



A DOCUMENTARY FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION

**Infertility ** Finances ** Fear ** Faith
Hope ** Treatment ** Survival ** Sexuality
Family Relationships ** Career ** Future**

Chasing Rainbows - Young Adults Living With Cancer takes an honest, upbeat look at these topics and others. The unique format of this screening/discussion event provides a valuable opportunity for candid conversation and insight into the specific challenges faced by young adult cancer patients, their medical support teams, caregivers, friends and families.

“I could relate only too well to the ever-shifting phases of fear, anger, hope and sadness... I felt as though I was at a support group meeting, nodding along with people who truly get it.”

-- Karin DuBois (25), Cancer Survivor

Each screening event includes:

- Introduction by director/producer Pat Taylor
- Live music by singer-songwriter (and co-producer) Michael Booth Palmer
- Discussion featuring a local young adult cancer survivor and other speakers knowledgeable about the issues and resources available to young people in the area

Please see next page for details.

“There are few resources for this age group. This documentary can help so much by validating a young person's experience of living with cancer, helping them feel less isolated.”

-- Sarah Sample, BC Cancer Agency Patient and Family Counseling Services



www.chasingrainbowsproduction.com

EVENT INFORMATION

Chasing Rainbows Screening & Discussion:

The purpose of these events is to give a voice to young adults living with and surviving cancer, and to raise awareness - with medical professionals and the general public - of the issues and resources that are specific to this age group.

Each *Chasing Rainbows* screening follows the following basic format, which can be easily adapted according to the specific needs and resources available in any given location:

1. **Introduction** by producer/director Pat Taylor
2. **Screening** of *Chasing Rainbows - Young Adults Living With Cancer* (approx. 45 minutes)
3. **Live performance** of the film's theme song, "Chasing Rainbows" by singer/songwriter Michael Booth Palmer, creating an emotional segue into the film and the follow-up discussion.
4. **Discussion** moderated by Pat Taylor, featuring a local young adult cancer survivor and up to 3 other speakers (e.g. social worker, research scientist, medical professional)
5. **Closing song** by Michael Booth Palmer

"Thank you for giving Blair the opportunity to speak at your *Chasing Rainbows* screening. It was one of the best things that I have seen happen to him. When we watched the DVD, it was the first time that I saw Blair show any type of emotion about his experience with cancer. I believe that his involvement in the presentation was a sort of healing /support for Blair; he felt part of something. We are all so proud of him." -- Alice Zimmer, caregiver

ABOUT THE FILM:

When **Sara Taylor Gibson** was diagnosed with a rare and deadly form of cancer at age 23, she went looking in cancer agency libraries for resources that would address the particular issues that she faced, as a young adult with a life-threatening disease. Almost everything she found was targeted at patients decades older than she, people who were at very different stages in their lives - professionally, socially and emotionally. Sara decided that she wanted to change that. She agreed to have her two-and-a-half year struggle with cancer documented by filmmaker Shel Piercy in *Sara's Story* (2000). During filming, Sara hosted a three-hour living room discussion with five other young people, of which only a few seconds ended up in the final cut of *Sara's Story*. Sara made it her goal to put this footage on a separate DVD and distribute it to cancer agency libraries and resource centres throughout BC, Canada, the USA and, "if we have time" (she said) Europe. Thus, the idea for *Chasing Rainbows: Young Adults Living With Cancer* was born. Producer/director **Pat Taylor** has edited the footage into a 43-minute documentary, enhanced with animation by **Derek Cummings**, evocative original songs by **Michael Booth Palmer** and underscoring by **Edward Henderson**. The result is a dynamic, intimate portrait of six young people who are "living life while fighting for it."

With passion and infectious laughter, the six participants in *Chasing Rainbows* provide a unique and refreshing perspective on what it's like to live with cancer when you're young. They discuss hope, fear, faith, sexuality, infertility, family relationships, finances, survival, the future and more. Their stories are an invaluable source of information, inspiration and hope not only for other young adults facing life-threatening illness, but also for their families, friends, medical support teams and caregivers.

"Chasing Rainbows was perfect. It addressed every issue that young adults deal with. I think it is an unbelievable resource, especially for those who don't have access to (support) groups."

-- Meghan Black (29), Three-time Cancer Survivor

Interested in booking a screening in your area?

Please contact Pat Taylor at 604.228.9792 or blackmoonlady@shaw.ca.

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