



**STR\*NGER Than SARC\*ID\*SIS**

**Kerry L. Wong**

*Vice President*

Kerry was diagnosed with **sarcoidosis** in October 2015, after an 8 year journey searching for answers. Along the way, she has also been diagnosed with arthritis, fibromyalgia, Hashimoto's (hypothyroid), and small fiber neuropathy, in addition to chronic migraine, endometriosis, and IBS that she'd already been living with. She has become disabled as a result of these conditions, but because most are what's known as invisible illnesses, Kerry does not appear ill.

Since becoming chronically ill herself, Kerry has shared her experience through her personal blog [Float Like a Buttafly](#) (select pieces reprinted on our blog page here). She has also had a number of articles published by *The Mighty*, as well as a recent feature in *Westchester Wellness* magazine. She has also traveled the country for sarcoidosis related speaking engagements. Her goals are to help other chronic illness warriors know they are not alone in their experience, and to help those who care about us to get a better understanding of what it is that we are going through.

Kerry has been involved as a patient advocate on many levels, with organizations including Arthritis Foundation, Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research, International Foundation for Autoimmune/ Autoinflammatory Arthritis, Savvy Cooperative, US Pain Foundation, WEGO Health, and more (in addition to both working and volunteering in the field before she got sick). She has led her state's delegation in both State and US Capitols to discuss legislative issues, and started the first sarcoidosis support group and sarcoidosis awareness event in Westchester County, NY.

*Kerry lives in Westchester, NY with her husband Michael, who is both her greatest supporter and her #1 fan. Her mom, Iris, lives nearby in Queens, and is always ready, willing, and able to be there, even when that must be from afar.*

