

SFGWDC PARTNERS WITH RADIO STATION to increase awareness about scleroderma

The Scleroderma Foundation Greater Washington, DC (SFGWDC) chapter is pleased to announce a new media partnership to increase awareness about scleroderma.

Leonora Snead is the CEO of Trinitee Entertainment and the host of the "**Miss Lee Experience**" radio program. Snead focuses on bringing her audience quality programming in radio, print, and television/film that will inspire, motivate, and encourage individuals to be impactful in their daily lives. Snead is also the daughter of a scleroderma patient and the sister of a lupus patient. The logo of the "Miss Lee Experience" has two colors, teal and purple, representing scleroderma and lupus.



"We are so excited and grateful to partner with Leonora Snead," said SFGWDC Executive Director Carole Bernard. "This is a wonderful platform to inform and educate individuals about scleroderma and the chapter's activities and resources for scleroderma patients, their family members and caregivers."

"The Miss Lee Experience" airs live on BlogTalk Radio on Friday Nights from 8-9:30pm EST. For more information, click [here](#) to visit the website.

Read more in the third article below to learn more about Leonora Snead and her mother's journey with scleroderma.

DR. VIRGINIA STEEN INTERVIEW on "Miss Lee Experience" Radio Station on March 17th



SFGWDC has arranged for **Dr. Virginia Steen of Georgetown University Hospital** to be the first of many scleroderma interviews with the chapter's new media partner. As a member of SFGWDC's Medical and Scientific Advisory Board, Steen will provide Leonora Snead's listeners with a overview of scleroderma and information about current research projects for scleroderma patients.

Dr. Steen's interview is on Friday, March 17 at 9:20pm EST. To access the interview, just click [here](#) to listen on your computer!

SFGWDC Executive Director Carole Bernard will be interviewed in May to build awareness about the **May 20th Stepping Out to Cure Scleroderma Greater Baltimore 5K Walk/Run**. Stay tuned!

LEONOARA SNEAD'S SCLERODERMA JOURNEY with her mother Denise Snead



Leonora Snead was born and raised in Newark, NJ and has always had a passion for mass communications.

"My dad used to read the comics and the newspapers to me as a baby," she says. "This helped to inspire my love for radio, television, and print journalism." Snead obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications with a Minor in English studies. After college, she created her alter-ego, "Miss Lee." She had a passion to impact the world with her love of media and knew there was a way to combine her passion with causes that were important to her.

In March 1998, her mother **Denise Snead** was officially diagnosed with scleroderma, and her sister **Sherice Snead-Jones** was diagnosed with lupus in December 2015.

Denise Snead was born July 13, 1960 in Newark NJ. As a middle child, she often struggled with the "middle child" syndrome, but always fought for her happiness in life and aspired for greatness. She was accepted into college in Florida, but could not afford to go. She then met her husband David Snead and became a mother to two girls. Her marriage ended in 1998, and towards the end of her marriage there were some health challenges.



She was first treated and tested for multiple sclerosis, and after a few tests, she was finally diagnosed with scleroderma. "When my mom was diagnosed, she didn't tell my sister and I much about scleroderma," says Leonora. "All I really knew was that there was no cure, and there had to be changes to her lifestyle." Denise had to eat differently. The winters and weather changes affected her negatively, and she was sensitive to sunlight and temperature among other changes. "My mom went through so many different treatments, from holistic to experimental, to medical, and even taking a break from medicine all together. I never understood what was really going on with her. At times it seemed like she was a guinea pig - being tested and put on various medicines to control scleroderma, including chemotherapy."

Leonora says she has seen her mother change physically, mentally and spiritually. Even though her physical health is not as strong as it was, her mental and spiritual health have become the strongest. "My sister, dad, and I have seen her fight through the hair loss, weight loss and gain, skin changes, surgeries, lung issues, hospital stays, and rehabilitation stays - and through it all we have appreciated her strength, courage and tenacity." Denise is a strong example of a scleroderma fighter who understands her body and is still learning along the way - oxygen tank and all. She tells her daughters all the time, "Don't let my situation stop you from achieving your dreams".

"My mom and my sister are the fuel to my movement," says Leonora. "She has always been open and positive to those who criticize her appearance, stare, and judge. We know that there is more struggle ahead, and each day she prays for a cure, a new treatment, and opportunities to overcome it." Denise's next fight is to get strong enough so she can potentially be a candidate for a lung transplant, as scleroderma is now affecting her lungs.

"My mom has also been the first to educate those who treated her negatively. It's important that we all do our share to educate, inform and support all that is in the fight. Let's continue to do our part - big or small. Every little bit helps."

[DONATE NOW](#)

SIGN UP FOR EMAILS

SHARE THIS EMAIL

Scleroderma Foundation Greater Washington, DC Chapter

cbernard@scleroderma.org

