Every 2 minutes, a child is diagnosed with cancer.

RESTORING A HOSPITAL AND HOPE

For nearly 60 years, young cancer patients have received treatment at Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital in Cape Town, a beacon of hope as one of only four specialty children’s hospitals on the African Continent. Over time, the hospital’s Childhood Cancer and Haematology Unit degraded, leaving 250,000 patients and families served annually to endure their darkest hours in less than optimum conditions.

With a US$14,500 Matching grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) doubling their own contributions, Lions facilitated the unit’s first upgrade since 2005, transforming a single outdated consulting room into two modern family patient consulting spaces dedicated to the steadily rising number of critically ill youngsters. An estimated 16,000 children will benefit from the good made possible by Lions and LCIF over the next five years.

A US$14,500 LCIF grant doubled Lions’ financial contributions and impact on young cancer patients.

“Learning of children with life-threatening conditions is gut-wrenching,” said Past District Governor Clive Fox, who managed the project, “but seeing children playing and smiling in the unit is heart-warming.”
The True Story May Not be Known

It is difficult to have a comprehensive picture of childhood cancer, as cancer registries are generally not available in most low- and middle-income countries. Additionally, many cases of childhood cancer go undiagnosed and thus undocumented. This is what is known:

- **100,000 CHILDREN+** in Sub-Saharan Africa develop cancer annually
- **90%** of these children die

**BURKITT LYMPHOMA** occurs most frequently in equatorial Africa where exposure to Epstein-Barr virus and malaria are prevalent.

**LOWER SURVIVAL RATES** in low- and middle-income countries can be attributed to inability to obtain accurate diagnosis, and lack of access to essential medicine and technology.

**THAT’S AFRICA. GLOBALLY, CHILDHOOD CANCER LOOKS LIKE THIS:**

- As many as **57%** of childhood cancer cases go undiagnosed in parts of the world.
- **80%** of children with cancer can be cured, in most cases with inexpensive, generic medication.

**LCIF AND LIONS**

Funding Service, Delivering Solutions

Global occurrence of childhood cancer is greater than previously thought. LCIF, funding global humanitarian work since 1968, is there and part of the solution.

lcif.org/childhoodcancer

**SOURCES:** 1,2,6,7,9 World Health Organization; 3 Texas Children’s Hospital; 4,10 American Childhood Cancer Organization; 5 Global Hope; 8 United Nations; grant limits subject to change.

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.

SUPPORT YOUR SERVICE BY SUPPORTING YOUR FOUNDATION

lionsclubs.org/donate

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