

## Ferne Robin Executive Director National Scleroderma Foundation Southeast Florida Chapter



I am Ferne Robin, Executive Director of the National Scleroderma Foundation Southeast Florida Chapter. I have been a member of BCOA for over ten years and joined when I started working for the foundation.

Many in our Scleroderma community are seniors and BCOA has afforded me the opportunity to meet other members who may be of service to people with scleroderma. I have been on the board for seven years and treasure the friendships I have made during this time.

I grew up in Scranton, PA and met my husband while student teaching Russian in Philadelphia. We celebrated our 51<sup>st</sup> Anniversary on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. We have lived in Coral Springs, Coconut Creek and now in Pompano Beach for 41 years. We have two incredible daughters who have given us 5 reasons to be proud - our grandchildren. Our oldest was the class valedictorian at Northeast High School in Fort Lauderdale this year. He also has an AA from Broward College.

I found out what I wanted to do when I grew up at 62 years old. I spent most of my adult life as an entrepreneur in children's clothing and printing before volunteering for the foundation and realizing this is where I am meant to be. I am blessed to work with and help a remarkable community of people with scleroderma.

The photo was taken on World Scleroderma Day 2022 with my work family at the lighting of the Las Olas Garage, thanks to the City of Fort Lauderdale.