



Volunteer Spotlight

BBDF would like to thank Debby Oatman for helping raise over **\$1,000** for Batten disease research. Debby and her family traveled to San Francisco to participate in the full and half marathons. By choosing to join Team Beyond Batten, Debby turned the race into an opportunity to help her swim student, Christiane. Debby says:

“A number of years ago I met Christiane and the rest of the Benson family. Christiane and her younger brother came to me for swim lessons and they were a pleasure to work with. A year or so later when Christiane came back for lessons, her mom told me of the heartbreaking diagnosis they had received regarding their daughter. It was all I could do not to just hold Christiane tightly to me and want to protect her from all that was to come, so I can only imagine her parents’ feelings. Since that day I have wanted to do something more substantial to try to help Christiane. When we decided as a family to go to San Francisco and participate in the Full and Half Marathons, the time seemed right to turn a fun family vacation into something more. I want to thank the folks at Beyond Batten Disease Foundation for their support in my fundraising efforts and also to the many friends, relatives and parents of other swim students of mine for their gracious donations.”

Thanks Debby! To learn more about joining Team Beyond Batten and helping raise money for treatments and a cure for Batten disease, please visit www.beyondbatten.org.

