



Name: Deanna Abrams

Role on PPFAC: Co-Chair, Pediatric Council

What do you do for work (or hobby or passion)?

Formally, I sell insurance and retirement products. Although it's not my passion, I do enjoy the aspect of my career which allows me to help people plan for the future and protect their lives, their assets, and their legacies. Outside of work, I am an avid reader, and I am most happy spending time with my sons and husband!

What brought you to the Patient and Family Advisory Council?

I was approached by a member to check out the Patient and Family Advisory Council, as she thought I'd be a great addition. During our time as a patient family, advocacy was integral to our experience, and I still feel strongly that all patients deserve to be heard throughout their diagnosis, treatment, and beyond. It's this desire to help the patient voice be heard that led me to seek out membership in the Patient and Family Advisory Council.

Why is the council's work important to you?

The work we do, from the seemingly small to the mighty, is all very important to me because we are helping to continue the tradition of excellence that Dana-Farber has established. We are ensuring that future patients feel valued and important, and that they have a voice in all aspects of their experience.

What do you bring to the council?

To the council I bring many years of experience in sales, public speaking, and 7 years of patient advocacy for the most important patient in my life ... my daughter. I also bring the perspective of a patient family that was involved with Dana-Farber treatments for over 6 years while spending most of that time inpatient at Boston Children's. Having such an intense and prolonged experience on both sides of the street, I have seen both sides of the coin and can speak with fair confidence to both the inpatient and outpatient experience.