

# CureSearch

## National Childhood Cancer Foundation

### The Impact of Childhood Cancer

- Cancer is the #1 cause of death by disease in children, cutting short the lives of more children under the age of 20 than any other disease.
- 1 child out of 5 who is diagnosed with cancer dies.
- 3 out of 5 children suffer from long-term side effects.
- Every school day, 46 young people, or two classrooms of students, are diagnosed with cancer in this country. More than 12,500 children are diagnosed with cancer each year and over 40,000 children and adolescents currently are being treated for childhood cancers.
- The average age of a child diagnosed with cancer is six years old; saving lives of children with cancer gives them a future; approximately, 66 years of life's milestones and dreams to celebrate.

### About CureSearch

- Through public education, advocacy and fundraising, **CureSearch National Childhood Cancer Foundation** supports the life-saving work of the **Children's Oncology Group (COG)**, the world's premiere pediatric cancer research collaborative that treats more than 90% of all children with cancer.
- **The Children's Oncology Group (COG)** unites the best of the academic and clinical research worlds to move the most promising treatments from the laboratory to clinical trial to standard of care. This association of more than 5,000 dedicated experts in childhood cancer research and treatment are located at more than 200 leading Children's Hospitals, University Hospitals and Cancer Centers in the United States. By working together,

cure rates are improved at a much faster pace than any one individual or single institution could accomplish acting alone.

### **Only Research Cures Childhood Cancer**

- Fifty years ago, a diagnosis of childhood cancer was a virtual death sentence. Today, as a result of the research of the Children's Oncology Group, the cure rate is 78% overall.
- A high level of participation in clinical trials, combined with the quick sharing of information through the **Children's Oncology Group** has led to phenomenal improvement in childhood cancer survival rates. However, too many children continue to die.
- At a time when breakthroughs can be made in treating all childhood cancer and the quality of life for children with cancer improved, the continued decline in government funding endangers the development of new clinical trials and threatens progress in curing childhood cancer.
- Each day that cooperative group pediatric cancer research goes underfunded, the road to discovering new treatments and cures become longer, putting more children at risk.

### **CureSearch.org – The Premier Internet Resource for Children with Cancer and their Families**

- CureSearch.org provides up-to-date research data, customized information and support is tailored to a child's age, diagnosis, treatment options and treatment phase from the world's most prestigious pediatric cancer experts, the Children's Oncology Group.

### **CureSearch Advocacy Network**

- In 1999, CureSearch launched the Childhood Cancer Advocacy Network to mobilize patients, survivors, family members and health care professionals to elevate childhood cancer to a national priority. Advocates all over the U.S. have sent thousands of letters to Members of Congress in support of increased federal funding for childhood cancer research, including passage of the Conquer Childhood Cancer Act.

- The Conquer Childhood Cancer Act of 2007 is a landmark piece of legislation which authorizes \$150 million over a five-year period to expand support for biomedical research programs of the existing National Cancer Institute-designated multi-center national infrastructure for pediatric cancer research, establish a population-based national childhood cancer registry, enable researchers to more accurately study the incidence of childhood cancers and long-term effects of treatments, and provide funding for informational and educational services to families coping with a diagnosis of childhood cancer.

**CureSearch seeks to conquer childhood cancer, fully, sooner and for all time.**

- The story of childhood cancer is simple—we are within reach of a cure. Medical research tells us that with proper funding levels – we can conquer childhood cancer.
- CureSearch is striving to give each child diagnosed with a cancer a whole lifetime of dreams and milestones to celebrate. The loss of one more child with cancer is one too many. Together, we can reach the day when every child with cancer is guaranteed a cure.
- Donations to CureSearch advance pediatric cancer research and will help a child overcome cancer and lead a full, healthy life.

**For more information:**

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