

### Facts and figures for the year 2016

5,524

Children with cancer accessed improved services

3,800

Healthcare Professionals accessed training opportunities

4,465

Children newly diagnosed with cancer at program hospitals

### Highlights from our program partners:



#### Ghana

**Location:** Korle Bu Teaching Hospital (KBTH), Accra

**Medical Leads:** Prof Lorna Renner & Dr Cathy Segbefia

**Twinning Partner Hospital:** Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh

**Programme Start Date:** November 2010

- A bead-making income generation project was established at KBTH which allows mothers of patients to acquire a new skill and raise funds for treatment costs.
- Advocacy efforts with policy makers have resulted in an agreement to re-assess the inclusion of childhood cancer drugs into the health insurance scheme.
- Succession planning is under-way, with two doctors receiving specialist training overseas in pediatric oncology.
- UK AID funded key activities in Ghana, including awareness events to raise the profile of childhood cancer in the community.
- A new satellite center, in Tamale (northern Ghana) was brought into the network, with the aim of improving access to diagnosis for some of the most vulnerable children.



#### Myanmar

**Location:** Yangon Children's Hospital, Yangon

**Medical Lead:** Dr Aye Aye Khaing

**Twinning Partner Hospitals:**

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

**Programme Start Date:** July 2014

- Education for nurses is progressing with trainers from Boston, including capacity building opportunities for staff from Mandalay Children's Hospital.
- The pathology team at YCH have been receiving specialist support from experts in London, tackling the problem of missed and delayed diagnosis.
- A new hospital school was opened in the pediatric oncology department, to enable children to access academic and play education during treatment.
- A partnership with The Amelia Project is ensuring that partial transport costs are covered for some patients to travel to and from hospital for appointments.
- Work with satellite centers in the region has been explored, and advocacy efforts will result in a National Cancer Control Plan highlighting children's needs
- Training has commenced for frontline health workers around the country, in an effort to improve diagnosis and referral rates to YCH.





### 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

- New treatment protocols were introduced for more complex tumors, expanding on the care that can be provided for patients at QECH.
- More than 1,500 children attended out-patient appointments on the ward, highlighting the need for expansion which would provide adequate space for all patients.
- The government has funded two nurses for the ward, who are undergoing training with the experienced nursing staff.
- Survival rates for Burkitt lymphoma and Wilms' tumor continue to improve.
- There is a growing interest in pediatric oncology amongst junior doctors, providing future opportunities for succession planning.



### Philippines

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

**Medical Lead:** Dr Mae Dolendo

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

**Programme Start Date:** November 2009

- A new satellite center has been opened on Mindanao, to further improve access to treatment for more children in the region.
- Facilities within the network have been renovated and improved due to the support of government and hospital administrators.
- A new 50-bed cancer unit has been opened at SPMC, with the infrastructure to provide quality care for more children in Davao.
- Regular training opportunities are strengthening the satellite network teams, producing dedicated and skillful nurses around the country.
- Patient numbers are increasing through improved diagnosis and referrals from satellite centers as well as increased awareness activities in the community.



### Cameroon

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

**Medical Leads:** Dr Francine Kouya / Professor Peter Hesselning

**Twinning Partner Hospital:** Stellenbosch University / Tygerberg Children's Hospital, SA & Leeds General Infirmary, UK

**Programme Start Date:** January 2012

- A new twinning partnership was agreed with Leeds General Infirmary (UK) to provide increased support and training opportunities for healthcare staff in Cameroon.
- Palliative care nurse Joel Kaah made 122 home visits in 2016 and continued to reach children in remote settings who would otherwise have been without care.
- Construction began on a new hostel for patients and families to give them a safe place to stay at Mbingo hospital and reduce the need for travelling back and forth.
- Patients no longer have to pay for diagnostic or management costs, and nutritional support is provided to families through the program. Additional support is provided for the most vulnerable families who cannot afford any treatment costs.
- Long-term follow-up of patients has shown that those treated for Burkitt lymphoma now have a 55% survival rate.



### Bangladesh

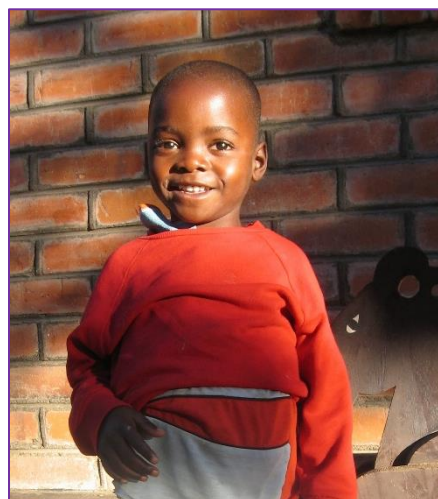
**Location:** Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), Dhaka

**Medical Leads:** Prof Afiquel Islam, Prof Yakub Jamal & Dr Megan Doherty

**Twinning Partner Hospitals:** UCLH UK & BCCH Vancouver

**Programme Start Date:** June 2012

- A new project focusing on improving palliative care for children with cancer commenced in 2016, providing specialist training for doctors and nurse leaders.
- A country-wide pediatric oncology nursing curriculum has been accepted by the government.
- Financial support for drug costs and transport was provided to patients in Dhaka, ensuring more children had the chance of completing their treatment.
- World Child Cancer opened a new office in Dhaka and the team are forging new partnerships with civil society organizations in the country for collaborative working.
- UK AID funded core activities in Bangladesh and enabled growth of the program to key strategic satellite centers around the country; extending our support and building the capacity of healthcare professionals to provide improved care.



### Collaborative Wilms Tumour Africa Project

**Location:** Malawi, Ghana, Cameroon, Uganda & Tanzania

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

**Twinning Partner Hospital:** VUMC Amsterdam

**Programme Start Date:** March 2014

- Two new centers joined the collaboration in 2016; Ethiopia and Zimbabwe, taking the number of participating centers to eight.
- The collaboration continued to strengthen, resulting in the increase of overall survival rates to an estimated 50%, and increase of 25% since the start of the program.
- The number of patients abandoning treatment has also decreased, from 31% to around 13%, thanks in part to the provision of free treatment, subsidized transport and nutritional support.
- A working meeting was held during the SIOP conference in Dublin, October 2016, and mentors from the steering committee visited both of the new sites to provide support and training for multi-disciplinary teams involved in this collaboration.



### 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

**Programme 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.
- Education activities resulted in 150 nurses and 100 doctors accessing training in pediatric oncology.
- Parent focus groups were formed in Pachuca and basic parent information videos were created in native languages
- In Oaxaca a previously empty cancer ward was fitted with equipment and beds thanks to a partnership with Project C.U.R.E., which arranged the donated supplies.
- A patient database was established in 2 hospitals in order to collect reliable information and analyze outcomes.

### 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. 2016 was the final year which World Child Cancer provided support to this valuable program in Central America, and funding will be taken over by St Jude Children's Research Hospital.