



CHILDHOOD

CANCER SUPPORT

FOR FAMILIES, BY FAMILIES



As one of Australia's leading childhood cancer support organisations, Childhood Cancer Support is a family focused charity offering regional families a place to call home while their child undergoes life-saving cancer treatment.

When your child is diagnosed with cancer, everything else in life takes a backseat. Childhood Cancer Support is your helping hand at a time when you need it most. **That's why we're here.**

For more information on how we can help you
Visit www.ccs.org.au • Phone 07 3844 5000

Who We Are

Childhood Cancer Support is a not-for-profit organisation who, for the past 40 years, has been dedicated to providing families affected by childhood cancer with a place to live that looks and feels like home. Childhood Cancer Support is a family focused charity, founded by a dedicated group of parents who realised there was an urgent need to provide a safe and family-focused environment for regional families whilst their child undergoes life-saving cancer treatment in Brisbane.

Childhood Cancer Support primarily supports regional families who find it difficult to access affordable accommodation while their child is undergoing treatment. The average stay for our families is approximately a demanding and challenging 6-10 months.

Most families are rarely able to get home during their treatment period. By providing the families with accommodation, this reduces the burden and related stress experienced by families during this critical time. Our accommodation facilities and support also opens up opportunities for families and friends to visit and contribute love and support.

By sticking to a no-cost policy, Childhood Cancer Support seeks to remove the emotional and financial stress of living away from home. We provide stability to the lives of children diagnosed with cancer and their families through the provision of not only accommodation but also financial assistance and other social activities for the whole family.

Over the years, thousands of families from Queensland and other states have been assisted by Childhood Cancer Support while their children received treatment in Brisbane. We provide families with a community that cares, because we recognise that this is a battle that cannot be fought alone.



CORPORATE AMBASSADOR

Josie Thomson

Chief Inspiration Officer
Award Winning Coach Author and
MD at Accelerated Excellence



PATRON

His Excellency the Honourable
Paul de Jersey AC
Governor of Queensland



AMBASSADOR

Laura Geitz
Captain – Australian Netball Team
Captain – Queensland Firebirds
Netball Team

OUR MISSION

To provide stability to the lives of children undergoing treatment for cancer and their families through the provision of specialised accommodation, emotional and financial support, transportation and recreational therapies.

OUR VISION

That all regional families have equal access to accommodation and tailored family support services to help them cope when their child is diagnosed with cancer.

Accommodation

Herston



Childhood Cancer Support offers free medium to long term multi-bedroom, self-contained units to house families during their battle against cancer. Our units have been designed and furnished to promote a sense of home for our families during their stay. We also offer accommodation rooms for families who require short-term accommodation only.

HERSTON ACCOMMODATION

Childhood Cancer Support provides an oncology-specific medium to long term accommodation solution for families of children undergoing cancer treatment. Childhood Cancer Support has four residential facilities situated side by side, currently situated in Herston – a total of 13 family styled units.

Our facilities include:

- 1-3 bedroom self-contained units (all linen provided)
- Laundry facilities
- On-site office
- No extra charge for utilities such as electricity or water etc.
- No extra charge for laundry facility

Childhood Cancer Support has additional recreational facilities as well including:

- Private playground with jungle gym and cubby house
- Community room, featuring an entertainment system, toys, craft supplies, piano, and kitchenette
- Picnic tables and BBQ facilities
- On-site mini gym

South Brisbane



SOUTH BRISBANE ACCOMMODATION

The transition to South Brisbane has allowed Childhood Cancer Support the opportunity to expand and provide an additional four units for families to stay in whilst their child receives life saving treatment at Lady Cilento Children's Hospital.

Much like the Herston accommodation, the units include the following:

- 2 bedroom self-contained units (all linen provided)
- No extra charge for laundry facility
- No extra charge for utilities such as electricity or water etc.
- Walking distance to the main Childhood Cancer Support Office
- 5-10 minute walk to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital and surrounding shops.

WOOLLOONGABBA



Ambassador Laura Geitz proudly displaying the Woolloongabba short-term accommodation facility

ANNERLEY ROAD, WOOLLOONGABBA ACCOMMODATION

Short-term accommodation is ideal for regionally-based families who are required to return to Brisbane for post-treatment appointments and check-ups at the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital. Childhood Cancer Support has opened a short-term accommodation facility located less than 800m away from the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital in South Brisbane.

These facilities are available to all oncology families.

Our short-term accommodation facilities are styled similar to that of a hotel room, and include:

- Furnished single rooms (1 – 2 beds per room)
- Ready-made beds and clean linen
- Shared bathroom facilities
- Shared kitchen facilities
- An outdoor and communal area
- Family drop-in area
- Childhood Cancer Support's transport and recreational services are also open to all short-staying guests.

Family Support Services

FAMILY SUPPORT OFFICER

Childhood Cancer Support provides a dedicated staff member to provide family support and referrals to suitable support networks to those families affected by childhood cancer.

Our Family Support Officer provides family support and referrals to suitable support networks and ensures that all on-site resources, services and activities are delivered in a timely manner to support Childhood Cancer Support (CCS) families and staff and CCS events and activities throughout the year.

FAMILY SUPPORT PACK

When a family is referred to Childhood Cancer Support, our Family Support Officer will welcome the family and provide them with a family support pack. This complimentary pack includes practical items such as breakfast cereals, tea, coffee, and milk etc.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Childhood Cancer Support recognises that when a child is diagnosed with cancer that extra financial pressure can be placed on a family as a result of increased medical expenses or one or both parents or carers having to put their jobs on hold while caring for their sick child. We therefore try to provide some financial assistance to families that are experiencing financial hardship as a result of their child's cancer diagnosis. This support is coordinated through the Welfare Team at Lady Cilento Children's Hospital. If you are experiencing financial hardship please contact your Welfare Officer.

REGIONAL SUPPORT NETWORKS THROUGH OUR REGIONAL AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

When families have been away from their houses, pets and loved ones for weeks, months or even years, it is not unusual when returning "home" that it can be a rather daunting reality. As a means of supporting our regional families when they leave, Childhood Cancer Support can assist families to stay in touch with each other and with our organisation should they so desire. We want to ensure our families continue to feel supported even after treatment is over and they return home.

Our Family Support Officer and our Ambassador in your region can provide you with more information if you wish to stay in touch or need extra support when you are back at home.

TRANSPORT SERVICE

Childhood Cancer Support offers a free pick up and drop off service from our multiple accommodation locations to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital and Brisbane Airport, as well as daily grocery runs. We operate two vans, one with wheelchair access, and offer our transport services for free to all oncology families.





Recreational & Therapeutic Activities/Services

Childhood Cancer Support runs a wide variety of events, geared towards supporting and nurturing oncology families.

Some of these include:



EKKA Fun Days

Toc H is a volunteer movement dedicated to building friendships and offering service throughout the community.

Each year, Toc H has provided the families of Childhood Cancer Support with complimentary entry passes to the annual EKKA Show so the children and their families are able to enjoy a fun day out and simply be kids again.



WEEKLY COFFEE, CAKE & CHAT

Each week families are able to come together in our Community Room for a complimentary coffee, cake and chat with our staff. We also invite guest speakers to talk with the families about issues relevant to their cancer journey.



MONTHLY BBQ'S

On the last Friday of each month, Childhood Cancer Support offers a free BBQ for all families. It is an evening where the parents and children can unwind, eat a sumptuous steak cooked on the BBQ and sample delicious accompanying foods, plus enjoy one another's company in a relaxed and supportive environment.

Our BBQs are run by our long-serving volunteers, Brian and Lois, who provide this service with much love and dedication to our oncology families.

Additional Services



EDUCATION SUPPORT

When your child is diagnosed with cancer they may not be able to attend school for a period of time. Childhood Cancer Support recognises the challenges that this may create for a child's educational development and have therefore collaborated with the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital in organising for a qualified teacher to come to our accommodation units to assist in your child's education.

Families can contact the Lady Cilento School direct to utilise this service.

MASSAGE THERAPY SERVICE

Childhood Cancer Support is able to offer free massages for families once per month onsite at our Herston accommodation. Additionally, our massage therapist will also provide wax treatments for our beautiful Mums once per month. Places are limited.

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AIDS

Wheelchairs

Wheelchair loans are available to children undergoing treatment and who require a wheelchair for short term use. We have a variety of sizes available to suit the needs of your child. Prior to accessing a wheelchair it is important to speak with your child's medical team to ensure that wheelchair is suitable for them.

Shower Chairs

We have a number of shower chairs available for children who require them and these are available upon request.

♥ talk Like a Pirate Day



Our annual statewide event, Talk Like A Pirate Day held on **19 September** each year, primarily targets the education and corporate sectors. The event aims to:

- Raise awareness of the impact childhood cancer has on families and how Childhood Cancer Support helps to lessen these impacts.
- Raise vital funds required to increase accommodation and services for families struggling with childhood cancer.
- Encourage everyone to get on board for some swashbuckling fun!

Visit us online at www.talklikeapirateday.com.au





TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY

♡ Camp Crystal



Each year, Childhood Cancer Support organises a free camping getaway specifically targeted to oncology families, no matter where they are at in their cancer journey.

For more than 27 years Camp Crystal has provided a wonderful experience filled with fun activities suitable for the whole family, and now held at beautiful Samford Valley, Queensland (just an easy 30 minute drive from Brisbane). Camp Crystal is a getaway for families to recharge and remind themselves that there is a life to be lived outside of hospital appointments and treatments.



Cancer Related Youth Support time ALLOCATED to Laughter



♡ Kids Christmas Party



Christmas is a special time for most of us, but for families who have children with cancer, it can be a daunting holiday. Childhood cancer is an unfortunate reality for the families living at Childhood Cancer Support, and when family and friends reside more than an hour away, the financial and emotional stress can turn this special time into another worry.

It is for this reason that Childhood Cancer Support is committed to offering a living environment to these families that brings them laughter and joy, and lessens the financial stress that can arise around Christmas time.

We are always on the look out for any generous supporters who are willing to help make this day an even more enjoyable time for our families.

Membership



Childhood Cancer Support invites parents of children being treated for malignant disease and every person interested in promotion of the aims and objectives of the organisation to become a member upon payment of the subscription fee. Any business or organisation wishing to support the organisation in its aims is entitled to become a corporate member upon acceptance by the Committee, and subject to payment of the annual subscription.

For further information regarding membership to Childhood Cancer Support, please call our office on 07 3844 5000 or email admin@ccs.org.au.



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CONTACT US TODAY

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