

# SAA-ATLANTA IMPACT REPORT



SWIM ACROSS AMERICA  
2023 GRANT AMOUNT  
**\$355,000**



**Aflac**  
Cancer & Blood  
Disorders Center

SUPPORTED SINCE 2013

SAA-ATLANTA HAS  
GRANTED OVER  
**\$3.3 MILLION**  
TO FIGHT CANCER  
SINCE 2013

## RESEARCH EMPHASIS



ACUTE  
LYMPHOBLASTIC  
LEUKEMIA



OSTEOSARCOMA



PEDIATRIC  
CANCER



BLOOD  
CANCERS



NEUROBLASTOMA

## GRANT RECIPIENTS



**Dr. Waitman Aumann**  
Focus: How a developmental protein, called SIX1, can lead to a worse prognosis in pediatric leukemias.



**Dr. Dailia Benita Francis**  
Focus: How immune molecule Siglec-15 is expressed at high levels on a specific type of lymphomas can develop new therapies.



**Dr. Jenny Shim**  
Focus: Understanding why neuroblastoma does not respond to different types of therapies and how we can identify novel treatments to improve patient outcomes.



**Dr. Sherri Smart**  
Focus: Applying biotechnology to improve outcomes for pediatric osteosarcoma patients.



**Dr. Xu Ji**  
Focus: Evaluate disparities in pediatric cancer outcomes by health insurance coverage and other disparities.

Swim Across America-Atlanta funding supports young investigators and their research projects at the Aflac Cancer 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.**

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.

## CHILDHOOD CANCER IN THE UNITED STATES BY THE NUMBERS

**47 CHILDREN**

DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER  
EVERY DAY

**1 IN 5**

CHILDREN DO NOT  
SURVIVE

**ONLY 4%**

OF NIH FUNDING ALLOCATED  
TO CHILDHOOD CANCER  
RESEARCH

**10 YEARS OLD**

AVERAGE AGE AT DIAGNOSIS

**ONLY 6**

DRUGS DEVELOPED AND  
APPROVED SPECIFICALLY  
FOR CHILDREN IN THE  
LAST 25 YEARS

**95%**

OF SURVIVORS WILL  
EXPERIENCE A SIGNIFICANT  
SIDE EFFECT BY AGE 45