FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wilms Cancer Foundation Launches Global Initiative to Map the International Paediatric Kidney Cancer Community

New international mapping initiative will identify and connect kidney cancer organisations, children's hospitals, treatment centres, research institutions, clinical trial networks and patient advocacy groups to strengthen global collaboration, research awareness and support for children affected by kidney cancer.

WASHINGTON, DC – November 19, 2026 – The **Wilms Cancer Foundation (the WCF)** has announced the launch of a new international initiative to identify, map and catalogue organisations involved in paediatric kidney cancer research, treatment, education, advocacy and patient support worldwide.

The initiative will establish a comprehensive, structured database of organisations and institutions contributing to the international renal cancer community, with a particular emphasis on those directly involved in Wilms tumor and other childhood kidney cancers.

Developed as part of the Foundation's **Global Wilms Tumor Initiative™ (GWTI)**, the project aims to improve visibility across the international paediatric renal cancer landscape, strengthen connections between organisations and create a foundation for greater cooperation among healthcare providers, researchers, charities, advocacy organisations and families.

By systematically identifying organisations across countries and regions, the WCF intends to develop a clearer understanding of the global infrastructure supporting children diagnosed with kidney cancer, including where specialist expertise, clinical research, educational resources and patient support services are available.

Building a Global Map of the Paediatric Renal Cancer Community

The international kidney cancer community encompasses a broad and diverse network of organisations, ranging from major academic medical centres and specialist children's hospitals to independent research institutions, professional associations, patient advocacy groups and charitable foundations.

However, information about these organisations is often distributed across multiple national healthcare systems, research networks, institutional websites and professional directories.

For families, healthcare professionals, researchers and advocacy organisations, identifying relevant institutions and understanding their areas of expertise can be challenging, particularly when searching across international boundaries.

The WCF's new initiative seeks to address this fragmentation by developing a centralised, structured resource identifying organisations involved in paediatric renal cancer and documenting their activities, areas of specialisation and potential relevance to the wider international community.

The initiative will initially focus on identifying and categorising organisations across several principal sectors:

- **Children's Hospitals and Specialist Treatment Centres:** Paediatric oncology departments, specialist renal cancer clinics, surgical centres, multidisciplinary treatment programmes and hospitals providing diagnosis, treatment and long-term follow-up care for children with kidney cancer.

- **Research Institutions and Academic Medical Centres:** Universities, laboratories, research institutes and academic hospitals undertaking scientific investigations into Wilms tumor, paediatric renal malignancies, cancer genetics, molecular biology and treatment development.

- **Clinical Research Groups and Trial Networks:** National and international clinical trial organisations, cooperative oncology groups, clinical research consortia and institutions involved in developing or conducting paediatric kidney cancer studies.

- **Charities and Patient Advocacy Organisations:** Foundations, non-profit organisations, survivor networks and patient support groups providing education, advocacy, financial assistance, family resources and psychosocial support.

- **Professional Associations and Medical Societies:** Organisations representing paediatric oncologists, nephrologists, surgeons, researchers and other healthcare professionals contributing to childhood kidney cancer care.

- **Renal Cancer Organisations and International Coalitions:** Kidney cancer charities, collaborative networks and umbrella organisations whose activities may support or intersect with paediatric renal cancer research, awareness and advocacy.

- **Biotechnology, Pharmaceutical and Diagnostic Organisations:** Companies and research-focused enterprises developing therapies, diagnostic technologies, molecular testing platforms or other innovations relevant to childhood kidney cancer.

The database will distinguish between organisations directly involved in paediatric renal cancer and those whose broader activities may offer opportunities for collaboration, research development or knowledge exchange.

Creating a Structured International Knowledge Resource

Beyond identifying organisations, the initiative will seek to capture information about their geographical location, institutional affiliations, specialist activities, research interests, treatment capabilities, collaborative networks and publicly available contact information.

Where appropriate and verifiable, the database may also identify participation in clinical trials, specialist research programmes, international working groups and professional networks.

The Foundation intends to organise this information by country, geographical region, organisation type and area of expertise, allowing the international community to gain a clearer picture of existing capabilities and opportunities for cooperation.

This approach will also help identify areas where specialist services and research activities are concentrated, alongside regions where publicly identifiable resources or institutional representation may be limited.

Importantly, the absence of an organisation from the database will not necessarily indicate an absence of services in a particular country or region. The WCF recognises that information availability varies internationally and intends to develop the resource progressively through research, verification and engagement with participating organisations.

Strengthening International Collaboration and Research Connections

A central objective of the initiative is to improve connections between organisations that share an interest in advancing paediatric kidney cancer outcomes.

By identifying institutions and groups working in related fields, the WCF hopes to facilitate introductions, encourage the exchange of information and support the development of collaborative relationships across national and organisational boundaries.

These connections may be particularly valuable in childhood kidney cancer, where the relative rarity of the disease makes international cooperation important for advancing research, clinical trials and specialist knowledge.

The mapping initiative will also provide the Foundation with a stronger evidence-based understanding of the international renal cancer ecosystem, helping inform its future outreach, partnership development, educational programmes and research engagement activities.

Supporting the Global Wilms Tumor Initiative™

The international mapping project forms part of the Foundation's wider **Global Wilms Tumor Initiative™**, which seeks to improve childhood kidney cancer awareness, education, research communication and collaboration worldwide.

Through the initiative, the WCF has been expanding its international activities, including the development of multilingual educational resources, digital information platforms, research communications and relationships with healthcare and advocacy organisations.

The new database will complement these activities by establishing a more systematic understanding of the institutions and organisations operating across the global paediatric renal cancer landscape.

It is also expected to support the Foundation's international outreach by helping identify organisations that may benefit from, contribute to or help distribute reliable childhood kidney cancer information.

A Global Community Connected by a Shared Purpose

Commenting on the launch, **TJ Hodgkinson, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the Wilms Cancer Foundation**, said:

"Across the world, there are extraordinary organisations, hospitals, researchers, clinicians and charities working to improve the lives of children affected by kidney cancer. Yet there is currently no single, comprehensive international resource that brings together the full breadth of this community. Our objective is to identify and map that community, understand the work being undertaken across different countries and institutions, and create a resource that makes it easier for organisations to discover one another, share information and explore opportunities for collaboration. Cooperation is particularly important. The more effectively we can connect the people and organisations involved in research, treatment, education and family support, the greater the opportunities to strengthen our collective efforts."

"This initiative is not simply about compiling a directory. It is about developing a clearer understanding of the international infrastructure supporting childhood kidney cancer and identifying ways in which that community can become better connected. We believe this project will become an important resource for the Wilms Cancer Foundation and, ulimately, for the wider international paediatric kidney cancer community."

Identifying Opportunities and Gaps in Global Resources

As the project develops, the WCF intends to use the database to explore broader patterns in the distribution of paediatric renal cancer expertise and support services.

This may include examining the geographical representation of specialist treatment centres, research institutions, clinical trial networks and patient advocacy organisations.

Such analysis could help highlight opportunities for international partnerships, information-sharing initiatives and expanded educational outreach.

The Foundation also recognises that the needs and resources of paediatric kidney cancer communities vary considerably between countries.

In some regions, specialist treatment and research programmes are supported by established national and international networks. Elsewhere, publicly accessible information about paediatric renal cancer services may be limited.

By bringing together verified institutional information, the WCF aims to develop a more informed understanding of these differences and contribute to discussions about improving global access to knowledge and support.

An Invitation to the International Renal Cancer Community

The Wilms Cancer Foundation invites organisations involved in paediatric kidney cancer research, treatment, education, advocacy and patient support to participate in the initiative.

Children's hospitals, research institutions, clinical trial networks, professional associations, charitable foundations, patient organisations and other relevant groups are encouraged to contact the WCF to introduce their activities and help ensure that their work is represented accurately.

The Foundation also welcomes introductions to organisations whose work may not be widely visible internationally, particularly those operating in countries or regions where childhood kidney cancer resources are less extensively documented online.

As the initiative progresses, the WCF intends to continue expanding and refining the database, with the longer-term objective of developing a valuable international reference resource for the paediatric renal cancer community.

Organisations interested in participating, contributing information or exploring collaboration are invited to contact the Wilms Cancer Foundation at info@WilmsFoundation.org.

About the Wilms Cancer Foundation

The **Wilms Cancer Foundation** is an international childhood kidney cancer organisation dedicated to improving awareness, education, support, research communication and global collaboration for children and families affected by Wilms tumor.

Through the **Global Wilms Tumor Initiative™** and its international programmes, WCF works to expand access to trusted information, strengthen patient and caregiver education, support healthcare professional engagement and address inequalities in childhood kidney cancer outcomes worldwide.

Website: www.WilmsFoundation.org

Media Contacts:

Wilms Cancer Foundation

Telephone: +1 (778) 514 5000
email: info@WilmsFoundation.org
Website: www.WilmsFoundation.org