Childhood Cancer Facts

- Every year, 250,000 new cases affect children under 20 worldwide.
- In the United States, 15,780 children are diagnosed yearly.
- Childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children under 15 in the United States.
- One in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed by the time they are 20.
- Every 2 minutes worldwide a child is diagnosed with cancer.
- The average age of diagnosis is 6 years of age.
- Everyday approximately 250 children worldwide die from cancer, 91,250 yearly.
- One out of 8 who are diagnosed, die from cancer, near 12 per cent. Many others will die from complications from treatment.
- Sixty per cent of survivors suffer from long term side effects—loss of vision and hearing, heart and kidney disease, secondary cancers, learning disabilities and more.
- More than 40,000 children are under care yearly.
- Children are treated with adult medications with adult side effects. There have been only 3 new medications for children on the last 20 years.
- Parents of infants on chemo need to be gloved and gowned to change their baby's diapers due to toxicity.
- Causes of childhood cancer are unknown and not linked to lifestyle choices, these children did nothing to get this disease.
- Adults may lose 15 years or so when they die from cancer on average, children may lose up to 71 years or more.

Resources:

1. St. Baldrick's Foundation
2. American Cancer Society
3. CURESEARCH for Children's Cancer
4. Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation