



MEDIA RELEASE

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Creating a brighter tomorrow for sick kids Bandaged Bear Appeal 1-31 March

Every parent wishes for a happy, healthy child but sometimes sickness and injury can get in the way. For the thousands of children treated at The Children's Hospital at Westmead, doctors, nurses and researchers work tirelessly to give them a brighter tomorrow and the Bandaged Bear Appeal will help them achieve this.

Running throughout March, the Bandaged Bear Appeal raises essential funds to support the courageous young patients and families who rely on the Hospital's care each year, helping to give doctors and researchers the tools they need to continue improving treatments and finding cures to childhood illnesses.

This year, the Appeal is counting on the community to raise \$600,000 to purchase the most advanced medical equipment, fund vital research and maintain the total healing environment that is central to the wellbeing of patients and their families.

With the community's support, the Bandaged Bear Appeal will help continue to create better and brighter futures for children like eight-year-old Jayden, who has been visiting the Hospital regularly since he was born for treatment of Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus.

"Jayden's medical needs have been complex from the very beginning and nothing that he has thrown at his team of specialists and nurses has proved to be too difficult. From the moment he was born, and even before that, the Hospital has been a tremendous support for myself, Jayden and our family," Jayden's Mum, Theresa said.

"We hope that the community will show the Hospital this same support for the Bandaged Bear Appeal so they can continue helping children and families during their time of need."

To support the Bandaged Bear Appeal, the community can:

- Make a donation online or TEXT 'BEAR' to 0400 807 807
- Register to hold a fundraising event – www.bandagedbear.org.au
- Purchase Bandaged Bear Appeal merchandise on Bandaged Bear Day or at select retail outlets.

The Bandaged Bear Appeal will be officially launched on 1 March, with Bandaged Bear Day falling on Friday, 4 March.

The Bandaged Bear Appeal is the signature fundraising appeal for The Children's Hospital at Westmead. For details about the Appeal, how to get involved or merchandise locations, visit www.bandagedbear.org.au or call 1800 770 122.

