A Local Private Family Foundation Awards $2.4M to Battle Brain Cancer

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida - November 19, 2019

Rick and Susan Sontag want to fuel significant advances in brain cancer research.

Through their foundation, The Sontag Foundation, they have invested $35 million in support of brain cancer research. As one of the largest private funders of brain cancer research in the United States, the Foundation is proud to announce the 2019 award recipients of its annual signature grant, the Distinguished Scientist Award. The following award winners will receive $600,000 over four years to support his or her brain cancer research project:

Gilad D. Evrony, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor, Center for Human Genetics & Genomics
New York University School of Medicine

Mariella G. Filbin, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatric Oncology
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Steven A. Sloan MD, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Human Genetics
Emory University School of Medicine

Capucine Van Rechem, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology
Stanford University School of Medicine

“My laboratory is focused on developing new single-cell and other genomics technologies with the goal of identifying the cellular origins of brain tumors and the origins of other brain diseases whose causes remain a mystery. The Sontag Foundation’s support of high-risk research is vital to enabling the next generation of breakthroughs for brain cancer. Our lab is deeply grateful to be joining the Sontag community and its distinguished group of researchers,” stated Dr. Gilad D. Evrony.

As a 25-year survivor, Susan is the inspiration behind the work the Foundation is supporting. The Sontag family also launched the nonprofit, Brain Tumor Network (BTN), which helps patients in the United States navigate through the treatment of this terrible disease.

“Through a competitive process, we award grants to young scientists who demonstrate outstanding promise for making scientific and medical breakthroughs in brain cancer research. These grants also help accelerate their careers,” commented Rick Sontag, President.

To learn more about The Sontag Foundation, visit the website at www.sontagfoundation.org.

Contact: Shandra Koler, Senior Program Officer
904-273-8755 | skoler@sontagfoundation.org