OVERWHELMED WITH GRATITUDE

“We started with the conventional hemodialysis machine, but because of the severity and instability of the child, it was very difficult to dialyze him,” explained Dr. Renata Seixas.

Seixas was talking about a young boy she treated at Sorocaba, Brazil’s pediatric cancer hospital, Grupo de Pesquisa e Assistência ao Câncer Infantil, better known as GPACI. The hospital provides cancer treatment for children from families that may not be able to afford care elsewhere. With more and more children needing care, the hospital’s equipment couldn’t keep up.

Local Lions, no strangers to the hospital, knew they needed to help. With a nearly US$99,000 Matching grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), Lions helped update the hospital, facilitating better care for more patients. Soon after the equipment was installed, the hospital received a patient with advanced-stage cancer. “Surely without the new machine, he would have died,” said Seixas. “That alone was worth the project.”

Every 2 minutes, a child is diagnosed with cancer

Childhood Cancer

lcif.org
Leukemia 48.7
Lymphomas 16.7
Central nervous system tumors 23

LCIF is the grant-making body empowering Lions to create greater impact in their communities and around the world. The vast majority of funding LCIF receives is from Lions; one hundred percent of every donation supports Lions service through LCIF grants and programs. Childhood cancer is just one cause area supported by LCIF and Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service. With financial support from Lions and clubs worldwide, Campaign 100 is empowering Lions to increase service impact in vision, youth, disaster relief, and humanitarian efforts; fight the global epidemic of diabetes; and make important progress in expanded cause areas of childhood cancer, hunger, and the environment.

lcif.org/childhoodcancer

SOURCES/NOTE: 1St. Baldrick’s Foundation; 2World Health Organization; 3ArcGIS; 4Cancer Atlas; 5Pan American Health Organization; 6The Lancet; 7United Nations; 8American Childhood Cancer Organization; grant limits subject to change