

Program Report

Annual Review 2015

2015 Facts and Figures

3,911

Children helped at partnership hospitals

1,500

Healthcare Professionals attended training

12,400

Children helped since World Child Cancer's first project

Program Updates



Bangladesh

Location: Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), Dhaka

Medical Lead: Professor Afiqul Islam

Twinning Partner Hospitals: UCLH UK & BCCH Vancouver

Program Start Date: June 2012

- Four Twinning trips have taken place this year, focusing on nursing development and group-work with doctors from Dhaka, Sylhet and Chittagong.
- A local support group was created and has been actively fundraising, providing internal training for the team and opened a playroom at BSMMU for patients.
- Megan Doherty has been working closely with the palliative care team at BSMMU, building up the service, ensuring morphine availability and providing training.
- Awareness activities are increasing, with TV / radio interviews, newspaper articles, public rallies and public posters being distributed amongst health centers.
- Several workshops have taken place including one attended by all major centers to start development of National Guidelines for pediatric oncology and regular nurse sessions.



Malawi

Location: Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital (QECH), Blantyre

Medical Lead: Dr George Chagaluka & Professor Elizabeth Molyneux

Twinning Partner Hospitals: RVI Newcastle & VUMC Amsterdam

Project Start Date: January 2009

- George Chagaluka took over as lead of the pediatric oncology unit following Liz Molyneux's departure. He will receive ongoing support from Liz and the team.
- A new five year plan and budget has been developed to provide further support.
- Transport money is provided to all families who need it to return for appointments.
- We have been able to fund 2 ultrasound machines for QECH which will enable faster and more accurate diagnosis and also benefit the other pediatric departments.
- The outcome of patients' is improving over time, with a 20% increase in survival rate over the last 2 years for children with stages 3 and 4 Burkitt lymphoma.
- Support from twinning partners in Amsterdam and the UK remains strong and an important part of the development of the pediatric oncology service in Malawi.

Program Report

Annual Review 2015



Ghana

Location: Korle Bu Teaching Hospital (KBTH), Accra

Medical Leads: Dr Lorna Renner & Dr Cathy Segbefia

Twinning Partner Hospital: Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh

Program Start Date: November 2010

- Developments have intensified in Kumasi with a parent group branch being opened, regular awareness / fundraising activities and a local donor has renovated the day care.
- Growth has been seen in satellite centers, with three Tamale Teaching Hospital staff (northern region) attending training internships at the hub centre in Accra.
- The Ministry of Health accepted the National Cancer Strategy and this increases the likelihood of support and inclusion of drugs on the Health Insurance Scheme.
- Awareness events have increased in scale; including TV / radio coverage, newspaper articles, posters in health facilities, celebrity ambassadors, training for healthcare reporters and a large community walk attended by 240 people.



Philippines

Location: South Philippines Medical Centre (SPMC), Davao City, Mindanao

Medical Lead: Dr Mae Dolendo

Twinning Partner Hospitals: St Jude, USA & University Hospital, Singapore

Program Start Date: November 2009

- There are now five active satellite centers on the island of Mindanao, increasing the access to care for many children across the region.
- Funding has been identified locally to develop a home from home in Cagayan de Oro, one of the satellite centers. This will enable more children to complete their treatment.
- A new Day Care Center has been opened at the satellite centre in Cagayan de Oro, which includes air conditioning and a safe space for children to receive chemotherapy.
- Dr. Mae Dolendo continues to advocate and undertake fundraising campaigns with local donors and institutions to ensure ongoing support for children in the network.
- New hospital spaces are being planned to increase the capacity of the healthcare system in Mindanao to provide appropriate treatment for children with cancer.



Cameroon

Location: Mutengene Baptist Hospital, Banso Baptist Hospital, Mbingo Baptist Hospital

Medical Leads: Dr Francine Kouya / Professor Peter Hesseling

Twinning Partner Hospital: Stellenbosch University / Tygerberg Children's Hospital

Program Start Date: January 2012

- Nurse Glenn Mbah was appointed as Program Coordinator and has been actively organizing awareness events and traditional healer sensitisation in the community.
- Key members of the team have received focused training in palliative care, nursing and public health. Glenn received the Barack Obama Young African Leadership Award.
- Dr. Francine Kouya started her specialist 2 year training in Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- Twinning medical support continues to be provided by Peter Hesseling and Paul Wharin on their twice yearly visits to the country to mentor staff and hold case discussions.
- The team have received a Sanofi Espoir My Child Matters award to implement an early warning signs awareness training program.



Myanmar

Location: Yangon Children's Hospital, Yangon, Myanmar

Medical Lead: Dr Aye Aye Khaing

Twinning Partner Hospital: Guy's & St Thomas', London & Dana Farber / Boston Children's

Program Start Date: July 2014

- Two Twinning visits have been made focusing on nursing, diagnosis and solid tumours.
- A local retailer is supporting a nutrition and psycho-social project and children can now access some education in hospital from a local organization.
- We have funded infrastructure improvements including new sinks for the ward (coinciding with hygiene awareness) and diagnostic equipment for the pathologists.



Collaborative Wilms Tumour Africa Project

Location: Malawi, Ghana, Cameroon, Ethiopia & Zimbabwe

Steering Committee: Dr Israels, Prof Molyneux, Dr Renner, Dr Kouya

Twinning Partner Hospital: VUMC Amsterdam

Program Start Date: March 2014

- Centers in the collaboration are in Ghana, Malawi, Cameroon, Ethiopia and Zimbabwe.
- Progress is good, with an increase in patients adhering to treatment, less children dying while on treatment and an improved sense of collaboration and support in the region.
- The group have recruited several ambassadors in the pediatric oncology community, have an up-to-date website, and have sent out 2 newsletters to supporters.
- Two work meetings have been held; in Accra (Feb) and SIOF Cape Town (Nov).
- The group had strong representation at international meetings and in journals.



Mexico

Location: Pachuca & Oaxaca

Medical Lead: Dr Arturo Moreno Ramirez, Dr Yannis Cortes & Dr Rodriguez Brindis

Twinning Partner Hospital: Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, USA

Program Start Date: November 2015

- Program developed and supported by World Child Cancer USA
- Approx. 800 cases expected in the region, with survival rates currently of around 50% and 20% of families not able to complete treatment.
- The program is supporting training within the network for healthcare professionals, educating families on treatment compliance, improving facilities and raising awareness on childhood cancer in the community.
- Plans for 2016 include training for doctors and nurses, creation of education materials, installation of a patient database and funding medical supplies to equip the wards and facilitate development of the service.



AHOPCA

This year we have provided funding support the salaries of data managers in 4 countries within this network; Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Guatemala. There have been some problems with spending all of the World Child Cancer grant and we are in discussions with St Jude regarding this expenditure.

A new database system is being decided on by the twinning partner, to be implemented at the sites following the discontinuation of POND.