

## In Memoriam – Dr. Katie Manders

Dal Notice <DAL-NOTICE@LISTS.DAL.CA>

on behalf of

Dalhousie Notice <notice@DAL.CA>

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To: DAL-NOTICE@LISTS.DAL.CA <DAL-NOTICE@LISTS.DAL.CA>

### In Memoriam – Dr. Katie Manders

Dr. Katherine Manders passed away unexpectedly on January 29 at the age of 37. After completing her psychiatry residency at Dalhousie in 2012, Katie most recently worked as the psychiatrist at Student Health Services, a post she held for over two years.

Before coming to Halifax, Katie earned her B.Sc. in her hometown of Vancouver at UBC followed by her MD from Queen's University. Upon her arrival on the East Coast, Katie became the chapter vice-president of Muscular Dystrophy (M.D.) Canada.

Having lived with the symptoms of Fascioscapulohumeral M.D. since infancy, Katie continually sought to educate others on her disease, be they patients, peers, or supervisors. Katie helped start discussions around M.D. with a 2006 publication in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*: "Optimism born out of circumstance." Her 2015 article "MD vs. MD: A doctor's lifelong struggle with muscular dystrophy" in the *Chronicle Herald* also helped promote the annual Walk for Muscular Dystrophy in Halifax.

Needing a power wheelchair full-time in the last few years couldn't stop Katie from following her passions, as she continued to travel the world and serve as a national board member for Muscular Dystrophy Canada. In her spare time, Katie enjoyed sailing and figure skating. While M.D. no longer allowed her to get on the ice, Katie's passion for the sport continued, as she had taken friends to watch the Canadian Skating Championships in Halifax a week prior to her death.

Katie will be dearly missed by the Dalhousie community, her student patients, and beyond.

In addition to the service in Vancouver organized by Katie's family, Dalhousie will host a celebration of Dr. Manders' life on Thursday, February 11, from 6–8pm in the atrium of LeMarchant Place (1246 LeMarchant St.). In lieu of flowers, her family asks that donations be made in Katie's memory to Muscular Dystrophy Canada at [www.muscle.ca](http://www.muscle.ca).