

## **Example of a social impact story from an adult living with Spina Bifida:**

Subject Line: I lost a leg because I couldn't find a health care

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I've seen your stories and know you care about people who are underserved medically. I'm one of those people.

I'm a 50 year old with Spina Bifida and I lost a leg to a pressure sore that would not heal. I'm a medical professional; I know my way around in the health care world and I could not find care in time to save my leg.

I am now faced with wounds and pressure sores on my other leg and continue my search. I'd love to tell you my story.

Keep fighting the good fight,

## **Example of a social impact story from a family member of someone living with Spina Bifida:**

Subject line: I'm relieved graduation was cancelled

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I've enjoyed your reporting on how celebrations and milestones have been different since the pandemic.

My story is a little different. My daughter, Julia, is an 18 year old with Spina Bifida. When Julia was born we had no idea what her future held. I remember thinking "if she can just graduate from high school." And she did! Regardless of pomp and circumstance. But it hasn't been easy and it isn't the same. This year, when South High School's 2020 graduation was changed to be virtual, I felt relief.

Proms and award nights and coronations are vivid reminders of her differences. The photos and the posts are like salt in a wound that never quite heals. I tune them out and focus on the good. I grieve for what she misses and am thankful for what she has. This month is Spina Bifida Awareness Month and I'd love to share more about you with Julia's life, the things we've dealt with in this community, and the future we're looking forward to.

Best,