

Berit Eberhardt – February 2016

Das Lebenshaus e.V. (Germany) GIST – Sarcomas – Kidney Cancer

Berit Eberhardt is Manager Kidney Cancer of the charitable patient advocacy organisation, Das Lebenshaus e.V. (The House of Life Association), a German non-profit organisation. Das Lebenshaus e.V. supports patients with rare solid tumours such as kidney cancer, gastrointestinal stromal tumour (GIST) and soft tissue sarcomas.

After an apprenticeship and working as assistant manager for many years Berit Eberhardt studied economics and worked in project management in a global IT section. In 2009 her significant other got diagnosed with Kidney. During his treatment she learned a lot about the disease and its therapy, she also got familiar with the needs of other patients and caregivers in the same situation. Unfortunately he died just one year after his diagnosis at the age of 39.

After his death she decided to share her knowledge establishing a patient support group in Berlin - her home town. Shortly after that she became Manager Kidney Cancer of Das Lebenshaus e.V.

At Das Lebenshaus she designs, organizes and implements all measures and activities for Kidney Cancer patients in cooperation with patients, their caregivers and the Medical Scientific Advisory Board.

Her personal background allows her to adapt to the individual situation and the needs of those seeking help, taking into account the level of knowledge of the person seeking assistance.

Through numerous trainings, participation at medical conferences and the steady exchange with international and interdisciplinary kidney cancer experts she was able to establish a substantial network. This network helps her to pass on the newest findings and insights about kidney cancer to the German Kidney Cancer patients and caregivers on daily basis.

Furthermore, she represents the patient perspective in the German RCC Guidelines, and speaks about diverse Kidney Cancer related topics at German, EU and global meetings

Since 2010, Berit Eberhardt also been involved with the International Kidney Cancer Coalition (www.ikcc.org) – a foundation located in the Netherlands. The IKCC is a global network of independent Kidney Cancer Patient Organizations to improve the lives of Patients at each national level. The IKCC holds an annual global Conference 'EXPANDING CIRCLES'. In the IKCC Berit belongs to the board of directors.

Berit is a compassionate and passionate advocate. Her interest in kidney cancer propels her to raise awareness so that people in need are connected to resources when they exist, and that attention is drawn to highlight service gaps when services to improve quality of life are absent. For this purpose she's working persistently, establishing new ideas and materials how to better support those affected by kidney cancer

For more information please take a look at the website of Das Lebenshaus:

<http://www.lh-nierenkrebs.org>

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