

MAHAK- Society to Support Children Suffering from Cancer ENDORSES
PSYCHOSOCIAL STANDARDS OF CARE FOR CHILDREN WITH CANCER AND THEIR FAMILIES

MAHAK Charity Supports First-Ever Comprehensive Psychosocial Standards of Care To Ensure All Children with Cancer and Their Families Receive an Optimal Level of Psychosocial Care

WASHINGTON, D.C. – January 2021: MAHAK- Society to Support Children Suffering from Cancer (<https://mhk.mahak-charity.org>) has endorsed the Psychosocial Standards of Care for Children with Cancer and their families. The scientific, evidence-based psychosocial standards first published in a special supplement of *Pediatric Blood & Cancer*, defines an optimal level of care that all children with cancer and their families should receive.

“Having our child diagnosed with cancer, undergo treatment, and die from bone cancer, we learned that Childhood Cancer is Not Just About the Medicine! The psychological impact of childhood cancer is just as real as the physical consequences for patients and their families,” said Victoria Sardi-Brown, Co-Founder of the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation. The Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation had the vision to create and develop Standards of Care to ensure patients and families have access to an optimal level of psychosocial care from the time of diagnosis, through survivorship, or end of life and bereavement care. The project involved over 80 clinicians, researchers, and healthcare practitioners, spanning a four-year, international effort.

The creation of the Psychosocial Standards of Care is a major step forward in addressing the needs of children with cancer and their families,” said Sharif Nezam Mafi, Chief Executive Officer of MAHAK, the Society to Support Children Suffering from Cancer. Ahmadian stated, “As one-dimensional approaches have proven inadequate as an appropriate response, The Psychosocial Standards of Care underscores the significance and importance of psychosocial intervention and support, delivered alongside medical services during the cancer diagnosis and treatment processes. For managing the psychological impacts of childhood cancer and providing cancer-stricken children and their families with comprehensive support services, MAHAK has focused on integration of psychological and social work services across the country during the past few years.”

The development of the Psychosocial Standards of Care is a major step forward in addressing the needs of children with cancer and their families. The integration of psychosocial care along with disease-directed treatment improves the quality of life across the cancer trajectory. Depression and other psychosocial concerns can affect adherence to treatment regimens and decrease coping abilities.

MAHAK is a philanthropic organization established with the charitable and altruistic goal of serving humanity by combatting pediatric cancer nationally and internationally through medical care, research and support services. MAHAK is a non-profit, non-political, and non-governmental charity, dependent exclusively on public support provided in the form of funds, as well as in-kind, goods, services, and technical expertise.

Offering comprehensive services to children with cancer and their families, providing the most advanced and effective treatment services while observing the International Charter of Patients’ Rights, employing up-to-date scientific advances, and establishing a new research center in order to contribute to identifying the causes of childhood cancer, and its preferred methods of diagnosis, prevention, and treatment comprise the mission of this organization.

The Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation and their team of pediatric oncology experts, advocates, policy and lawmakers, along with health insurers and accrediting associations, are working to encourage the rapid adoption of the Standards in clinical sites throughout the world. Learn more at www.mattiemiracle.com/standards.