

Hello, my name is Sara and I live in Guilford, Connecticut. Thank you for the opportunity to share with you how Cannabis has played a part in my life.

At the age of 4, my niece was given the devastating diagnosis of ALL Leukemia. She completed 2.5 years of treatments and was considered cancer free finally. She only got to "be a kid" again for 14 months though. She started developing symptoms again and we feared a relapse. It was not a relapse though, it was a new type of cancer. My niece was diagnosed with AML Leukemia which was a direct result of the chemo that she had received. The very thing that we thought had saved her life had now given her an even more aggressive cancer. Our family was devastated. This AML diagnosis came in December of 2014 and by April of 2015 she was headed to Boston for a bone marrow transplant. The procedure went well and she was once again declared cancer free. That didn't last long though. In October of 2015 she had relapsed. Once again our family was devastated. This time we were told that there was no cure. There were no further treatments for this aggressive cancer.

That is when we decided to try cannabis oil. Slowly but surely she started feeling better. Her test results were improving to the point of the doctors using words like "miraculous". The little girl who had been sent home from the hospital with "a couple good weeks left" back in November is still going strong! The doctors told us that she would not live to see the New Year. Not only has her life been extended but her quality of life has been greatly improved since starting Cannabis oil. Her appetite has been great! She has only needed minimal blood and platelet transfusions. Best of all, she went from accepting that she was going to die to believing that she could keep fighting! We do not know what the future holds but we are grateful for every second of every day that we have her here with us.

Please consider my family and all of the other families in Connecticut that are under similar unfortunate circumstances. We need safe access to Medical Marijuana for our children who are suffering. We need to be able to enter the dispensaries and consult with the pharmacists there to ensure that we are giving our children the proper medicine. Caregivers also need the right to grow a small quantity of medicine for their loved ones. The dispensary products are very expensive and many families cannot afford them. These are families that are most likely already having financial problems due to having a seriously ill child.

Thank you so much for your time. I look forward to hearing your decision on this matter that is so close to my heart.

Sincerely,
Sara