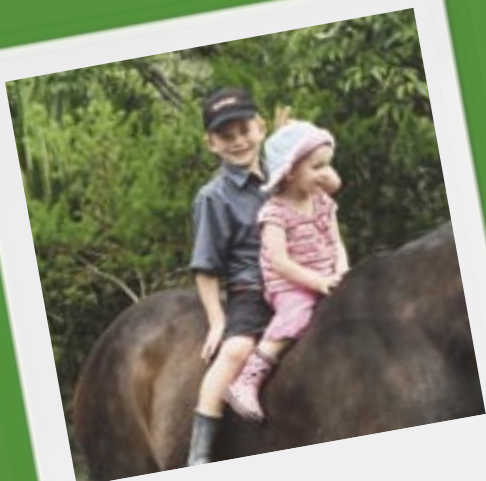


This pamphlet will give you an overview of some of the ways in which the Child Cancer Foundation can support you and your family during your journey with childhood cancer. For more information please use the contact numbers listed to call the Division closest to you. Information is also available on our website: www.childcancer.org.nz



Child Cancer Foundation

If you are not familiar with your local branch of the Child Cancer Foundation, call the Division closest to you, as listed below, and they will put you in touch with a Family Support Worker. You are also welcome to use our free phone number to call – 0800 4 child (0800 4 24453)

National Office

PO Box 152 Auckland 1015
Ph: 09 373 3670
Fax: 09 373 3673

Northern Division

PO Box 91055 Auckland Mailing Centre
Auckland
Ph: 09 366 1270
Fax: 09 377 9395

Central Division

PO Box 7062 Wellington
Ph: 04 389 2620
Fax: 04 389 2690

Canterbury/West Coast Division

PO Box 1846 Christchurch
Ph: 03 365 1485
Fax: 03 365 5102

Otago/Southland Division

PO Box 579 Dunedin
Ph: 03 471 7258
Fax: 03 471 7259

CanTeen

PO Box 56072
Dominion Road 1030
Ph: 09 303 4444
Fax: 09 303 4433

www.canteen.org.nz

Introduction

to the Child Cancer Foundation

A guide for families



No child suffering from cancer, or their family, should ever feel alone.

www.childcancer.org.nz

Welcome

The Child Cancer Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation that supports children and young people with cancer, their families, and the health professionals who care for them. The Foundation is not government funded. It was formed in 1978 by a group of parents who had children with cancer, and concerned health professionals who wanted to see greater support made available for families.

Finding out your child has been diagnosed with cancer

Nothing can prepare you for the news that your child has been diagnosed with cancer. You will be faced with a lot of new information and there will be important decisions to make as your child starts treatment and family routines change to accommodate this.

Financial issues

You may be faced with concerns about keeping up with your financial commitments and meeting the extra costs associated with having a child in hospital, especially if you are away from home.

Parents/caregivers of children with cancer often experience an increase in medical and personal expenses such as food, travel and accommodation; in some cases these things can create a significant financial strain.

Disruption to routines

Your child's regular routine will be disrupted by a diagnosis of cancer and the necessary treatment. If you have other children in your family you may find they also experience interruptions to their routines and/or schooling.



Emotional impact

You and your family may experience many different emotions which may change from day to day. **You do not have to go through this alone. The Child Cancer Foundation is here to support you.**

We understand that at the beginning of your journey with childhood cancer you are simply focused on getting through each day. We also understand that later on you may need assistance to get your family's life back on track.

No matter what stage of the journey you are at, the Child Cancer Foundation is here for you.

How the Child Cancer Foundation can help

The Child Cancer Foundation has 4 Divisions based in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin; these Divisions support 23 local Branches throughout the country, including CanTeen – a special interest division which provides peer support for young people living with cancer (and their brothers and sisters).

Each of the 4 Divisions of the Child Cancer Foundation has Family Support Coordinators. Their job is to provide support to children, young people and their families during the course of their treatment at a specialist hospital. Family Support Workers are in the local branches to assist families on their return home.

Our services

We provide Family Support

- Introductory kits for newly diagnosed families
- One-to-one practical assistance and emotional support tailored to the needs of individual families
- Financial assistance, including assistance with travel, food and accommodation
- Support for bereaved families
- Parent support groups
- Sibling support programmes
- Peer support for young people through referrals to CanTeen
- Access to Sunshine Lodge Holiday Homes in Taupo and Queenstown for families to take time out together – see the Holiday Homes brochure for more information
- Free copies of “Sharing” and local Division magazines for all families

We provide Education Support

- School re-entry books and resources
- Scholarship programme to assist children with cancer and their siblings/parents to access educational opportunities and resources – see the Scholarship Programme brochure for more information

We provide Advocacy

- Advocacy – to ensure that the special needs of children with cancer and their families are addressed

We provide Support for Health Professionals & Research Initiatives

- Funding research programmes on childhood cancer
- Subsidising specialist education for health professionals
- Assistance for health professionals to attend local and international forums related to childhood cancer