



Raisa Gorbachev Foundation

INTERNATIONAL FUND FIGHTING CHILD CANCER

Patron: Mikhail Gorbachev
Chairman: Evgeny Lebedev

MISSION STATEMENT

The Raisa Gorbachev Foundation was established in England in 2006 to help eradicate cancer suffered by children in Russia.

Every year there are 100,000 children diagnosed with cancer. Although childhood cancers represent a small percentage of all cancers, most can be cured with prompt and effective treatment. Recognising the signs and symptoms of childhood cancer is one of the most important steps to prevent and fight this disease and thereby save thousands of children's lives.

Improved survival rates are largely due to better treatment and improved quality of care. Chemotherapy was introduced for the treatment of childhood leukaemia in the 1940s and has been incorporated into treatment regimes that previously relied on surgery or radiotherapy for other common childhood cancers. In the USA, seven out of ten children now receive their care in specialist paediatric cancer treatment centres.

Bone Marrow transplantation is the foremost way to fight leukaemia and the National Russian Bone Marrow register is only now being established. Until the National register is in operation, international donors are used for most bone marrow transplants. The average cost of an operation for a child in Russia is £30,000 and in cases where complications occur the cost can rise to more than £80,000. Only a tiny percentage of those suffering from this disease have the funds to pay for the treatment. Each year there are 150 bone marrow transplants carried out, but 2,000 are required and so the waiting list grows. The situation will improve with further funding from donations.

The fatality rate among children with leukaemia in Russia is one of the highest in the world. There are only 12 medical centres in Russia that admit children with cancer (America has 100) and only 3 have the ability to carry out bone marrow transplantation. ***The Raisa Gorbachev Children's Institute of Haematology and Transplantology is the only centre to perform transplants from unrelated donors.***

Trustees: Geordie Greig, Hon. Robert Hanson, Alexandre Lebedev, Evgeny Lebedev, Jonathan Rutherford Best

T: 020 7993 3131 E: rachel@raisafund.co.uk W: www.raisafund.com
6th Floor London house, 53-54 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4RP



Raisa Gorbachev Foundation

INTERNATIONAL FUND FIGHTING CHILD CANCER

Patron: Mikhail Gorbachev
Chairman: Evgeny Lebedev

Raisa and Mikhail Gorbachev strove to improve the public's understanding of the treatment and through the creation of an international organisation Raisa Gorbachev helped hundreds of children prior to her untimely death from leukaemia in 1999. After a substantial donation from Alexandre Lebedev in 2002, the foundations were laid for a treatment facility and on 20TH September 2007 The Raisa Gorbachev Children's Institute for haematology and transplantology was officially opened and will treat 300 inpatients and 3000 outpatients annually.

Donations are needed to fund the ongoing purchase of medical supplies and to supply more advanced equipment to replace the outdated machines in use.

The purpose of The Raisa Gorbachev Foundation is to give children with cancer the chance to live.

For further information please contact: Rachel Giffin on 020 7993 3131

*Editor's notes: The Raisa Gorbachev Foundation is an international non-governmental organisation dedicated solely to the control of child cancer. Leukaemia constitutes 52% of all child cancers in Russia and the fatality rate is one of the highest in the world. The Raisa Gorbachev Foundation was created to commemorate the life of this generous and courageous woman, who helped hundreds of children. Her life came to an end when she was diagnosed with leukaemia, but the foundation aims to continue the work that she began. The Foundation will finance projects such as the search for bone marrow donors, the purchase of pharmaceuticals and equipment for the newly built Raisa Gorbachev Centre in St Petersburg, which will finally allow for the creation of a national bone marrow register. The Foundation also supports the families of children who have been diagnosed with terminal cancer.

Trustees: Geordie Greig, Hon. Robert Hanson, Alexandre Lebedev, Evgeny Lebedev, Jonathan Rutherford Best

T: 020 7993 3131 E: rachel@raisafund.co.uk W: www.raisafund.com
6th Floor London house, 53-54 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4RP