

Introducing Child Cancer Foundation

Anei Te Turanga Mate-Pukupuku Tamaiti



*Nothing can prepare you for
the news your child has been
diagnosed with cancer.*

*Kāhore he mea hei whakarite i a
koe mo te tātaritanga o tō tamaiti*

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. 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, Child Cancer Foundation can support you.





Child Cancer Foundation

Child Cancer Foundation provides essential support to children impacted by childhood cancer and their families – now and into the future.

We have supported thousands of children and their families for over 40 years; our history is the source of our knowledge and expertise. Gathering information and support is the best way to look after your wellbeing when your child is facing cancer.

We are not doctors or medical experts, so the information you receive from us is not medical advice. Rather, we are here to help you navigate new challenges and access support services.

The more people you have in your corner the better.

The support you may receive from your family, friends, neighbours and colleagues will be invaluable at this time. Think of us as another addition to your support network.

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

Ahakoā te wā o te haerenga, kei konei te Turanga Mate-Pukupuku Tamaiti hei awahi



Family Support *Whānau Tautoko*

Family Support Coordinators, located throughout New Zealand, work as a team to support you and your child. Every family brings their own strengths to a situation, but sometimes extra support is useful.

Family Support Coordinators... Ngā Kairuruku Tautoko mo te Whānau...

- ☆ Provide one-to-one support in hospital, at home and in the community
- ☆ Help you identify your strengths to stay resilient and work through the challenges
- ☆ Recognise the importance of your wellbeing and support you with this
- ☆ Coordinate short-term financial support
- ☆ Deliver the Beads of Courage® programme
- ☆ Provide opportunities to connect with other families

Photo: Jaxon, diagnosed at birth, with his Family Support Coordinator Linda

Parents often talk about the 'new normal' that comes with facing a cancer diagnosis. We recognise the impact of diagnosis on all aspects of life. Different milestones on the journey can bring stresses and new challenges, months or years after diagnosis, that are hard to face alone. Assistance with getting information and support can help you with decision making, reduce stress and help you gain a sense of control over the situation.

There will come a time when you will no longer need one-to-one support from a Family Support Coordinator. Recognising this, we will talk about discharge from the Family Support service and what this will look like. Your family may choose to continue to be supported through our support programmes and Whānau Connect Groups.

Nicole, diagnosed age 7, with her whānau



Johnny, diagnosed age 8, and his dad



Esme, diagnosed age 4, and her dad

Support Programmes

Support programmes are tailored to meet specific needs of dads, mums, siblings and bereaved parents.

Navigating change and transitions of the child cancer journey can be challenging.

These programmes provide support to help you find new ways to continue moving forward with strength.



Whānau Connect Groups



Our Whānau Connect Groups are led by volunteer parents/caregivers of children who have been affected by cancer and general volunteers who are passionate about supporting Child Cancer Foundation. Their purpose is to connect you with other families through shared experiences, and enable you to support each other within your community. They plan a variety of social events throughout the year for mums, dads, grandparents and families.



Arian, diagnosed age 5

Beads of Courage®

He maia o ngā Pirepire®

The Beads of Courage® programme provides a tangible story of a child's journey. Each bead represents the courage shown during a treatment (for example, chemotherapy, injections, scans), an experience (hair loss, isolation, fever) or milestone (completion of treatment).

The first bead each child receives from their Family Support Coordinator is a hand-carved pounamu bead from Ngāi Tahu Pounamu. These beads

are unique to the programme in New Zealand and are hand-carved by eight different Ngāi Tahu carvers.

Brothers and sisters of children with cancer can also participate in the Beads of Courage® Sibling Beads Programme. This programme acknowledges positive behaviour and helpful attitudes.

Families can find out more about the Beads of Courage® programme from their Family Support Coordinator.

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*Tō tuārama timatatanga
Ō kawenga pikau mahi
Ka hāere tonu ia ra, ia ra
Mō ō ratou oranga*

*Your journey began
With challenges day after day
With integrity and commitment
We support you and your whānau with empathy*

Contact us


National Support Office

76 Grafton Rd, Grafton,
Auckland 1010

Phone 0800 4 CHILD (0800 424 453)

Email info@childcancer.org.nz

Website childcancer.org.nz

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