

2022

IMPACT REPORT

POGO ENABLES ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY, COORDINATED CARE & SUPPORT

POGO partners to achieve an excellent and integrated childhood cancer care system for children, youth, their families and survivors in Ontario and beyond. We are inspired by you, our valued partners and passionate donors, who share our vision and enable informed solutions that are critical to our success.

POGO

PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY GROUP OF ONTARIO

**FOR KIDS WITH CANCER
FOR NOW, FOR LIFE.**

FAMILY SUPPORT



In addition to the emotional stress that comes with a childhood cancer diagnosis, many families face tremendous logistical and financial challenges during their child's treatment. POGO provides complementary solutions to these challenges: financial support to families through the POGO Financial Assistance Program and care closer to home through the POGO Provincial Pediatric Oncology Satellite Clinic Program.* When a child's treatment needs to take place far from home in a specialized childhood cancer program located in one of five tertiary hospitals in Ontario, POGO partners with hotels to provide families with complimentary or reduced-rate hotel rooms.

Last year, POGO provided

\$533,000

in timely financial assistance to 645 families across Ontario

In the face of continued challenges, Hilton Hotels provided **856** complimentary hotel nights utilized by **109** families at a total value of

\$145,811



SURVIVOR CARE

Many childhood cancer survivors will experience complications either due to the disease itself, complex surgical procedures or the rigorous rounds of radiation and chemotherapy they were given during treatment.

POGO provides support to these survivors into adulthood: systematic health monitoring through the POGO Provincial Pediatric Oncology AfterCare Program,* and counselling support through the POGO School and Work Transitions Program (Transitions).



402 survivors received services from the five POGO Counsellors — an **11%** increase from the previous year. Of those, **314** were new to Transitions

104 survivor clients applied for, are attending, were accepted to or graduated from a post-secondary institution



CONTINUING EDUCATION

Pediatric oncology is a rapidly advancing field. POGO's Education events provide a wide range of opportunities to enhance knowledge about childhood cancer care.

POGO hosted **3 fully virtual conferences** and **2 webinars** to support the continuing education of pediatric oncology healthcare professionals in Ontario

272 pediatric oncology health professionals from across Canada and around the globe attended the virtual POGO Multidisciplinary Symposium on Childhood Cancer, exceeding the registration target by **36%**



RESEARCH

The POGO Research Unit (PRU) focuses on research that contributes to a better understanding of childhood cancer and its impacts, and improved outcomes for children with cancer and their families. The PRU supports multidisciplinary, multi-institutional, intramural and extramural research via funding opportunities for trainees and research grants. The Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario Networked Information System (POGONIS) is the engine driving POGO's research activity. Our pioneering database contains detailed clinical information and specifics about children's diagnoses, treatments, complications and long-term outcomes.

POGONIS data were used in 10 research studies published in 2021, including **3 publications** related to **COVID-19**. Two of these studies found that childhood and adolescent and young adult cancer survivors did not have a higher risk of COVID infection or serious complications from COVID than members of the general population. These were the largest studies of COVID risk in survivors of childhood and AYA cancers published to date. One study found that the pandemic did not seem to affect the access that children had to cancer care in Canada.

In addition, **7 research** studies from researchers using POGONIS data were published in international scientific journals

THANK YOU

Our sincerest gratitude to all of our donors for your dedication to championing childhood cancer care. A special thank you to those who have committed to POGO with a multi-year agreement. Your ongoing commitment provides stable funding for today and tomorrow, allowing POGO to plan ahead, knowing that we have your support.



@POGO4Kids



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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US AT WWW.POGO.CA

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*Indicates programs supported by Ministry of Health (MOH) funding. POGO secures MOH funding for clinical activities at our partner hospitals and system-wide coordination of childhood cancer care in Ontario.

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