

## ● Childhood Cancer

# A brighter future for young lives

*Reducing child mortality and improving healthcare for childhood cancer*

**Our ambition:** Support the World Health Organization (WHO) goal of achieving *a survival rate of 60% for all children with cancer by 2030* by ensuring access to care, supporting families and training healthcare professionals.



*A young child fighting cancer being held by his mother in Senegal. Photo credit: James Mollison, My Child Matters Exhibition*

# Bridging *the gap*

 *Every 3 minutes, a child's life is cut short by cancer*

There are 400,000 new cases in children and adolescents annually. This stark reality highlights a **critical global health disparity**: while over 80% of young cancer patients in high-income countries access treatment that leads to a cure, in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), this rate plummets to 20 to 30%.<sup>1</sup>

This gap underscores the **urgent need** for more pediatric cancer research, care and funding.

The challenges in LMICs are complex: late detection, scarce well-trained healthcare professionals, limited pain management and palliative care, and less focus on childhood cancer among other health priorities. Appropriate treatments are often unavailable or financially out of reach for many.

**Foundation S is determined to bridge this gap.**

We are dedicated to transforming pediatric cancer care in LMICs, working alongside local health systems, NGOs, and regional and international stakeholders to adapt resources to regional needs and enhance pediatric cancer support.

## Our strategic focus is twofold

1

### → **Quality of life:**

Improve the quality of life for children with cancer and their families in LMICs, from diagnosis to treatment.

2

### → **Local capacity building:**

Invest in the training and capacity-building of doctors and nurses and empower local healthcare professionals to deliver high-quality pediatric cancer care and treatment.



*A young boy fighting cancer standing with his mother in Senegal. Photo credit: James Mollison, My Child Matters Exhibition*

<sup>1</sup> Source: Childhood cancer (who.int)

# Locally-rooted solutions *for sustained impact*

## At the heart of Foundation S' philosophy is a deep trust in local expertise

We recognize that context is crucial: a project that thrives in Ghana, may evolve differently in Ukraine. Instead of viewing these variations as challenges, we embrace them as opportunities for learning and enhancing our impact.

Our approach is not rigid but adaptive, valuing the unique insights and expertise that local knowledge brings.

Foundation S works flexibly alongside partners to collectively pursue the goal of improving survival rates for children with cancer. The journey is a collaborative effort, with grantees

equally engaged in setting benchmarks for reporting and knowledge creation right from the project's inception.

This synergy ensures that every step we take is informed, impactful, and tailored to the needs of those we serve.

We have strong partners across Latin America, Africa and Asia. They strengthen our work at both global and regional levels and bring a balance between scientific, policy and civil society focus.

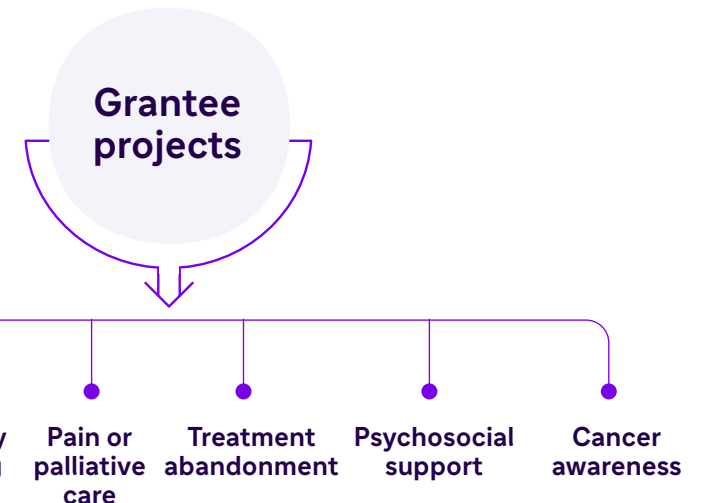
## One step forward in healthcare strengthening in Africa



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*“The Teleo program evolved thanks to the flexibility and support from Foundation S during the Covid-19 pandemic. The project is more than a training programme to practitioners working in paediatric oncology in LMICs. It became a learning community with **1,400 health care professionals currently enrolled**”*

Sant Juan de Déu Hospital, Partner



# A *pioneering program* on childhood cancer

*Foundation S builds on the legacy of the 'My Child Matters' program*

Aligning with the World Health Organization's ambitious global target, our strategic goal is clear: to level the playing field so that every child diagnosed with cancer, regardless of where they live, has an equal chance at survival.

This commitment directly supports WHO's crucial objective of achieving a 60% survival rate for all children with cancer, reflecting our dedication to this life-saving mission.

See how the My Child Matters program has made a difference



*Watch* the video

Since its inception in 2005, the My Child Matters program has made monumental strides in the battle against childhood cancer.

**The program has:**



Supported over  
**140,000**  
children with cancer



Trained nearly **50,000**  
healthcare professionals across  
**88** countries

My Child Matters extends beyond immediate care; it has influenced the field through extensive knowledge sharing



**200**

Scientific publications



**38**

Manuscripts

# My Child Matters: *advancing care through digital innovation and collaboration*

Since 2022, Foundation S has built on the work of 'My Child Matters' program, enhancing access to pediatric cancer and palliative care, supporting families to prevent treatment abandonment, and strengthening health systems through capacity building and training.

Our comprehensive advocacy for childhood cancer doesn't stop there. We have generated new scientific evidence and created an Open Data platform that enhances healthcare practitioners' capabilities in low- and middle-income countries. It facilitates networking, discussion, and project design, enabling practitioners to pinpoint common challenges and craft effective solutions.

**Foundation S**  
THE sanofi COLLECTIVE

*Global programs funded since 2022*

**28**

**National projects**  
*in 23 countries*

**13**

**Regional projects**  
*(1 in Asia, 2 in Latin America,  
10 in Africa)*

**41** New projects in  
*21 countries*

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*My Child Matters Open Data Platform is made for doctors and healthcare professionals in low-resource countries. It's designed to stimulate interaction and networking so that we don't have to rethink projects from scratch every time. It helps identify common problems and solutions that can be duplicated.”*

Eric Bouffet, Former President of the International Society of Pediatric Oncology,  
Member of the International Union Against Cancer Board of Directors,  
My Child Matters Expert Committee Chairman

*Elenah plays in the Bela-Bela Township,  
Johannesburg, South Africa*



# The Childhood Cancer *Expert Committee*

The Childhood Cancer Expert Committee is a diverse, high-level international expert committee comprising pediatric oncologists, nurses, family members of children undergoing cancer treatment, global health specialists, and other key stakeholders in childhood cancer.

The Committee advises Foundation S and is involved throughout the My Child Matters Grant Program from reviewing initial applications to the selection process, offering mentorship and ongoing support to grantees.



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*“The decisions are made **collectively** and involving **different stakeholders** in the decision-making - that is what I value the most. The decisions are taken very democratically”*

Pr. Guillermo Luis Chantada

Paediatric Oncologist, Worldwide specialist on Retinoblastoma,  
President of the International Society of Paediatric Oncology

# Looking forward

We will continue working towards critical milestones in childhood cancer care, aligning with the World Health Organization's goal of a 60% survival rate.

## → *Home Away from Home Initiative with Childhood Cancer International*

Foundation S is committing to supporting children with cancer and their families by investing in the Home Away from Home initiative. This programme aims to reduce treatment abandonment and enhance wellbeing by supporting organizations to provide a second home for patients and their caregivers close to health services.

## → *Focus on Latin America*

We aim to amplify our impact in Latin America by organizing a childhood cancer conference in the region. This effort will be complemented by monitoring visits to ensure the success and sustainability of projects.

## → *Embracing Digitalization*

We will continue to invest in and leverage the Open Data platform. This strategic decision reflects Foundation S commitment to utilizing digital tools to expand the reach and effectiveness of our initiatives, ensuring a modern, impactful approach.



*Teenager taking a break while facing a cancer journey, Morocco.  
Photo Credit: James Mollison, My Child Matters Exhibition*