# ANNUAL REPORT **2018**







**Me Robert Hensler** President



**Professor Marc Ansari** Founder and Director of CANSEARCH

## A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THE DIRECTOR/FOUNDER **ME ROBERT HENSLER AND PROF. MARC ANSARI**

Since the creation of the CANSEARCH Foundation eight years ago, children continue to be affected by cancer. Current treatments are certainly effective for the vast majority of young patients (80%), but the cure is still not the happy outcome for all and cancer remains the  $1^{st}$  cause of mortality by disease in children. Moreover, and even if the cure is achievable, it is very often at the price of important and painful side effects endured during childhood which often persist into adulthood.

According to Robert Hensler, Chairman of the Foundation Board, «to know that children are suffering, sometimes from a very early age, and have to struggle with their families against the disease, appears to us to be deeply unfair and intolerable. To give hope that these children and their loved ones deserve, medical research must be able to continue because it is only thanks to it that we can, together, further improve the effectiveness of treatments and increase survival.»

The impact of the CANSEARCH pediatric oncology and hematology research platform projects set up in 2011 is attested by the large number of scientific publications produced by our researchers. Through their sustained participation in various national and international scientific conferences they share their progress and their capacity to open new studies thus contributing to advanced research in our fields, in particular, pharmacogenomics, with personalized medicine and individualized therapies.

Thanks to the great generosity of our donors, the salaries of our researchers as well as the materials needed for their studies [equipment and consumables] have been financed in recent years.

However, in view of the large number of existing types of cancer in children (over 60, mostly considered as rare diseases) and the complexity of the disease, the road ahead remains long and the paths to be explored still numerous in order to increase the possibility of cures for everyone.

This 2018 annual report will allow you to see the progress of our various projects over the past year with the aim of achieving this objective. It will also give insight into how the research conducted by our platform is doing to highlight the challenges we face with you, thanks to you.

Whether you are donors, partners, volunteers, members of our Councils and Committees or committed to us as doctors, researchers or students, you all contribute to achieving our mission against pediatric cancers. We are extremely grateful for your generosity, commitment and loyalty in recent years and for your continued support in years to come.

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE CANSEARCH FOUNDATION**

The purpose of the CANSEARCH Foundation is to support research projects in the field of childhood cancer and blood diseases currently conducted by about twenty researchers, laboratory technicians and students grouped together in the CANSEARCH Pediatric oncology and hematology research platform (CANSEARCH Research Laboratory).

This platform is located at the University of Geneva, in the so-called Tulip building, in front of the Children's Hospital of Geneva University Hospital (HUG). In addition to those present in Geneva, several researchers attached to medical centers abroad are actively collaborating with us.

The studies focus mainly on precision medicine, in particular, pharmacogenomics, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, liver tumors, brain tumors, neuroblastoma and oncogenetics, and are reviewed once a year by our Scientific Committee.

Their aim is to improve our understanding of the disease and to propose, in the long term, to young patients, individualized therapies adapted to their genetics aiming at reducing the toxicity of certain treatments and improving their survival. They focus on the types of cancers most commonly encountered in practice such as leukemias and brain tumors.



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**Sébastien Joliat** Treasurer

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The commitment and financial support of the CANSEARCH Foundation's donors in 2018 enabled the CANSEARCH research platform to continue its positive development in Switzerland and internationally.

More concretely and during the year 2018, donations of CHF 3.5 million were collected thanks to the great generosity of all our donors, of which CHF 1.2 million were immediately used for research expenses, mainly for the funding of active researchers in Switzerland but also those with whom we collaborate internationally. The balance of donations not used in 2018 is allocated to laboratory costs as well as research staff and thus contributes to the sustainability of our projects whose costs amount to nearly CHF 6 million for the next three years.

To date, the results of our research have benefited more than 600 children in Geneva and around the world.

Our liquidity allows us to support our research platform in the medium term, which currently counts more than 20 researchers, laboratory technicians and students, specialists in pharmacogenomics, biomedicine, molecular and cellular biology, genetics or statistics. They also make it possible to finance new projects, which are essential for the advancement of pediatric cancer research.



## **INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE** 2018 FINANCIAL YEAR

(with comparative figures of the preceding exercise)

	2018	2017
Income	3'595'823	2'805'996
Grants, private donations	3'595'823	2'805'996
Direct expenses	1'205'791	970'684
Laboratory expenses	171'659	151'860
Salaries, wages & other research expenses	936'442	747'291
Research donations	64'185	39'600
Fixed assets depreciations	33'505	31'933
Profit from operations	2'390'032	1'835'312
General and administration expenses	315'057	540'032
Fund raising events cost	8'562	290'411
Salaries and other benefits - administration	212'199	168'400
Scientific Committee fees	10'268	13'810
General and administration expenses	68'883	45'796
Accouting, audit and consultancy fees	15'145	21'614
Earnings before interests and taxes (ebit)	2'074'975	1'295'280
Financial result	-14'554	2'477
Banks fees	-3'809	-1'260
Exchange loss	-10'831	-801
Other financial revenues	85	55
Exchange gains	-	4'483
Earnings before fund affectation	2'060'421	1'297'758
Funds contributions	-2'060'421	-1'297'758
Contribution to the research fund	-2'082'205	-1'296'298
Contribution to the fixed assets depreciations fund	-11'721	-1'460
Use of the fixed assets depreciations fund	33'505	-
NET PROFIT	-	-



### **GOVERNANCE AND COMMITTEES**

The year 2018 saw the creation of an Advisory Committee to nurture the reflections of the Foundation for the future, and an Organizing Committee for the preparation of the next CANSEARCH event on 3 October 2019 at the Geneva Arena. In respect of our statutes, at the end of 2018, Mr. Maurice Machenbaum joined our Advisory Committee. Mr. Phil Lenz has been appointed as a new member of our Foundation Board.

#### COMPOSITION OF BOARD AND COMMITTEES AS OF 1 JANUARY 2019

#### **Honorary Committee**

Ms. Martha ARGERICH Mr. Guy DEMOLE Mr. Léonard GIANADDA Mr. Romain GROSJEAN Ms. Carole HUBSCHER Families Frédy and Franco KNIE Mr. Raymond LORETAN Mr. Pierre MOTTU Mr. Claude PICASSO Mr. Stan WAWRINKA Mr. Jean ZERMATTEN 7EP

#### **Foundation Board Members**

Me Robert HENSLER, President Ms. Céline DENIZOT, Vice-president Mr. Sébastien JOLIAT, Treasurer Mr. Phil LENZ, Member

#### **Director and Founder of the Foundation**

Professor Marc Ansari

#### **Consultative Committee**

Mr. Thomas GOOSSENS Ms. Patricia HUBSCHER EICHENBERGER Mr. Maurice MACHENBAUM Mr. Gian Cla PINÖSCH

#### **Scientific Committee**

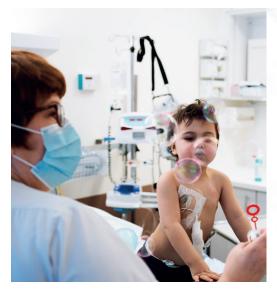
Professor Jakob PASSWEG, President Professor Sylvain BARUCHEL, Member Professor Marina CAVAZZANA-CALVO, Member Professor Urs MEYER, Member

#### General Secretariat & Fundraising

Ms. Patricia LEGLER Ms. Nathalie MARTENS JACQUET

#### Organizing Committee of the 2019 evening & permanent volunteers

Ms. Stephanie ANSARI Ms. Laurence BAGNOUD-ROTH Ms. Alix RIVOIRE Ms. Valérie STECK Ms. Cathy WINTSCH





## WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF YOUR DONATIONS?

All donations allocated to the CANSEARCH Foundation, less the costs related to its operational management, are attributed to the financing of our research projects described below. These are averaged over periods of three to eight years and include both personnel costs [salaries of our researchers] and costs of acquiring and maintaining laboratory equipment.

They also include expenses related to research, such as costs related to the publication of the results of our research in scientific journals, participation in conferences and scientific conferences both in Switzerland and abroad, allowing our researchers to present their work and exchange with their peers, as well as contributions to their continuing education allowing them to stay on top of their field of expertise.

Through its various projects and activities, the CANSEARCH Foundation helps advance research on childhood cancer and blood disease for greater treatment efficiency and less toxicity.

By supporting the CANSEARCH Foundation, you are directly contributing to giving hope to healing sick children and to their families who accompany them in their fight.

## Participation of our researchers at congresses in 2018

As examples and for the year 2018, our researchers presented their projects at the following congresses:

- Congres of the «European Society for Blood Marrow Transplantation» and meeting of the «Westhafen Intercontinental Group Meeting»
  Lisbon, March 2018
- HUG 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Clinical Research Day and Award and 1<sup>st</sup> pediatric research day, Geneva, May 2018
- Spring Meeting of the «Swiss Society of General Internal Medicine» – Basel, May 2018
- ANR Congress «Advances in Neuroblastoma Research» – San Francisco, May 2018
- fPmh Congress («Foederatio Paedo medicorum helveticorum») – Lausanne, May 2018
- «European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation» (EBMT) – Congress, Verona, June 2018
- Public lesson of Professor Marc Ansari for his tenure as Associate Professor (obtained)
  – Geneva, September 2018

- 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of SIOP «International Society of Paediatric Oncology» – Kyoto, November 2018
- Congress of the I-BFM Study Group on pediatric leukemia and lymphoma Milan, January 2019

#### **Publications**

Since 2011, the CANSEARCH research platform has published 142 articles and 202 abstracts, of which more than half (110 abstracts), were presented at international conferences.

#### **Further Education**

In order to promote academic growth in our fields, the CANSEARCH Foundation has initiated the organization of a first Summer School on personalized medicine at the Geneva Biotech Campus in collaboration with the ESPT (European Society of Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Therapy), the Swiss Personalized Health Network (SPHN) and the Swiss Group for Pharmacogenomics and Individual Therapy (SPT).

This event, which took place from 24-27 September, was a great success and brought together more than 40 expert speakers and 80 participants each day from all over Europe. This summer school ended with the joint meeting with the Swiss Medical Science Society on 28 September

It was very positively evaluated by many of the participants present.



#### **Other highlights**

Prof. Urs Meyer, member of the Scientific Committee of the CANSEARCH Foundation, received the «European Association for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics» (EACPT) Career Excellence Award.

Prof. Marc Ansari is very involved in various national and international scientific societies in our fields of research. Since 2014, he has been a member of the European Society of Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Therapy (ESPT) Committee, where he chairs the Scientific Division and is a member of the European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT) where he chairs the Clinical Trials Committee. Since 2016, he chairs the Swiss Group of Pharmacogenomics and Personalised Therapy, a Swiss group in pharmacogenomics and personalized therapies, created under his leadership.



## **AFTER 8 YEARS, CONCRETE RESULTS:**



> 600 children in Geneva and around the world benefit from our research



> 20 researchers, technicians and postgraduate students



> 142 published articles and 202 abstracts presented



> 110 presentations of our research at conferences in Switzerland and around the world



> 6 institutional scholarships obtained



> 20 affiliations to national or international organizations



> 70 medical centers around the world with whom we collaborate



> 3 new studies launched in 2017-2018-2019



> 1 appointment as associate professor of Prof. Marc Ansari

## **OUR RESEARCH PROJECTS**

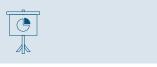
#### The pharmacogenetics project (transplantation of hematopoietic stem cells)

Thanks to this project, which has been running for more than eight years with numerous international collaborations in pharmacogenetics, the CANSEARCH research platform has demonstrated the effectiveness of adapting the dose of the chemotherapeutic agent Busulfan to genetics of the patient during hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, one of the treatments given to treat certain types of pediatric leukemias. This is to reduce the toxicity of the treatment and improve survival.

Various genetic markers metabolizing Busulfan have been identified and analyzed to study the impact of this drug on these genes. A cohort of blood and plasma samples from more than 200 children who received stem cell transplants from a study with the «European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation» [EBMT] conducted various tests in vitro, in our laboratory, for this purpose.

New genes appeared to have an impact as well and were included in our analysis. The influence of these genes on the side effects of treatment (veno-occlusive disease, graft-versus-host disease, haemorrhagic cystitis, sinusoidal obstruction syndrome) also caught the attention of our researchers during 2018.

This project was presented at the EBMT congress and the Westhafen Intercontinental Group (WIG) - International Pediatric BMT in the spring of 2018 by Prof. Marc Ansari and one of our researchers. It was also presented at the prestigious congress of the «American Society of Hematology and Oncology» at the end of 2017.

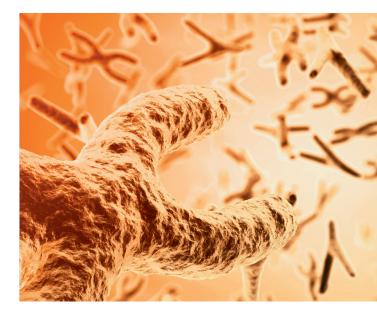


#### The BUGENES project

This project aims to predict in advance, the dose of the chemotherapeutic agent Busulfan to be given during stem cell transplantation (HSCT) as a conditioning treatment to certain types of leukemia in order to individualize the treatment.

The design and structuring of this multi-center international study was carried out this year and submitted to the Cantonal Ethics Committee in 2019. Several medical centers were contacted to make available samples of blood or saliva from which they can be collected from DNA and most have shown interest in participating in this study. It will open in 2019, first in Switzerland and then in a pilot phase internationally.

The study will eventually aim to compare two cohorts of young patients (0 to 20 years): one for which the dose of Busulfan has been personalized prospectively in relation to its genetics, the other where the dose was determined on the basis of criteria such as age, height or weight and to evaluate the clinical effects of these results (impact on the occurrence of possible side effects).



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#### The MYECHILD project

The goal of this project is to find better care for acute myeloid leukemia, a rare form of leukemia but with a high mortality rate [25 to 35%].

Management of obtaining several hundred patient samples from several countries such as the United Kingdom and Australia is currently underway. Various legal formalities will be realized to structure this important international study. The objectives of MYECHILD are to validate retrospectively and prospectively the known risks altering the effectiveness of current treatments for myeloid leukemia and to identify new genetic markers related to the response to treatment by conducting an exploratory study using sequencing targeting DNA. This is to improve the effectiveness of anti-leukemia treatments and reduce their toxicity.

#### The FORUM study

The European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation [EBMT] has launched an international study to see if we can eliminate radiation therapy as a treatment for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia [ALL] for the benefit of less toxic chemotherapy. The CANSEARCH research platform plays a key role in this study both in terms of its coordination and for the care of patients in Geneva.

The study compared children with lymphoblastic leukemia worldwide receiving radiotherapybased treatment versus those receiving chemotherapy for hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, of which CANSEARCH is responsible for the individualized therapy part. Indeed, ALL is a rare disease [3 cases per 100000 children and adolescents under the age of 16] and the causes are currently unknown.

This study, which began in 2013, is in collaboration with pediatric onco-hematology centers in more than 18 countries involving more than 118 medical centers. About 300 DNA samples have already been collected and this collection is actively pursuing to find new markers. Our study will also allow to standardize how certain chemotherapies are given throughout the world.

#### Oncogenetics The project on neuroblastoma

Neuroblastoma (NB) is the most common extracranial tumor in children, contributing significantly to the death of children under 5 years of age. Patients with high-risk NB have a particularly unfavorable prognosis with a survival rate of less than 50% despite intensive multimodal treatment.

In this project, the researchers chose to investigate PRIMA-1MET, a molecule recently discovered and known to directly activate the p53 tumor suppressor protein.

During this past year, our researchers studied the efficacy and mode of action of PRIMA-1MET on various neuroblastoma lines. The results obtained suggest that the use of PRIMA-1MET could be a very promising therapeutic approach, as this molecule has excellent anti-tumor activity in vitro on neuroblasts. In addition, the various molecular biology analysis carried out to better understand the cellular pathways involved in neuroblast cell death have made it possible to propose a novel interaction model between PRIMA-1MET, p53 and the oncogene protein MYCN.

These results were presented in San Francisco in May 2018, at the World «Advances in Neuroblastoma Research Association» Congress and recently published in the International «Journal of Experimental & Clinical Cancer Research.»



#### Brain tumors Pediatric neuro-oncology

The goal of the Brain Tumor Project is to improve our understanding of the toxicity and efficacy of several high-grade glioma treatments, one of the most common forms of brain tumors in children, but unfortunately experiencing low survival rates.

In collaboration with medical centers in Austria, Germany and Switzerland and SIOP Europe (International Society of Oncology – HGG / DIPG, High-Level Glioma Working Group), data from patients with this type of illness have been analyzed. A few cases of high-grade glioma and Noonan syndrome (associated with this type of tumor) have been identified and younger patients have shown better healing than older patients. More detailed analysis will be needed to identify the clinical and molecular risk factors for these cases.

#### Liver tumors (Kids Liver CANSEARCH Group)

Among childhood cancers, liver cancer is one of the rarest cancers (1.1%) and the most common tumor is hepatoblastoma, which mainly affects children under 3 years of age.

The CHIC project («Children's Hepatic International Collaboration») aims, thanks to a large international collaboration of centers that have conducted clinical studies on liver cancer in the past (Europe, Japan, USA), to collect a large number of data to analyze and improve prognosis and therapeutic variables. This is achieved by means of patient risk stratification in the framework of PHITT («Pediatric Hepatic International Tumor Trial»). Prof Marc Ansari is the principal investigator for Switzerland of this study. During 2018 the data was analyzed and several projects are planned ranging from the validation of prognostic factors of hepatoblastoma to the role of surgery to treat this type of tumor, as well as the role of the histological characteristics of this cancer and by the analysis of a type of liver tumor, pediatric hepatocellular carcinoma.

In 2017 and 2018, two scientific workshops were held in Switzerland for the CHIC project.

In view of its positive development, this project received, at the end of 2018, renewed support from the Swiss Cancer League. As a competitive and selective fellowship, this support testifies to the recognition of the scientific importance of this project for improving the healing of this rare type of pediatric cancer.

This project was also the subject of an important publication co-authored by Prof. Marc Ansari, in the prestigious medical journal «The New England Journal of Medicine» in June 2018 and an article in «Lancet Oncol» in 2017.





#### The biobank project

The lack of a pediatric biobank to collect and centrally store biological material and clinical and genetic data from children with cancer and blood disease is a major gap that needs to be addressed to establish high-quality genetic research on childhood cancer in Switzerland. The purpose of the bio-bank project is precisely to set up such a biobank.

Such data has been collected since 2016 from the Pediatric Oncology and Hematology Unit of the Hôpitaux Universitaires de Geneve (HUG), thanks to the setting up of a bio-bank which is now called «BaHOP» («Biobank in Hematology and Oncology in Pediatrics»), which has already collected many samples and data since 2016. It is the first biobank of national importance in this field.

In this context, a study entitled BISKIDS will collect, in 2019, the germinal DNA of all people who have had cancer as a child and are now cured (retrospective cohort) and all new patients diagnosed (prospective cohort) in Switzerland. Various data currently stored with other organisms in our country (Tumor Tissue Bank and Swiss Childhood Cancer Registry in Berne) will also be interconnected to create the first secure national biobank to link biobanks and Swiss registry in the field of childhood cancer. These samples will be available for future genotypephenotype association studies by researchers in Switzerland and abroad, thereby increasing the number of studies in this particular field.

The HUG management has evaluated this project as the best biobank project in 2018 and the latter has been approved by the Geneva Ethics Committee.

At the end of 2018, the Swiss National Science Foundation, Switzerland's highest authority for scientific research, awarded a grant to this project.



#### The GECCOS project

The GECCOS project («Genetic risks for complications in children after cancer treatment in Switzerland») aims to identify genetic markers among pediatric cancer survivors at risk of developing complications.

In fact, long-term clinical and epidemiological data on pediatric cancer survivors have already been collected nationally and have made it possible to compile a large body of data stored in the Swiss Childhood Cancer Registry in Bern. However, these survivors still have to collect germinal DNA (genetic data) and then sequence this DNA in order to associate genetic variants with these risks of complications, particularly in a genotype-phenotype association study.

Thus, the workflow established for germplasm collection and processing for this project will test the operation and flow of the biobank's tasks. The project will focus on the reaction and interaction between genes and pulmonary toxicity, but also on ototoxicity in cancer survivors in Switzerland. Eventually, different toxicities may be analyzed, such as cardiotoxicity.

### HOW DOES RESEARCH WORK LED BY THE CANSEARCH FOUNDATION WORK?

#### Fundamental research and translational research

The CANSEARCH platform conducts projects in basic research and translational research.

Basic research aims to understand phenomena without aiming at direct practical applications in terms of treatments or medical therapies. In our studies, it aims to understand biological and cellular mechanisms involved in the efficacy of drugs as well as the toxicities associated with them. We use cells that are analyzed in the laboratory by our researchers whose resistance to certain treatments is tested.

Translational research aims to bring the knowledge acquired in basic laboratory research [«bench»] as quickly as possible to the bed [«bed»]. We talk about the principle of «bench to bed». The findings made on the patient also feed the researchers' knowledge [«bed to bench»], creating a virtuous circle. Thanks to the results of our research at the laboratory, we aim, in the long run, to make it possible for young patients to benefit, especially by adapting treatments to their genetics.

#### **Clinical research**

The CANSEARCH platform integrates, for some of its projects, pediatric onco-hematology physicians from HUG who carry out clinical studies with patients. They have biological and clinical data from patients that can be useful to the researchers of the platform.

This interaction between basic and translational research on the one hand, and clinical research on the other, allows researchers from these three types of research to exchange and, above all, collaborate for the greater effectiveness of all, to the benefit of young patients.

#### **Collaborations at several levels**

For our projects, multi-level collaborations are necessary.

With the HUG on the one hand, which offers a close link with the patients whose biological and clinical data are necessary for our projects and who will benefit from our progress, and with the University of Geneva on the other hand, who are heavily involved in medical research conducted in Geneva.



Collaboration is also taking place with many medical centers around the world (more than 70 to date) to obtain sufficient number of blood, plasma or saliva samples from which DNA can be extracted (geno-typing), to give a scientific value to our research. Indeed, several hundred such samples are needed for each of our studies.

Childhood cancer, compared with adult cancer which affects a very large number of people, is considered a rare disease. Many medical centers around the world must therefore be contacted to include our research in clinical research protocols, thus enabling us to obtain the samples we need.

The collection, transport, storage and management of these samples is an important part of the work of our researchers, which takes a lot of time in view of the applicable regulatory and legal requirements, as well as important coordination work.

In fact, each center must obtain, according to the national rules applicable to it, the necessary approval of various committees, in particular ethics, to get the patients' consent and set up the logistics required to send such samples and to guarantee their quality for future studies. These steps are carried out over several months and the CANSEARCH platform is dependent on the rhythm followed by each of these centers to achieve them.

#### Work of the CANSEARCH research platform and measurement of results

During the year, researchers from the CANSEARCH research platform regularly evaluate the progress of their projects with their superiors. Once a year, they submit them to the Foundation's Scientific Committee, which evaluates them to ensure their relevance for the final benefit of patients and their quality in terms of research.

When the results are convincing, our researchers submit them for publication in specialized journals in their areas of expertise and will present them to their peers at national and international conferences.

For a researcher, publication in journals with a high impact factor and presentation at conferences are the two main ways to attest to the results obtained.

Thus, the number of publications of our researchers and participation in various congresses mentioned above makes it possible to judge the work and the quality of our researchers, and to attest our results.

## THE FUNDRAISING OF OUR GENEROUS DONORS

The support you give us as donors or ambassadors of the CANSEARCH Foundation is extremely valuable to us. Once again this year, you have been very active in supporting or financially supporting research to help children with cancer by organizing an incredible variety of actions [CANDO].

The enthusiasm and energy you have expressed to initiate and organize these events and to solicit your families, friends and acquaintances to express their generosity are a great sign of confidence in our projects and we are very grateful.

Every action is important and every donation counts because they bring hope of healing to suffering children.

In 2018, the various actions (CANDO) that you have set up have raised more than CHF 200 000.– which could be attributed to the payment of two annual salaries of researchers. This amount is in addition to all other donations received during the year 2018.

Some examples of CANDO set up in 2018:

#### • CANRUN

The CANSEARCH runners were numerous at the start of the Geneva and Chicago Marathons, Jussy's Half Marathon, Escalade Race and Race for Gift: all great opportunities to unite sport and fund raising!

#### CANWALK

Our faithful permanent volunteers once again organized the now famous «Marche de Dardagny» and CANWALK in Gstaad with undeniable success.

#### • CANFIGHT FOR VICTORIA

Music concerts were held in memory of Victoria, taken away by the disease two years ago, so that research could continue to save the children of tomorrow.

#### • CANCLIMB

A father and his teenage children climbed Kilimanjaro raising funds for the CANSEARCH Foundation and another two fathers are preparing to launch an assault on Mont-Blanc in 2019 which they had to postpone this year due to bad weather.

#### CANDRIVE

The Geneva CIC Bank has shown its generous support to CANSEARCH by organizing a sports car rally for sick children in the Pediatric Oncology and Hematology Unit.



• CAN RAISE AWARENESS FOR CHILDREN CANCER Barclays Bank of Geneva organized a Childhood Cancer Awareness Day with their employees who raised funds and donated a work of art to show their solidarity with the sick children.

#### • CANGIVE A SMILE

Okaïdi and Jacadi stores launched a «Give a Smile» campaign for CANSEARCH at all branches in Switzerland.

• CANKNIT

A faithful friend of the foundation knitted and sold woolen hats for CANSEARCH at a dinner party at her home.

#### • CANSWIM

Brave swimmers threw themselves into the icy water of Lake Geneva during the Christmas Cup and asked their friends to support them by donating generously to medical research.

#### • CANAFTERSKI

Faithful volunteers of the foundation organized the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of an aperitif-auction in Verbier at the restaurant Le Rouge.

#### • CAN LIONS CLUB

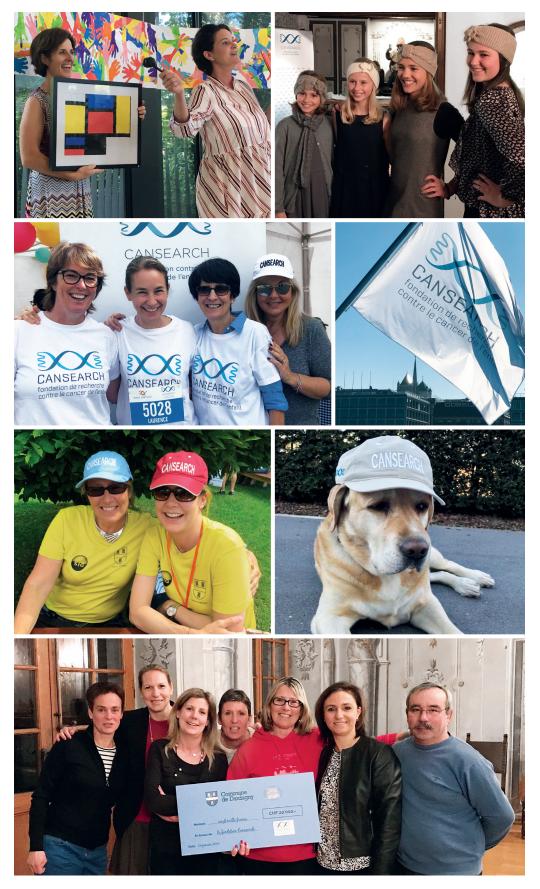
The Geneva-Rhône Lions Club organized a wonderful evening of support at CANSEARCH at the Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues.

#### • AUTRES CANDOS

Brunchs, pastry and bake sales, bike tours, yoga or pilates classes, Christmas activities, birthdays and deaths of loved ones: all these examples (not exhaustive) of occasions during which you thought about making a gesture in favor of sick children.



## **IMAGES OF SOME CANDOS IN 2018**





## **SPECIAL THANKS**

Friends, Volunteers, Researchers, Donors, Families, Members of the Honorary Committee, Members of the Foundation Board, Members of the Advisory Committee, Members of the Organizing Committee for the 2019 evening, Professors and Doctors Members of the Scientific Committee, Partners, Sponsors

This year again you have supported us. A huge thank you to everyone for your commitment, your generosity and your loyalty to the fight against childhood cancer!

MEDICAL RESEARCH AS A SOURCE OF HOPE, THAT IS OUR MISSION TO ALL!

#### THANK YOU

Editor

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**Photography** ©Raphaël Lods

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