Program: Youth ambassador program

Mission: Match patients with peer support

Explanation of need: It is apparent that there is a lack of peer support for young adults living with PFIC. Many of these young adults were young children when their parents first found any peer support forum where the focus can be on the caregiver. While many have joined the peer support group alongside their parents, there has not been a space or any formalised way for young adults to express themselves and connect with others their age also living with PFIC.

Description of program: This program will identify young adults with a passion for advocacy; to lead and create spaces and opportunities for PFIC teens to connect. Through the inaugural PFIC family conference two teens living with PFIC stepped forward to work closely with the PFIC Network board to lead this program. The accessibility of social media and its ability to connect people worldwide has allowed this program to commence under the guidance and mentorship of the PFIC Network. The program will serve to give PFIC teens and young adults the space and the resources needed so they can connect with others who also have PFIC. This program allows PFIC youth their own voice to express their journey with their peers through social media and will create opportunities for in person retreats.

Who can volunteer for this program: Any young person living with PFIC who has the drive and motivation to lead and help program peer support or specific opportunities.

Approximate time commitment: One-hour phone meeting every other month; approximately one hour a week organising and communicating with PFIC youth. Time commitment may increase when organising specific events such as meet ups.