



LEUKEMIA &
LYMPHOMA
SOCIETY

**TEAM IN
TRAINING**

Andrew Ortner

Mission Captain

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My name is Andrew Ortner, and I am your Mission Captain for the Spring Season. A Southern California native, I've always wanted to run a marathon. However, I was out of shape and really wanted to get the proper training. I've also worked with many charitable organizations in the past, and am always looking for a way to get back into it. Team in Training offered me the perfect solution to both my goals.

Of course, completing a marathon was easier said than done. I set my goal at completing a half marathon, but even then, I wasn't sure I actually could do it. However, with the training and support I received from the TNT coaches, staff and volunteers, I was able to achieve my goal. I completed the 2011 Disneyland Half Marathon, and now I'm hooked. I've set my sights on running a marathon, and after my experience with TNT, I know I'll be able to accomplish it.

I was inspired to come back to TNT as the Mission Captain after my season as a participant because of the connection I felt to the cause behind Team in Training. Although I started this journey out of a desire to complete an endurance event and do more general charitable work, I found myself more and more drawn to TNT's specific mission. Each week, we had "Mission Moments" where participants and volunteers shared their reasons for joining TNT. These mission moments became a highlight for me because I loved feeling a real connection to the cause. Hearing how my running and fundraising made a real difference in people's lives made the experience even more meaningful.

I look forward to sharing this experience with all of you this season. Go Team!

