



# Ocean Road Project Tanzania



**Children  
in Crossfire**

GIVING CHILDREN THE CHANCE TO CHOOSE



## Did you know?

- 80% of children's cancer is potentially curable.
- Ocean Road Children's Ward treats approximately 350 new cases of childhood cancer annually. This is more than any European Cancer centre.
- Short term survival rates have risen from 12% in 2005 to 60% in 2009.
- Tanzania's Ministry of Health has made cancer a national priority.
- Children in Crossfire is working to make this a reality.

**The Ocean Road Cancer Ward is the only cancer ward in Tanzania, restoring hope to families of children with cancer where treatment is totally free.**



Irene who successfully received treatment on the Children's Ward

Children arrive extremely unwell, usually with end stage disease. Even at this late stage most children are offered curative treatment.

From 60-80 inpatient children receive treatment daily, sharing 17 beds. These are managed by Dr Trish a wonderful team of Tanzanian nurses who have perfected the art of lifesaving on a shoestring

All investigations, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, surgery, food for the children and transport home are provided free of charge and are only possible thanks to people like you.

The medical treatment is also complemented by a range of non-medical activities that include a daily education programme for children well enough to attend, music and play therapy, nutritional, educational, entertainment and social programme.

# We need **£339,000** over the next **3 years** to support our Ocean Road project

## Medical Supplies

**1 YEAR BUDGET £44,000**

**3 YEAR BUDGET £132,000**

£3,000 each month is needed to provide Chemo drugs for the children on the ward. The most common disease we see is Burkitt's Lymphoma. The tumour doubles every 12-18 hours and a child can die quickly. However, it is also one of the most responsive tumours to chemotherapy. We cure 75% of children we see.

£1,200 is needed every month to supply us with vital medical equipment - drips, needles etc

## Nursing Support

**1 YEAR BUDGET £19,666**

**3 YEAR BUDGET £59,000**

We need specialised nursing staff to work irregular hours. As Dr Trish said about one of her team, 'Digna is the most wonderful nurse I have ever worked with. She is in charge of the chemotherapy department which is a huge responsibility and still has time to notice when a child needs a doctor's attention.'

## Patient and Vulnerable Family Support

**1 YEAR BUDGET £11,333**

**3 YEAR BUDGET £34,000**

The majority of children on the ward come from vulnerable families living on less than a dollar a day. A carer, usually a parent, naturally comes to be with their child during their treatment. Often they live too

far away to make the long and expensive journey home between treatments. Any help we can give them with food and accommodation is greatly appreciated and deserved.

## Children's Education

**1 YEAR BUDGET £14,666**

**3 YEAR BUDGET £44,000**

Now that survival rates have increased we are putting more emphasis on educating children while they're in hospital. Children typically stay in hospital for up to 18 months and it's crucial that they don't lose out on their education. Children are keen to learn and want to get better so that they can go to school. Their will to survive helps them recover more quickly. The children love school and happy children are healthier children.

## National Programme for Early Detection of Childhood Cancer

**1 YEAR BUDGET £23,333**

**3 YEAR BUDGET £70,000**

Ocean Road is the only cancer hospital in Tanzania and the only hospital which offers free cancer treatment in all of East Africa. Often by the time the children get to us, their illness is very advanced. We want to train medical staff throughout the country on how to detect signs of early cancer so more children can be detected sooner and increase their chances of survival.

"The supply of these drugs by Children in Crossfire is a huge contribution towards improved survival rates at the ward. Before this commitment, I struggled every day to balance which children could benefit most from the limited resources I had available. Now I can treat all children with what they need, which has had a direct impact on our ability to cure more children."



Dr Trish  
Ocean Road Hospital

## Contact Us

If you would like to find out more about Children in Crossfire, you can contact us at the following:

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