

SWIM ACROSS AMERICA MISSION:

" WE UNITE THE SWIMMING
COMMUNITY BY HOSTING
BENEFIT SWIMS THAT RAISE
MONEY TO FUND
**LIFE SAVING CANCER RESEARCH
AND CLINICAL TRIALS. "**



The Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center is ranked in the

TOP 10
pediatric cancer
programs in
the country.

Since 2019, SAA Atlanta funding has supported young investigators and their research projects at the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center. Support for young investigators provides funding to a cohort of promising investigators and future research leaders to encourage and promote quality research in clinical oncology. Current funding supports 5 young investigators studying the following: leukemia, osteosarcoma, neuroblastoma, and survivorship

*Current
Funding
Status*



The intent is to fund physicians and provide career and project support for young, proven investigators in postdoctoral fellowships or who have recently achieved junior faculty positions and are committing their lives to the field of pediatric cancer to provide research with vibrant new ideas. Funding is designed to nurture young scientists in the pursuit of independent hypotheses and to enable them to develop the preliminary data necessary to successfully compete for major research grants.



The Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center clinical research program offers patients access to nearly

350 clinical studies

This is significant because a clinical trial is the very best shot at more cures and better treatment options.



Swim Across America Atlanta funds benefit the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. Currently, funds are directed to support pediatric cancer.

Nationally, Swim Across America has raised over

\$100 million

Since 1987.



Established in 2013, the Swim Across America Atlanta swim has donated nearly

\$3.3 million

to the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center.

SAA Atlanta funds from 2013-2015 supported Dr. Tobey MacDonald to identify a specific driver of medulloblastoma tumor, the most common type of pediatric brain tumor. Dr. MacDonald and his team have identified a potential inhibitor to block tumor initiation and growth, and will be initiating a promising clinical trial with this drug for investigation in children with refractory brain tumors.



The Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center treats more kids with brain tumors than anywhere else in the country.

From 2016 to 2018, SAA Atlanta funds supported the research of Dr. Doug Graham, Director of the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center. Dr. Graham and Dr. Deborah DeRyckere developed a promising new cancer drug, MRX-2843, which is special because it kills cancer cells and also reprograms the immune system to attack cancer cells.



We care for more kids with cancer and blood disorders than anywhere else in the Southeast. Last year, **more than 480 children** were newly diagnosed with cancer at our Center alone.



The Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center is the pediatric component of the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University, **the first and only** comprehensive National Cancer Institute (NCI)- designated in Georgia.