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HOW YOU CAN HELP:

You can become a volunteer

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You may personally donate through:

- Bank Bill
- Bank Deposit
- PagSeguro (similar to Paypal)

Viver e Sorrir – Grupo de Apoio ao Prematuro

CNPJ – 06140475/0001-60



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CHECK OUT MORE INFORMATION IN OUR WEBSITE:

www.viveresorrir.org.br or you may contact us at ouvinte@viveresorrir.org.br



LIVE & SMILE

SUPPORT GROUP AND ORGANIZATION TO HELP PREMATURE BABIES

They came before their time was due, but the specialized assistance and volunteer group have been there for them all along.

Premature babies, especially the ones who were born underweight, are likely predisposed to several health conditions, thus they require special medical care throughout their lives and not only right after birth, as many would presume.

Unfortunately, premature babies who were born in unprivileged families do not possess the means to afford medical care or the necessary treatments required so that they can fully develop and grow up healthily.

Therefore, in order to change this saddening scenario, a group of professionals of medical care and scholars of the Paulista Medical School (UNIFESP) gathered with some volunteers who were willing to help, and in 2004, founded Viver e Sorrir (Live & Smile). This organization helps premature babies and aims to provide the know-how coming from Neonatal Pediatrics Academic Disciplines of UNIFESP and use it to improve the services offered at its headquarters. These services involve providing assistance, teaching, professional training and research so that Viver e Sorrir (Live & Smile) is able to offer the best life conditions and medical care to premature babies.



PLEASE, GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE WORK THAT WE DO AND TAKE PART IN IT!

VOLUNTEERING

In order to meet the goals and fulfill our mission, Viver e Sorrir, Support Group to Premature Children, also counts with the support of many volunteers. In the 8th floor of Sao Paulo State Hospital, our volunteers socialize and help the mothers whose babies are still hospitalized. This work may continue further in the Premature Infant Ambulatory facility where our volunteers take in patients and their family, offer them snacks and distribute benefits. They also conduct screening procedures for donations to garage sales, promote and participate in events.

Our volunteers also help with the promotion and publicity of our institution Viver e Sorrir as well as with fundraising which is done through our events, garage sales and reaching potential benefactors.



WHY PEOPLE SHOULD SUPPORT VIVER E SORRIR - SUPPORT GROUP TO PREMATURE CHILDREN



The number of premature babies who are born worldwide increases every year. In Brazil, there is a similar scenario. To make matters worse, the Brazilian public medical care is scarce to support our country nationwide. For this reason, the work that the Neonatal Pediatrics Discipline of the Paulista Medical School of Sao Paulo (UNIFESP) performs as in the Premature Infant Ambulatory facility and in the Neonatal units turns out to be a reference in specialized medical care for premature infants. Nonetheless, this work can always be improved along with the outreach program that are extended to families who need such support. For this reason, the work the partnership with our institution Viver e Sorrir - Support Group to Premature Children - makes the entire difference. Both aforementioned parties are complementary and the premature infants are the ones who benefit from this partnership the most. They may be able to "live and smile" healthier and with much more quality of life.

But in order for that to happen, we need help.

Come and take part in this work and help us change the rates of prematurity in our country!



UNIFESP AND VIVER E SORRIR A PARTNERSHIP FOR LIFE

As stated before, prematurity is one of the issues responsible for both infant and neonatal mortality rate, so the continuous improvement of the perinatal assistance is critical to improve these infants' survival. Besides, the likelihood of developing sequelae is strongly connected to perinatal complications and the quality of the assistance these infants receive.

In such scenario, the ongoing professional development of doctors and other professionals who work in the neonatal field as well as the specialized care of premature infants are key in order to improve the overall quality of this health issue in Brazil. Apart from that, another great obstacle to face is that there is a huge lack of such professionals nationwide, thus making workforce scarce.

For this reason, the institution Viver e Sorrir supports the activities developed by the Neonatal Pediatrics Discipline of the Paulista Medical School of Sao Paulo (UNIFESP). These activities include both assistance, teaching and research which contribute directly to the professional development of our staff, and ultimately, to an overall improvement of both the health and the quality of life of both premature children and adolescents.

This support takes place in three ways:

- investment in infrastructure to Neonatal facilities. Viver e Sorrir strives to raise funds to invest in state-of-the art equipment and materials that may increase the chances of infant survival considered as high-risk cases who are born in the facilities of Sao Paulo Hospital, Municipal Hospital Council Jose Storopolli, State Hospital of Diadema and Pirajussara General Hospital. In addition to that, Viver e Sorrir also helps to improve the infrastructure of the Human Milk Bank and Premature Infant Ambulatory facility as these units also serve as places for both teaching and professional development of pediatrics and other medical fields.
- social support to families whose premature infants are in any of these neonatal facilities, and ambulatory care support through the donations of the necessary items such as: baby formula, wheelchairs, glasses, orthosis, medicine, diapers, braces and retainers, among other things.
- promoting the idea of volunteering which helps fulfill the goals of Viver e Sorrir and makes it possible to take in patients and family members, help them with our services and promoting the name of our institution in order to raise funds and expand our reach.

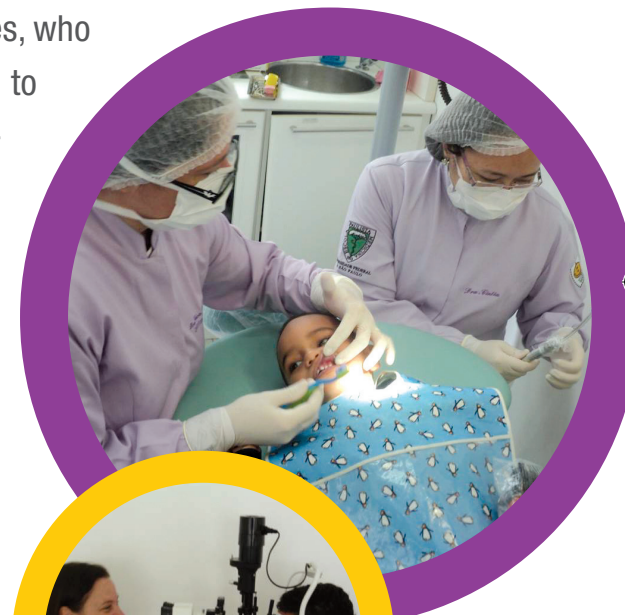


HOW MANY AND WHO ARE THE INFANTS WHO RECEIVE OUR SUPPORT

Considering the likelihood of developing sequelae that premature babies are exposed to, the Neonatal Pediatrics Discipline of the Paulista Medical School of Sao Paulo (UNIFESP) founded more than 30 years ago the Premature Infant Ambulatory facility.

The facility has a groundbreaking project that offers, at the same place, specialized treatment in the area of pediatrics, neurology, ophthalmology, physiotherapy, speech therapy, pediatric dentistry, nutrition, psychology, dermatology and social service. The goal is to offer premature infants specialized care from the moment of patient discharge until the end of their adolescence. Neonates, who are born prior than 37 weeks and with the weight inferior to 1500 g, are often sent to Sao Paulo Hospital, Municipal Hospital Council Jose Storopolli and State Hospital of Diadema. At the moment there are about 900 children and teenagers among the ages of 0 to 19 receiving these services, and each year about 100 babies start in this program, as well. All these children receive some kind of support from Viver e Sorrir. At the time in which a patient is discharged, he or she receives a complete layette and a video of orientations about health and necessary care with premature infants and the importance of receiving the specialized care offered by the Premature Infant Ambulatory facility. As soon as these families are admitted in the program, they start receiving for over a year many benefits and among those are both social support and baby formula once the breastfeeding is terminated.

While in the program, specialists assess the needs of these infants for orthosis, glasses, wheelchairs, braces, retainers, medicine, exams, diapers, food among other things and Viver e Sorrir ensures these children will be provided with these items.



NEONATAL UNITS

Viver e Sorrir also supports the activities developed within the neonatal units of

Sao Paulo Hospital, Municipal Hospital

Council Jose Storopoli, State Hospital of

Diadema and Pirajussara General Hospital. These units often admit pregnant women from underprivileged families who may present some health condition such as high blood pressure, diabetes, infections, lupus, organ transplant issues and/or nutritional deficiencies that may predispose them to premature childbirth.

These hospitals perform altogether about 9000 deliveries a year and about 15% of these babies will likely be premature and therefore will need special and intensive care. In other words, it is a lot of lives who need constant help.

For this reason, this investment not only improves the overall quality of the service that has been offered to these people, but it also improves

the learning and professional development conditions for the staff itself, as these neonatal units serve as a learning center for those who are studying to specialize in the medical care for these patients.

THE HUMAN MILK BANK

This is a specialized center responsible for the promotion, protection and support to breastfeeding. It has multiprofessional staff that develops several activities such as: implementation strategies and incentive to breastfeeding, meetings with nursing mothers regarding breastfeeding difficulties, scientific research, training and professional development for the staff responsible for breastfeeding and other medical fields.

The gathering and pasteurization of breast milk is conducted in the Human Milk Bank and later it is offered to premature infants who cannot be breastfed.



Hospital São Paulo



Hospital Estadual de Diadema



Hospital Municipal Vereador Jose Storopoli



Hospital Geral Pirajussara



WHY DO PREMATURE BABIES NEED HELP?

Nowadays prematurity is considered a worldwide health issue. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there are more than 15 million premature babies born each year, and from this total amount, about 1 million babies eventually die. Amongst the countries that are responsible for 60% of these cases, Brazil occupies the 10th place in the ranking.

Besides, the Brazilian Ministry of Health stated that prematurity in Brazil is the main cause of death within the first month of a neonatal and the second main cause of death for children under the age of 5. This is an alarming and upsetting scenario that demonstrates clearly how important is the subject when it comes to life and health.

Many research studies show that very few people really know that premature babies need specialized health care, not only right after birth, but also throughout their entire childhood and adolescence since they may be likely to present future sequelae or even develop diverse health conditions.

For this reason, undergoing treatment with specialized workforce is key so that these people will be able to detect the slightest alteration in the infant and will be able to quickly intervene if they have to. Their immediate intervention may spare these infants of developing eventual health conditions later in life. Merely to illustrate, underweight premature babies are predisposed to alterations such as:

- Motor skills deficit (12%)
- Visual perceptual deficit (10%)
- Listening skills deficit (6%)
- Language disorders (21%)
- Behavioral alterations (18%) and 32% of these infants may likely present health conditions such as anemia, respiratory problems, growth deficit among others.

