LIFE FOR THE KIDNEYS PROJECT

Strengthening Hemodialysis Services for the Itapeva Regional Health District

An Initiative to Ensure Life, Dignity, and Access to Healthcare

The Santa Casa de Misericórdia de Itapeva, a philanthropic hospital founded in 1899, is the leading provider of medium- and high-complexity healthcare services for the municipalities that make up the Itapeva Regional Health District in the State of São Paulo, Brazil.

Among its essential services is Renal Replacement Therapy (Hemodialysis), a life-sustaining treatment for patients living with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD), a condition that permanently impairs kidney function and requires ongoing treatment to sustain life.

Currently, Santa Casa provides regular hemodialysis treatment to 184 patients from 15 municipalities throughout the region, serving a population of more than 280,000 people. Many of these patients face severe physical limitations and depend on treatment three times per week, every week of the year.

For many, each treatment session represents a significant journey. Patients from the most distant municipalities travel up to 135 kilometers (84 miles) to reach the dialysis center, often while coping with serious health conditions. Over the course of a year, a single patient may travel more than 24,000 kilometers (15,000 miles) solely to receive dialysis treatment.

Any interruption or failure in hemodialysis services is not merely an operational challenge—it poses a direct threat to the lives of these patients.

The Challenge

To maintain continuous and safe patient care, Santa Casa relies on specialized hemodialysis machines that are essential for every treatment session.

Currently, part of this equipment is operated through leasing contracts, creating recurring operational costs and increasing the institution’s dependence on third-party suppliers to maintain uninterrupted service.

Given the growing demand for renal replacement therapy and the need to ensure long-term sustainability and patient safety, investing in the acquisition of hospital-owned equipment has become a strategic priority.

The Solution

The Life for the Kidneys Project seeks financial support to acquire four modern hemodialysis machines that will become part of Santa Casa de Misericórdia de Itapeva's permanent infrastructure.

This investment will strengthen the technological capacity of the Renal Replacement Therapy Service, providing greater operational autonomy, enhanced patient safety, and improved financial sustainability.

In addition to safeguarding treatment for current patients, the project will help preserve an essential healthcare service for the entire region.

Social Impact

Supporting this project will generate lasting benefits for the community, including:

• Ensuring uninterrupted treatment for 184 chronic kidney disease patients;

• Strengthening specialized healthcare services for a regional population of more than 280,000 people;

• Increasing patient safety during hemodialysis sessions;

• Reducing the risk of treatment interruption due to equipment unavailability;

• Strengthening the regional public healthcare network;

• Improving the financial sustainability of the dialysis service by reducing recurring equipment leasing costs;

• Allowing reinvestment of saved resources into patient care improvements, professional training, and technological innovation.

More than acquiring equipment, this project represents hope, security, dignity, and quality of life for hundreds of families facing the daily challenges of chronic kidney disease.

How to Support

Companies, foundations, nonprofit organizations, civic institutions, and individual donors are invited to partner with us in making this project a reality.

By supporting the Life for the Kidneys Project, your organization will directly contribute to saving lives, strengthening public healthcare services, and building a more compassionate and equitable society.

Every contribution helps ensure that hundreds of patients continue to receive life-sustaining treatment close to their families and communities, with the quality, safety, and dignity they deserve.

Total Project Investment

US$ 50,000 (approximately BRL 280,000)

Direct Beneficiaries

184 patients currently receiving hemodialysis treatment

Indirect Beneficiaries

More than 280,000 residents of the 15 municipalities within the Itapeva Regional Health District

Implementing Organization

Santa Casa de Misericórdia de Itapeva

Sponsoring Organization

Rotary Club of Itapeva

Rotary Area of Focus

Disease Prevention and Treatment

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