LIBRA

Lions International Blood Research Appeal

We raise vital funds for King's College Hospital in London

Equipping the Haematology Department and developing laboratory space

Helping health experts to develop life saving treatments

www.libralionscharity.org

Founded more than 30 years ago

LIBRA is the 'Lions International Blood Research Appeal' and was founded in 1976. Two years later, Lions Clubs in the South East of England agreed to support us and established a Charitable Trust, devoted to LIBRA. Our aim is to raise funds for the Haematology Department at King's College Hospital, covering the cost of equipment that is vital for developing life improving and life saving treatments - ensuring world class patient care.

We work closely with experts at the hospital and they each specialise in various fields. Professor Ghulam Mufti who heads up the Department of Haematology at King's keeps us updated on progress within his team. He is world renowned for treating patients with leukaemia and blood cancer. We also have strong connections with Professor Farzin Farzaneh who focuses on molecular medicine and developing new treatments.

Making a difference

We provide diagnostic equipment to help experts develop treatments for blood disorders and various health problems, including Liver disease, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Sickle Cell disease and Diabetes.

Equipment is provided for all blood research departments, including a team of 86 experts who focus on treating leukaemia. Through fundraising initiatives we also help to cover the cost of specialist machines that are required for use on blood donors and patients.

The unit that we support has the largest bone marrow transplant programme in the UK, is recognised on a global scale and we work closely with professors to ensure their needs for equipment are met.

Acorns to Oaks Project

With the help of LIBRA King's launched the 'Acorns to Oaks Project' to raise awareness about the need for funding to cover the costs of specialist equipment. Trustees agreed to support this project and raise £249,000. Through hard work and great determination, they are already more than half way to hitting the target for this project. Trustees work closely with Professor Ghulam Mufti, ensuring that needs for specialist diagnostic equipment are met.

Find out more by visiting www.libralionscharity.org

The future

With the support of Lions Clubs and the public we have raised more than £500,000 since the charity began. Our work doesn't stop here as the need for equipment at King's College Hospital is great. A new Clinical Research Facility is being developed at King's and we have been asked to provide funds to cover the costs of equipment.

It will become home to the Haematology Unit in the near future and also bring together other vital departments including Diabetes Research, Hepatocyte Transplantation, Cardiology and Neurosciences. The new facility will allow professors and their teams to work cohesively under one roof. LIBRA will help to equip the Haematology Unit through various fundraising activities.

Professors in this unit will work with cells that can be used to regenerate damaged cells and even organs. Cellular therapy plays a key role in this as the specialist team identify ways to preserve certain cells which are beneficial to patients.

Our patrons

The Duke of Westminster, Countess Mountbatten and Gary Lineker have all backed the appeal for many years and feel passionately about supporting us going forward. The patrons take an active interest in our work and we keep them updated on the appeal and our latest projects.

Support us

You can help LIBRA in a variety of ways, ensuring that we can continue to provide King's with the equipment and laboratory space required for first class patient care. There are so many opportunities to support us.

From go-karting and skydiving, through to overseas challenges - activities are endless. We organise many fundraising events and these can be viewed in more detail on our website.

You can also arrange your own fundraising activity or sponsorship challenge. Sponsored walks, coffee mornings and auctions are always popular.

Donations

If you would like to make a donation please send a cheque payable to 'Lions International Blood Research Appeal' to the following address:- LIBRA, 165 Dalnabay, Silverglades, Aviemore PH22 1TD

There are other methods to consider, such as payroll giving, tribute funds and legacies. Details of these and the LIBRA Gift Aid scheme are available on our website. Gift Aid information and forms are available from Trustee David Richards who can be contacted on 01479 812724 or email davidrichardsremise@hotmail.com

If you are interested in finding out more about LIBRA and how you can help, please email claire@libralionscharity.org or call 07795 255393

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