

Feasibility study of the opening of an integral attention center for "Conquering Smiles A.C."

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Received January 7, 2017; Accepted June 15, 2017

Abstract

Every day millions of people with cancer are diagnosed of which 3% are children. In Mexico, a total of 3,800 new cases of childhood cancer are registered each year and it is the second cause of death, due to the fact that 70% of cases are detected when the disease is very advanced, and cancer causes disability. That is why a feasibility study was carried out for the creation of a comprehensive center to help children with cancer that allows collaborating with public institutions in the fight against this disease. 88 surveys were applied to parents of children with cancer, which showed that 47% of the patients come from rural areas and need a comprehensive care center that provides psychological support, hospitality, medicines, leisure activities and human development. that the child forgets a moment of his illness and contribute to improving the quality of life of the patient and of the families. In addition children recovering from the disease need support to reintegrate socially without discrimination and families need support to resume their lives.

Children with cancer, benefits, quality of life, psychosocial supports

Citation: MARTÍNEZ-ARANDA, María Rebeca, ANCHONDO-CHAVARRÍA, Guadalupe and VILLALOBOS-PIÑÓN, Lidsay. Feasibility study of the opening of an integral attention center for "Conquering Smiles A.C.". ECORFAN Journal-Republic of Cameroon 2017, 3-4;1-4

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Introduction

Conquistando Sonrisas is a Civil Association responsible for supporting families of children with cancer, which performs the following actions: recreation activities for children, collection of food, visits to hospitals, sponsorship, blood donation, support with medicines, among others

The Association has observed that there are a large number of foreign families who, in the course of the long fight against cancer of their children, face several obstacles, for example: long and expensive treatments, lack of transportation for the transfer of their child to the hospital, do not have adequate guidance, but one of the relevant points is that most families do not have a place to stay and many times in the absence of economic resources these families are left waiting for the end of treatment of their children outside the hospitals. That is why we plan the construction of a Comprehensive Care Center that provides various services such as: lodging, food, transportation to different hospitals, talks and psychosocial supports with the aim of making the treatment with dignity and quality of life. , favoring the recovery process of children and the well-being of their whole family, in a safe and healthy living space.

Methodology

The feasibility study for the opening of a Comprehensive Care Center was carried out under a cross-sectional descriptive and interpretative design through quantitative and qualitative approaches that allow to provide strong foundations to the project. The technique used to collect the information was a questionnaire structured under the Likert scale applied to parents of children hospitalized during the months of September and December in the following hospitals: Children's Hospital, Hospital Morelos and General Hospital in the City of Chihuahua.

As well as telephone surveys to the total of registered parents in the archives of the Association.

Review of literature

Currently cancer is one of the diseases that has developed the most and is associated with death, pain and disability is a condition of high incidence in our country and is ranked as the third cause of death, only after diabetes and of hypertensive diseases and during the last two decades mortality has increased in people under 18 so the government in 2005 creates the National Council for the Prevention and Treatment of Cancer in Children and Adolescents that includes prevention , timely detection and control of cancer.

It is important to say that cancer is mostly associated with lifestyles, but also with conditions of poverty, marginalization and deficient equipment of medical units, as well as the insufficiency of trained personnel for the adequate interpretation of results, or to generate timely diagnoses and treatments. Escamilla-Santiago, Narro-Robles (2009) in his study of Cancer mortality trends in children mention that underdeveloped countries have higher mortality from childhood cancer than developed ones and this is due to the lack of access to public services, poor technology that counts and that there are no institutions to care for and support groups of children with cancer. On the other hand they mention that in developed countries like the United States there has been a decrease in mortality due to this disease.

The socio-economic backwardness is a factor so that children do not have an opportune diagnosis that allows them to have an adequate treatment and save their lives. Rivera-Luna (2015) point out that the mortality rate in the population between 15 and 18 years old has increased at that age.

It is observed that at a national level, 4.7% of the patients have abandoned the treatment and they are not given adequate treatment since many are treated in oncological centers for adults.

Given the seriousness of the problem, joint action between the government and civil society is necessary to implement preventive actions and comprehensive care for children suffering from the disease in order to reduce the number of deaths due to this cause. A comprehensive care center is convenient as it would be supported under a psychology program and adequate accompaniment to adolescents and their parents.

According to the Registry of Cancer in Children and Adolescents in Mexico, cases of cancer in children under 20 years of age amount to 3569 patients in the period from 2005 to 2010, being higher in the male sex, with Chihuahua registering a total of 237 cases. In the results presented by Escamilla-Santiago, Narro-Robles (2009) we have that "Among male adolescents mortality increased in six states, so that Guerrero (5.7%), Chihuahua (3.2%) and Oaxaca (3.1%) are those that showed the greatest increase".

According to The Cancer Atlas (2014) p.42 "The proportion of childhood cancers in relation to all types of cancers is higher in countries with low Human Development Index (HDI) with young populations". In 2008, the coverage of the Catastrophic Expenses Protection Fund was added to all types of cancer in a population under 18 years old, so children have Popular Insurance coverage.

Cancer is curable if detected early, early diagnosis, access to adequate treatments, a balanced diet and socio-emotional support are key factors for the success of treatment, however the care centers for these patients is insufficient.

As a consequence, diagnosis and treatment in a timely manner are seriously affected.

Results

A total of 88 questionnaires were applied to parents who have children with cancer and the results are the following:

Of the total number of cancer patients, the most affected are children with 65.9% and 34.1% are girls whose age ranges from 11 to 18 years.

In the research, the general data of the family was analyzed, which indicates the following: 40.9 of the families are composed of 4 members and 26% of 5 individuals. The academic degree of the parents is of 43% secondary level and only 18% has a university level. 54.5% have a stable job and their income level ranges between \$ 3000 and \$ 5000 pesos per month and 62.5% are married.

Regarding the place of residence, 47% are people who come from rural areas, mainly from Delicias and Cuauhtémoc, with a high percentage of peasants, most of whom travel by truck to the hospital, so that food, lodging and transportation are the most important. items where they spend the most.

The place where they spend the night while their son is in treatment is in the hospital in 48.9%, while 26.1% have their own home, it is worth mentioning that these are the ones who live in the city of Chihuahua.

Medical Service 42% has IMSS while 51% is affiliated with Seguro Popular, which is an indicator that they come from a low socioeconomic level.

60% of respondents had to sell some property or request a loan to pay for their child's treatment.

Families visit the hospital on average twice a month, staying 4 to 6 days for the treatment of their children.

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