In the United States, 80 percent of children with cancer and blood disorders go into remission. Shockingly, in southern and east Africa, this statistic is reversed: 80 percent of pediatric cancer and hematology patients do not survive, resulting in an estimated 40,000 childhood cancer deaths across sub-Saharan and east Africa each year, largely in part to a significant lack of healthcare workforce and treatment capacity. Currently, there are only five trained pediatric oncologists across Botswana, Malawi and Uganda, and with more than 11,000 new cases of pediatric cancer in these countries each year alone, there is an urgent need for systemic changes in the treatment of childhood blood disorders and cancer. It is time to reverse those numbers and improve the outcomes for thousands of children in Africa. The Global HOPE (Hematology-Oncology Pediatric Excellence) initiative will address the lack of diagnosis, treatment and care in pediatric hematology-oncology in southern and east Africa. The Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation’s SECURE THE FUTURE® program, Texas Children’s Cancer and Hematology Centers and Baylor College of Medicine International Pediatric AIDS Initiative at Texas Children’s Hospital (BIPAI) are committing $100M over the next five years to create an innovative pediatric hematology-oncology treatment network that will help build long-term capacity to treat and dramatically improve the prognosis of thousands of children with blood disorders and cancer in southern and east Africa. The group will partner with the governments of Botswana, Malawi and Uganda to develop the comprehensive treatment network and provide financial and in-kind resources to the program. The pediatric hematology-oncology network will be modeled after the collaboration’s successful creation of the largest pediatric HIV treatment network in the world, which has trained 52,000 healthcare professionals and provides care for 300,000 children with HIV and their families across sub-Saharan Africa.

About the Program

The Global HOPE hematology-oncology network will:

- Build long-term capacity to treat pediatric blood disorders and cancers with African, U.S. and European healthcare providers (HCPs) providing on-site training to local medical professionals and medical students, working in partnership with the major medical schools in Botswana, Malawi and Uganda.

- Train an estimated 4,700 HCPs from Botswana, Malawi, Uganda and other African countries in the first five years of the program.

- The HCPs will represent a variety of disci-
plines including physicians, nurses, social workers and other ancillary providers along the cancer care continuum.

- Treat more than 5,000 children with pediatric blood disorders and cancer in the first five years alone. Treatment of children is currently underway and will transition to temporary facilities.

- Construct two regional Pediatric Hematology-Oncology (PHO) Centers of Excellence treatment and training sites, located in Botswana and Uganda. Botswana will serve as the regional training hub for southern Africa and Uganda for east Africa.

- Serve as a blueprint for other low- and middle-income countries to follow.

About the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation
Since 1999, the BMS Foundation’s SECURE THE FUTURE® initiative has been working with partners in Africa to provide care and support for communities affected by HIV, tuberculosis, women’s cancer and most recently, lung cancer. Global HOPE will apply this same transformational model to pediatric oncology and hematology in the same geographic areas. The Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation is committed to improving the health outcomes of populations disproportionately affected by serious diseases by strengthening healthcare worker capacity, integrating medical care and community-based supportive services, and addressing unmet medical need, such as pediatric blood disorders and cancer in southern and east Africa.

About Texas Children’s Hospital
Texas Children’s Hospital, a not-for-profit health care organization, is committed to creating a healthier future for children and women throughout the global community by leading in patient care, education and research. The hospital includes the Jan and Dan Duncan Neurological Research Institute; the Feigin Tower for pediatric research; Texas Children’s Pavilion for Women, a comprehensive obstetrics/gynecology facility focusing on high-risk births; Texas Children’s Hospital West Campus, a community hospital in suburban West Houston; and Texas Children’s Hospital The Woodlands, a second community hospital planned to open in 2017. The organization also created Texas Children’s Health Plan, the nation’s first HMO for children; has the largest pediatric primary care network in the country, Texas Children’s Pediatrics; Texas Children’s Urgent Care clinics that specialize in after-hours care tailored specifically for children; and a global health program that’s channeling care to children and women all over the world. Texas Children’s Hospital is affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine. For more information, go to www.texaschildrens.org. Get the latest news by visiting the online newsroom and Twitter at twitter.com/texaschildrens.

Baylor College of Medicine International Pediatric AIDS Initiative at Texas Children’s Hospital (BIPAI)
Information can be found at: www.bipai.org