



Sarcoma Cancer Ireland

Summer 2025

Dear Supporters,

As we step into the summer months, we're taking this opportunity to reflect on the progress made during the first part of 2025 and share our plans for the months ahead. The year is already shaping up to be one of meaningful growth and renewed energy, from expanding our support services to laying the groundwork for new initiatives and events.

Thank you to everyone who continues to walk this journey with us. Your commitment helps make every milestone possible.



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Supporting You Every Step of the Way

2025 Update

We are proud to continue offering meaningful, practical, and compassionate support to sarcoma patients and their families across Ireland. So far in 2025, we've been able to provide:

- 34 individual counselling sessions with our two dedicated professional counsellors
- 25 financial grants of €500 each for adult sarcoma patients in the Republic of Ireland
- Monthly online support sessions, including: a sarcoma patient support session led by Ann and a bereavement support session led by Peter
- In-person peer support groups in Dublin and Cork
- A pilot program for AYA (Adolescent and Young Adult) patients in Dublin and Cork, offering Just Eat vouchers to those undergoing long hospital stays

We're also working to expand our peer support groups nationwide, ensuring more patients and families have access to community and connection, no matter where they live.

Whether you're newly diagnosed, in treatment, recovering, or supporting someone with sarcoma, you are not alone.

Reach out to us anytime to learn more or access our support services.

If you're interested in helping us run a peer support group or would like to get involved, please email us at support@sarcoma.ie – we'd love to hear from you!

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Advocacy updates

ESMO Conference

The 2025 ESMO Sarcoma and Rare Cancers Congress took place from 20–22 March in Lugano, Switzerland. Representatives from Sarcoma Cancer Ireland were proud to attend and deliver a presentation on the importance of patient advocacy.

Bringing together top oncologists, researchers, pathologists, patient advocates, and other healthcare professionals, the congress fostered lively discussions and collaborations aimed at improving outcomes for people living with sarcomas and rare cancers.



Advocacy updates

SPAGN Conference

From 11–13 April 2025, the global sarcoma advocacy community gathered in Washington, DC, for the 15th SPAGN Annual Conference.

Over 120 patient advocates, medical experts, and partner organisations from nearly 30 countries came together to connect, learn, and collaborate — including representatives from Sarcoma Cancer Ireland.

The conference highlighted the critical importance of cross-border collaboration, knowledge exchange, and patient involvement in every aspect of sarcoma care and research. By sharing experiences, challenges, and solutions, participants left more informed, empowered, and united in their efforts to support the global sarcoma community.



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Fundraising Updates

Seeds for Sarcoma - Planting Hope

This spring, we introduced **Seeds for Sarcoma**, a special awareness and fundraising campaign offering beautifully packaged sunflower seed packs for just €5.00 each.

More than just seeds, these sunflowers are a powerful symbol of strength, resilience, and hope, representing a growing community united in support of those affected by sarcoma. Each bloom serves as a reminder of perseverance and the impact we can make when we come together.



By planting Seeds for Sarcoma, supporters are not only helping to raise vital awareness, but also standing in solidarity with patients and families across Ireland.

Thank you to everyone who joined us in planting hope this year. You can order your seed packs here: [Seed for Sarcoma](#)

Step into Spring - Walking Challenge

This March, supporters across Ireland laced up their shoes for **Step Into Spring** – Walk a Mile a Day for Sarcoma. Participants committed to walking one mile every day throughout the month, raising awareness and vital funds for sarcoma support along the way.

With every mile, they helped shine a light on sarcoma while showing solidarity with those affected. Each participant received a free t-shirt and a certificate of completion — but more importantly, they became part of a movement walking toward hope, connection, and change.

Fundraising Updates

Garden of Giving - A Blooming Success

On the 6th and 7th of June, longtime supporter Liz hosted a beautiful **Garden of Giving** fundraiser at her home in Co. Kildare. Over two days, friends, family, and neighbours gathered in her stunning garden to enjoy tea, treats, and heartfelt conversation — all while raising vital funds for Sarcoma Cancer Ireland. The event was a perfect reflection of the community spirit at the heart of our work, combining sunshine, generosity, and togetherness. Huge thanks to Liz for her creativity, kindness, and dedication to supporting patients and families affected by sarcoma.



Garden of Giving
In Memory of Sadhbh Hogan · In Support of Sarcoma Cancer Ireland
Join us in Liz's garden for a special charity event.
Date: 6th and 7th June, 10am - 5pm
Address: 27 The Paddocks, Naas, W91 HXKI
In June 2020, I lost my beautiful daughter Sadhbh to Sarcoma cancer. Shortly before she died, she encouraged me to use my love of gardening to help others.
I've potted up hanging baskets, window boxes, patio pots, sunflowers, and a wide variety of perennials — something for everyone who loves flowers.
How it works:
Come browse the garden, choose a pot to take home, enjoy tea/coffee, cake and a chat, and make a donation.
Your support will help Sarcoma Cancer Ireland make a difference in the lives of families affected by this rare cancer.
Donations
In person on the day, or online via the QR code

Marathon Milestones

A huge well done to all the incredible women who took part in the **VHI Women's Mini Marathon** and the **Cork City Marathon** this year in support of Sarcoma Cancer Ireland. Thank you for being such powerful advocates and for every mile you ran for hope, awareness, and support.



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Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities

The Big Yellow Picnic



We're inviting you to host your own **Big Yellow Picnic** anytime during July to help raise awareness for sarcoma in a simple, joyful way. Whether it's a coffee morning, a garden get-together, or a full picnic spread, it's a chance to come together with family, friends, and your community.

We'll even send you a free picnic pack with goodies like tablecloths, plates, and decorations to make your event extra special. Sarcoma doesn't just affect the patient — it touches everyone around them. So let's gather, connect, and show support in sunshine and solidarity. 🍷 For more information and to register your picnic, visit www.sarcoma.ie

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Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities

Patient Information Day



Sunflower Ball



We've had a busy start to the year, and there's still so much to look forward to. Whether you're planning a picnic, joining us at an event, or simply cheering us on from home, thank you for being part of this journey. Together, we're making a difference—one step, sunflower, and smile at a time.



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