



Name: **Mark Pettengill**

Role on PPFAC: **Pedi PPFAC Co-Chair**

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

I work at Dana-Farber in their Informatics department. I've been in software and high-tech for most of my career, but it's been great to be able to give back more recently in a hospital setting. Outside of work I enjoy time with my daughters as well as running, hiking, and travel.

What brought you to the Patient and Family Advisory Council?

My daughter Sophie was diagnosed when she was two and this brought our family into Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. During her treatment I wondered how I could help

other parents and families in the future going through this experience. It felt like such a wonderful community but there also seemed there were many ways to help make it even better: understanding the different needs of families and caregivers coming from different backgrounds, helping build more options for communication, and advocating for newly diagnosed families just starting the process.

Why is the Council's work important to you?

The Family and Advisory Council helps center the patient's perspective in the hospital's work. One of Dana-Farber's most important differentiators is their attention to each patient, their caregivers, and their family so all the key people feel supported and can then give their best during a very challenging time to ensure the best patient outcome.

What do you bring to the Council?

I hope I can help bring some context to new families going through treatment, having done it before but also help bring a caregiver perspective to staff in their decision making.

One of my favorite experiences has been introducing two families going through inpatient treatment so they can learn from and share with each other.