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Founder of Steve Rummler Hope Foundation Invited to Presidential Signing of 21st Century Cures Act

WASHINGTON – Judy Rummler, Edina, Minn. resident and the Founder of the Minnesota nonprofit, Steve Rummler Hope Foundation, has been invited to the signing of the [21st Century Cures Act](#) by President Barack Obama. Drug overdoses are the leading cause of accidental death in the U.S. with majority opioid related. In 2015, 33,091 people died of an opioid overdose nationally and [330 died in Minnesota](#) (including heroin). Among funding for medical innovations and research, the \$6.3 billion bill includes \$1 billion to be allocated towards the treatment and prevention of opioid dependence and overdose, the epidemic that the Steve Rummler Hope Foundation works to eradicate in Minnesota communities and beyond.

The signing is scheduled to take place at 2:00 today at the White House. She was invited because of the work she and the Steve Rummler Hope Foundation did in support of the President's budget request of \$1 billion for opioid addiction treatment. According to the invitation from the President, other attendees include "dignities and celebrities."

Judy's presence at the signing represents a milestone in her contribution to bringing awareness to the issue. Each year since 2013 she and members of her grass roots coalition, FED UP!, a national coalition derived from the Steve Rummler Hope Foundation, have marched on Capitol Hill and the Washington Mall to advocate for a systematic change in the way chronic pain patients and people with addiction receive treatment and to promote smarter legislation surrounding these issues. The invitation from the President indicates that her efforts have not gone unnoticed.

"I was honored to receive an invitation to the signing of the bill at the White House because it included the \$1 billion for opioid addiction treatment that I had worked so hard for." – Judy Rummler

In [a statement](#) released by the Office of the Press Secretary, the bill was described as a "critically important legislation [that] will get states the resources they need to fight the heroin and prescription opioid epidemic. It invests the \$1 billion the President has repeatedly said is necessary to help communities that have seen far too many overdoses."

At the signing, she does not only serve as a representative of the Steve Rummler Hope Foundation, but for many of those across the nation that have lost loved ones due to this epidemic.

MORE



Founder and President of Steve Rummler Hope Foundation Invited to Presidential Signing of 21st Century Cures Act

About Judy and the Steve Rummler Hope Foundation:

Judy is the mother of Steve Rummler who died on July 1, 2011 of an accidental drug overdose. Steve had suffered with chronic pain for fifteen years and had become addicted to the medications that were prescribed to him for his pain. Shortly after Steve's death, Judy and her husband Bill founded the Steve Rummler Hope Foundation whose mission is to heighten awareness of the dilemma of chronic pain and the disease of addiction and to improve the associated care process. After discovering that Steve's tragic death was part of a nationwide epidemic of opioid addiction and overdose deaths, Judy researched ways that she could bring change. This led to the passage of Good Samaritan and Naloxone legislation (Steve's Law) in Minnesota and trips to the FDA to advocate for safer labeling and scheduling of these drugs.

The mission of the Steve Rummler Hope Foundation is to heighten awareness of the dilemma of chronic pain and the disease of addiction and to improve the associated care process. Our goals are (1) a public that wants action to end the epidemic of addiction and overdose deaths, (2) healthcare professionals who are educated in and practice responsible prescribing, (3) pain patients who receive treatment focused on wellness rather than drugs, and (4) health care that offers easy access to compassionate, evidence-based addiction treatment. For more information contact Sean O'Donnell at (612)850-3107 or Lexi Reed Holtum at 651.308.8122 and visit our media kit page at <http://steverummlerhopefoundation.org/media-kit/>.

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