

“We can’t add years to life, but we add life to years... with your help”



Bear Cottage is a children’s hospice – a very special place that’s dedicated to caring for children with life-limiting conditions and their families.

Bear Cottage wishes...

Bear Cottage is the only children’s hospice in NSW, one of two in the country. We are a vital lifeline for families travelling a journey we all hope we never have to.

Bear Cottage is 100% community funded, so we urgently need your help to keep our doors open.

Your tax deductible pledge today could help make a huge difference to the lives of the special children at Bear Cottage.

Sponsor an Assistant in Nursing (AIN)

Cost: \$15,900 for one year

Number required: 5

Bear Cottage aims to recruit five Undergraduate Nursing Students in their final year of study. These individuals assist the Registered Nurses and families with feeding, bathing, toileting, play therapy and all basic care for the patient and families.

Nursing students do not receive the necessary specialised training in paediatric palliative care at University so it is imperative that they gain the experience through on-the-job training within a specialist facility with the very best teachers. Our registered paediatric palliative care nurses, our teachers, are the backbone of Bear Cottage and we must ensure their skills and knowledge are passed on. Training our nurses not only benefits the patients and families but ensures our future nurses understand the intricacies of working with children with life-limiting illnesses



One
Wish...



Sponsor a child to attend the junior DMD Camp

Costs: \$7000 per child

Number required: 6

Part of the play therapy program is the specialised week-long camps we hold throughout the year including the Duchennes Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) Camp. The purpose of the camps is to connect children and family members with others and enable them to participate in activities they wouldn't usually have the opportunity to do, all while receiving the highest level of 24-hour care.

DMD is a muscle wasting disease with onset in early childhood and results in generalised weakness and muscle wasting. Because these boys are completely dependent on others for all aspects of their personal care, quite often they can have feelings of resentment & inadequacy.

Time spent at Bear Cottage during a camp provides an immediate boost to their self esteem but also allows them to mix with peers of similar life experiences and can draw on the support from one another. With your help, the camp provides a positive distraction from the difficult journey they are travelling.

Fund Bear Cottage Medical supplies

Cost: \$4400 one year / \$2200 for six months

Number required: 1 - 2

At Bear Cottage, we can not offer miracles cures or treatments to our children however our holistic care offers children the best 24-hour medical care supported by the Pain and Palliative Care Unit of The Children's Hospital at Westmead. We help manage a child's pain by administering necessary medications such as morphine. We also look after any dressings the children may need and administer all IV therapy. Costs associated with these procedures are met by Bear Cottage whilst a family is staying with us so your support will help cover these necessities.



One
Wish...



Light Up Bear Cottage
Cost: \$500 for one week
Number Required: 52

Bear Cottage offers many unique facilities for children with life-limiting illnesses including a hydrotherapy spa used for treatment such as pain management, and water play therapy. For children who are wheelchair bound, they thrive on the feeling of being weightless. The multi-sensory room is a place where we can stimulate a child's individual senses but also allow for focus and relaxation. The games room is a safe place where children, especially the teenagers, can just 'hang out' and play console games - participating in what normal teenagers do. Of course, all these state-of-the-art facilities require an enormous amount of electricity to run so we need your help to keep our spark alive.

Create a special moment in time
Cost: \$100 - \$150
Number required: special moments are endless!

Bear Cottage is a place where cherished moments and special memories are created – a place where life is for living. Many of our families are not in the financial position to pay for anything that isn't absolutely necessary so when they are with us, we try to give them the opportunity to do things they don't normally get to do. You can help create a memory for a family to cherish long after their child has passed away.

For example, you could grant the following wishes...

\$75 could pay for a family to attend a Twilight Pizza Night at the Sydney Observatory

\$110 could pay for a family of four to enjoy at day at Taronga Zoo

\$150 could pay for a family of four to see Toy Story 3 in Gold Class with popcorn and drinks

How do I purchase from the Bear Cottage wish list?

Your help is urgently needed by the team at Bear Cottage so we can improve on our services and continue to offer the highest level of care for our very special children and their families

Please contact Rebecca Thornely on (02) 9845 3465 or email rebecca.thornely@health.nsw.gov.au to grant a wish.

Payment can be made via credit card, cheque or an invoice can be sent out. All donations are 100 per cent tax deductible.

To find out more about the work we do, visit www.bearcottage.chw.edu.au

Thank you for your wonderful support of Bear Cottage.

