

## **Facts about pediatric cancer:**

- Every year, an estimated 250,000+ cases of cancer affect children under the age of 20 world wide. That's almost 700 new kids affected every day!
- Every day, approximately 250 children die from cancer. 91,250 children lose their lives to cancer every year.
- Childhood cancer occurs regularly, randomly, and spares no ethnic group, socioeconomic class, or geographic region. In the United States, the incidence of cancer among adolescents and young adults is increasing at a greater rate than any other age group, except those over 65 years.
- Childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children under the age of 15 in the U.S.
- Childhood cancer is not just one disease. It is made up of a dozen types and countless subtypes.
- The causes of most childhood cancers are unknown and are not strongly linked to lifestyle or environmental risk factors, unlike many adult cancers.
- One in 285 children in the U.S. will be diagnosed with cancer by the time they are 20 years old.
- Two-thirds of childhood cancer patients will have long-lasting chronic conditions from the treatment.
- Despite these facts, childhood cancer research is vastly and consistently underfunded. Of all the dollars going to cancer research, only about 5% goes to pediatric cancer!

*(Facts are from **Alex's Lemonade Stand**, one of the best sites dealing with pediatric cancer on the web. For more information, please visit them at [www.alexlemonade.org](http://www.alexlemonade.org).)*