doubled, tripled, and in some cases quadrupled the survival rate for some blood cancers. Many LLS supported therapies not only help blood cancer patients, but also treat patients with rare forms of stomach and skin cancers. Some of these therapies are in clinical trials for patients with lung, brain, breast, pancreatic, and prostate cancers. LLS funded drugs like targeted therapies and immunotherapies are now saving thousands of lives every day.

Any donation amount is incredibly appreciated, as well as tax deductible. Checks can be made payable to "The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society" and mailed directly to me at [REDACTED] 16610 S Hoover St., Gardena, CA [REDACTED] 90247. Please include "Casey Lewis L.A. MWOY Campaign" and the LLS Tax ID in the notes [REDACTED].

You can also donate online through my fundraising website, which I invite you to share with friends and family: <https://pages.lls.org/mwoy/calso/los21/clewis>.

Thank you for joining me in this fight against blood cancers!

"Grief, I've learned, is really just love. It's all the love you want to give, but cannot. All that unspent love gathers up in the corners of your eyes, the lump in your throat, and in that hollow part of your chest. Grief is just love with no place to go." - Jamie Anderson

Everyone wins when cancer loses.

Your friend,
Casey

Casey Lewis
Candidate, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Los Angeles Woman of the Year Competition
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

P.S. Does your company have a matching gift program that might be willing to match your donation?

P.P.S. Please reach out directly if you are interested in learning more about other ways to get involved in my campaign.