



**Australian Lions foundation donates \$100,000 & plans a further \$200,000 for kids cancer treatment**

- More than 600 kids are diagnosed with cancer each year in Australia
- The Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF) has raised \$100,000 for the Sydney Children's Hospital
- The money will go towards a cash injection into the 'first ever' clinical trial of two new drugs for kids suffering from Neuroblastoma
- ALCCRF is planning to raise a further \$200,000 to support the trial further into 2011/12

Tragically, more than 600 children are diagnosed with cancer every year in Australia. But hope is at hand, as the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF) has donated \$100,000 to the Sydney Children's Hospital, and plans to raise an additional \$200,000 to maintain a 'first ever' Phase 2 clinical trial of two new cancer-fighting drugs.

The \$100,000 donation, which was presented to the Sydney Children's Hospital during Channel Nine's Gold Week Telethon, will be used towards kicking off a clinical trial of two novel drugs (Interferon and Valproate) for kids suffering from Neuroblastoma, and will involve major children's hospitals in Australia and New Zealand.

"The initial donation of \$100,000 was a great feat for the Australian Lions foundation, ALCCRF, and we are thrilled to be able to inject this capital into such an important trial of these new, hopefully breakthrough, cancer treatments", Dr Joseph Collins, Chairman of ALCCRF said.

"We are also planning on raising a further \$200,000 through efforts and donations from the 1500 Lions clubs right across Australia, so that the trial can be maintained for one year from 1 July, 2011.

"Every child deserves a chance at a healthy life and we anticipate at least 20-25 kids will benefit from being on the trial to receive treatment".

Lions Australia has been supporting childhood cancer research since 1976, and formalised its support 13 years ago by establishing the Lions Core Blood and Childhood Cancer Research Appeal, the forerunner to ALCCRF.

ALCCRF's vision is 100% survival for kids with cancer. Today it is about 80%. There is still much to be done, so go to <http://alccrf.lions.org.au> and see what you can do to help.

### **About Lions**

Lions Clubs International world's largest service club organization, with more than 1.3 million members in more than 45,000 clubs in 205 countries and geographic areas. In addition to its efforts toward conquering blindness, the organization has made a strong commitment to community service and helping youth throughout the world.

Lions Australia is one of Australia's largest service organisations with almost 28,000 members and 1,500 clubs across Australia. Lions Australia raises over \$20 million per annum to assist in community and health projects, and funding for Lions foundations and programs.

For more information visit: <http://www.lionsclubs.org.au/>

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