# 

Life is worth exploring.



# WHAT IS AAMU?

The Aamu Foundation creates hope. In Finland, around **150 children under 15 years are diagnosed with cancer every year. We do not yet have enough knowledge** about the factors behind childhood cancer.

While Finnish cancer research and treatment are among the best in the world, **one in five child cancer patients still dies**.

In addition, **more than 60%** of the children who survive cancer **do not have a healthy adulthood**.

#### **Aamu Foundation...**

**Enable the best and most recent cancer treatment** 

Healthy adulthood for all Finnish children with cancer.

Goal is to

and



# CHILDHOOD CANCER

## Children's cancer **≠ Adult cancer**

The factors that cause **childhood cancer** have not been identified in medical research. However, research has found a link between adult cancer and life habits and environmental factors.





## Children's cancer **≠ Adult cancer**

Childhood and adult cancer **are not the same disease**.

- Childhood cancers are often aggressive.
- Carcinomas are rare in children, whereas in adults, they are the most common type of cancer.
- At the level of cell image and biology, they are different diseases.
- With children, cancer often requires more intensive treatment.
- Children's growing bodies are more sensitive to damage and require a different type of treatment.



## Children's cancer ≠ Adult cancer

Two in three children who survive cancer suffer **from long-term harms**.

- Feelings of isolation and difference
- Attention disorders
- Difficulties in school
- Cardiovascular diseases
- Adaptation difficulties
- Communication difficulties
- Working memory and information processing difficulties
- Cognitive problems
- Social isolation
- Fertility problems
- Recurrent cancer
- Hormonal problems





# Medical factors for pediatric cancer research

- Every other day in Finland a child under 15 years gets cancer.
- One in five will not survive. \*
- Although continuous improvement, development pace in survival rate has relatively slowed down.\*\*
- Childhood cancer is a different disease than that of adults and therefore requires treatments that are specifically developed and effective for children.
- Despite the development in recent decades more than 60% of children who survive cancer suffer at some point in their lives from late effects caused by cancer or cancer treatment and therefore do not live a healthy adulthood.

-> provides strong grounds for continuous funding of top pediatric cancer research towards a 100% cure prognosis



Madanat-Harjunoja ym. 2014 Int. J Cancer

# FUNDING & CHALLENGES

### State research funding for medicine has collapsed in Finland -> in the 2010s, 50%.\*

The same direction is also with private corporate financing.

This gives AAMU an important role.

#### **Children's clinical** cancer research is not financed by anyone else than AAMU.

**AAMU's funding** enables doctors participation in clinical research work.

Clinical research = the best and most modern treatment for children.

## Social factors and financial base of pediatric cancer research in Finland

- Overall funding of clinical research in Finland has collapsed at the national level due to the reduction of government research funding, more than 50% in 2010-2017 and since the beginning of the millennium more than 80%.
- Although there has not been funding for clinical childhood cancer research in the 21st century, the current state of funding puts pressure to an increasing extent on national clinical research on a very shaky footing without private funding which AAMU is providing.
- In addition to cuts in government shares lack of other funding channels for clinical pediatric cancer research highlights AAMU's role as financier in order to secure pediatric cancer treatment development in Finland.
- Researchers who focus on basic medical research are often full-time researchers, while clinical researchers have to do research alongside patient work. AAMU's funding enables Finnish pediatric oncologists' participation and facilitation to protocol work.

## Aamu people and resources

- Members of AAMU's Board of directors represent a wide range of skills from different areas of society and business life.
- AAMU has a 10-member impartial Medical expert group that evaluates grant applications.
- AAMU has one employee, all other work done for the foundation is based on pro bono.
- AAMU has no office space nor related costs.



Laura Paasio Head of Foundation



Toivo Salmi Chair of BoD



**Tomas Holmberg** Member of BoD



Ami Paanajärvi Member of BoD



Saku Koivu Member of BoD



Janette Palmu Member of BoD



Kari Mononen Member of BoD



Sixten Korkman Special support of BoD



To enable the best cancer treatment in the world, so that all children with cancer survive and can live a healthy adult life.

**The Aamu Foundation funds pediatric** cancer research.

**The Aamu Foundation** therefore has an important mission:



#### Aamu's challenges

Aamu is not	-> <b>E</b>
well known.	WO
	nu
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Aamu has few	-> It
resources for making	acti
itself better known.	visi

Being well known and reputable ould increase credibility and the umber of donations from usinesses and private persons.

it needs partners and marketing ivities that will generate earned ibility.

#### Demographics Active donors

Total

Men Women Age group under 25 Active donors Age group 25–34 Age group 35–44 Age group 45–54 Age group 55–64 Size of family: 1 Size of family: 2 Size of family: 3 Size of family: 4 Size of family: 5 or more Children in the family: 1 Children in the family: 2 or more No children Family's annual income less than €20,000 Family's annual income €20,000–€40,000 Family's annual income €40,000-€60,000 Family's annual income €60,000–€80,000 Family's annual income more than €80,000 Top management Expert Middle management Lower management Professional Worker

0%





# Active donors

Name: Riitta Age: 60 years Gender: Woman Place of residence: Helsinki Occupation: Doctor **Education: Higher education** (university)

Hobbies: Photography, concerts/opera, art exhibitions, cycling, dance



"It's important to learn from other countries' cultures and values"

"I recycle my waste as much as possible"

"I'm worried about climate change"

"I enjoy planning holiday trips"













#### Active donors, attitudes



# GOLD RIBBON

#### The Gold Ribbon

- The gold ribbon is the international symbol for children's cancer.
- It was launched in the United States in 1997
  - https://www.acco.org/gold-ribbon-awareness/
  - https://siope.eu/shinegold
- Internationally, the gold ribbon is promoted in **September, which is** the Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. In Finland, the aim is to raise awareness of the gold ribbon in February because **15 February** is International Childhood Cancer Awareness Day (and timing) would not overlap with Pink ribbon campaign in Sept-Oct.)
- In Finland, the gold ribbon is used by AAMU, which funds childhood cancer research, and Sylva, which supports children with cancer and their families.
- AAMU and Sylva aim to launch the gold ribbon in Finland and make it as well known and appreciated as the other awareness ribbons.



# AAMU and past visibility



AAMU Brand Film / Life is worth exploring https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=dLUIiLRQjR4





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IEMENS

S -







**Time to wake up.** When something small can ring loudly – How a small alarm clock ringed for an entire month in Amos Rex to raise awareness.



AAMUHERÄTYS 2020

Time to wake up. A campaign on International Childhood Cancer Awareness Day.



Jo 10 vuotta Aamu on kasvattanut tietoisuutta lasten syövistä ja tehnyt työtä, joka tukee lasten syöpien tutkimusta mahdollistaen sekä parhaan hoidon että terveen aikuisuuden.

ELÄMÄ ON TUTKIMISEN ARVOINEN.

AAMU 10 years.



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# Thank you.

# AAMU Life is worth exploring.

