

October 28, 2004

Dear Friends:

It is my great pleasure to announce the kick-off for this year's Hopkins 4K for Cancer to benefit the American Cancer Society.

Hopkins 4K for Cancer began in the fall 2001 when co-founders Leah Blom and Ryan Hanley, then sophomores at Johns Hopkins University decided they wanted to be a part of the fight against cancer. Their passion to make a difference motivated them to cycle across the United States. This 4,000-mile journey from Baltimore to San Francisco was inspired by the memory of Ryan's father, John Hanley, who lost his battle with cancer in 1995. In the past three years, over \$160,000 has been donated to your American Cancer Society!

In addition to the bike ride, students have also shared a special connection to the American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge. Hope Lodge is a home-away-fromhome for cancer patients while they are undergoing treatment in Baltimore. Students play a very important role in the lives of Hope Lodge residents. They have prepared meals, played games, decorated for the holidays and much, much more! Cancer patients find inspiration and joy when students share their stories of the cross-country ride and life as a college student.

For more information, please contact co-directors Franca Kraeznlin and Travis Snow at <u>contact@hopkins4k.org</u>. We urge you to join us in supporting Hopkins 4K for Cancer!

Kindly yours,

Gloria Jetter Regional Executive Director American Cancer Society