



Tree of Hope

*Transforming the health of
sick and disabled children*

JUNE 2021
newsletter

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SDR Journeys

My Little Sister Emmie

Fundraising while restrictions ease





With lockdown beginning to ease many of us are starting to feel life is slowly returning to some sort of normal. However, many of our families are still being cautious as global pandemic news is so varied and we have learned to take nothing for granted.

We remain here on the end of the phone or on a zoom call for you all - do contact us as you resume your fundraising journey, for a chat, support or any fundraising advice you may need.

We plan a partial return to the office at the end of July but will keep an eye on developments and will only return when it is safe and right to do so and everyone feels comfortable.

If you need our help and support, or know a child who would benefit from fundraising with us, please do contact us and we will do the very best we can to help. Do follow us on social media and like and share our content- this helps many more people to become aware of our vital work supporting the NHS to deliver the best healthcare it can to children and young people across the UK.

Please do contact us with any thoughts or comments on this issue at Info@treeofhope.org.uk we would love to hear from you.



Kind regards

Gill

Gill Gibb
Chief Executive Officer

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[treeofhope.childrenscharity](https://www.facebook.com/treeofhope.childrenscharity)



www.linkedin.com/company/tree-of-hope



@treeofhopecc

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HELLO



With lockdown restrictions finally beginning to lift, we hope that you are enjoying the freedoms that we perhaps took for granted!

Whilst we know that things are far from 'normal' for so many of our families, we hope that the light at the end of the tunnel is a positive step in the right direction.

We're seeing families taking

on covid-secure fundraising challenges and are hearing about more face-to-face fundraising events taking place in the near future!

We too have some exciting fundraising events taking place over the next few months! Dine and Donate has returned once again and is in full swing, and we also have a Celebration of Hope Dinner as well as our annual Charity Golf Day which

has always been a popular event, and we cannot wait!

As always, we're on hand to support our families through any queries that they may have, to ensure that children have access to the treatments, equipment or therapy that they need!

Stay safe!
Stephanie, Editor

Grants to help families

We are always on the lookout to find new ways to help the families that we support, which is why we're delighted to let you know about a couple of grants that help to support families seeking financial help for specialist equipment, or particular forms of treatment. Tree of Hope apply for these grants on your behalf, so if you have any questions or would like to be considered, please do not hesitate to contact our Family Support Officer, Caroline, on 01892 535525.

The Independence at Home Grant

The Independence at Home Grant provides grants to people with a physical or learning disability and who are in financial need. This financial help enables them to obtain mobility and disability equipment or home adaptations to provide a practical and positive effect on daily life at home. Get in touch with us if this is something you'd like to hear more about!

The Hospital Saturday Fund

This grant provides assistance through it's charitable funds for individuals with a medical condition or disability who would benefit from assistance with the purchase of specialist equipment, or from particular forms of treatment. If there is something you're fundraising for, this could be a helpful contribution!



Don't Forget!



We're always on the lookout for updates from our wonderful families and supporters, so if you'd like to promote your campaign, let everyone know about a fundraising event that you've got planned or have recently reached your target figure, let us know! You can email us on marketing@treeofhope.org.uk, or you can tag us on social media! We'd love to hear from you!

Ella and Dawson's fundraising missions for SDR and Rehabilitation

Over the years at Tree of Hope, we have helped support the missions of families who wish to fundraise for effective treatments to help relieve their child's symptoms of physical conditions such as Cerebral Palsy. For the families of Ella and Dawson, their ultimate goal is to provide them with the best possible chance of independence.

Read on to find out about their inspirational journeys so far!

There are various interventions which can help children with Cerebral Palsy to become as active and independent as possible, including Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR), a procedure that can help to relieve spasticity, and in turn provide an improvement to a child's mobility and comfort.

SDR surgery is something that Dawson and his family are aiming to achieve, after he was diagnosed with Dystonic Spastic Diaplegic Cerebral Palsy at the age of two.

Dad, Paul explained, "It all started in 2019 when we noticed that he couldn't sit up properly". The initial concern to Dawson's balance was due to the fact that he kept having severe ear infections, but after numerous visits to the doctors, he was referred to a consultant at the hospital, which is when he was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy.

After his diagnosis, Dawson's family started looking into his treatment options and have already been advised that he is the perfect candidate for SDR surgery, which

Paul hopes will "lead to a normalish life [for Dawson] and make it more comfortable". Paul explained that although Dawson "either needs a walking frame or sticks at the moment, we're hoping the surgery will give him the chance to walk unaided".

To ensure that the effects of SDR are as strong as they possibly can be, children who are eligible for SDR also require pre and post-operative physiotherapy to build and maintain strength and core balance, which is something that Dawson's family have already started building upon.

Alongside his weekly physiotherapy sessions, Paul told us that Dawson's mum, Nathalie "works

tirelessly at home" undertaking daily physio activities. Paul went on to say that "when the NHS therapist came



Dawson working hard using his walking frame!

out to us, they were amazed by the amount of physio equipment we have at home. Nathalie has put a chart on the wall to track his progress and she does so much to give him the best".

Conscious of their large target figure, the family have gone full steam ahead with their fundraising activities and events which have all been well received by family, friends and the local community, and has even led to some incredible fundraising opportunities!

Paul told us that a signed painting of Tyson Fury and Anthony Joshua is due to be raffled off, with proceeds going directly to Dawson's campaign. The artwork was kindly painted by a family friend who also arranged a 40km walk with 47 of his colleagues at work. The recruitment company "knew about Dawson's campaign and decided to fundraise for him" and Paul explained that "although they had a target of £10,000, they've actually raised about £13,000", which is no mean feat!

Later on in the year, the family hope to hold "a fun day at the village hall with face painting, soft play and a bouncy castle" to raise money for Dawson's campaign.

When asked what advice he would give others who are thinking about fundraising for their child, Paul said "just get it started. Don't wait – that's the key!"

Another of our families who has a similar goal to Dawson is Ella, who also has Cerebral Palsy. Mum Jennifer has recently started fundraising with Tree of Hope to ensure that her daughter can receive intensive physiotherapy before and after SDR surgery.

After Ella and her twin brother were born very prematurely, Jennifer told us that "we pretty quickly saw that she was different from her brother with reaching her milestones as she wasn't able to sit". Ella was diagnosed at the age of two, at which point her family had already "involved physio privately because I knew the earlier the intervention, the better. I was being proactive and was fighting for what Ella

needed".

Whilst waiting for final approval of Ella's eligibility for SDR surgery on the NHS, Jennifer was eager to begin fundraising "to help with the additional costs of the physio and equipment", as regular and intensive therapy is needed to ensure that the effects of the surgery are strengthened and are as effective as they possibly can be.

Ella is already working really hard and "because her understanding is so good, she wants to learn and do everything. Every time she was shown something, she'd practice it." Jennifer knows that "she's a capable and determined little lady and I know she can do anything because she has that mindset", which is what has given her the sheer determination to do all she can to "let Ella live her best life".

Following the sudden death of Ella's dad in 2020, the family relocated to Scotland to live with Ella's gran so that they can benefit from a wider network of support, which the family have certainly felt the effects of since their move. Jennifer believes that so far, the majority of the raised funds "has been from friends and friends of my mum, [but] a lot of people have got in touch to say they'll do fundraisers like online zoom classes."

As well as receiving support from family and friends, Jennifer told us that "there has also been lots of exposure in newspapers locally" and says that "people have just been really kind as everyone's going through

a difficult time at the moment [and] a lot of the donations are anonymous".

Of course, one of the benefits of fundraising with Tree of Hope is the marketing and PR opportunities that we can offer, which helps to reach new audiences. One of Jennifer's top tips for people at the beginning of their fundraising journey is to ensure that they think "about reaching new people and think of all the different avenues" to explore, as well as "keeping the motivation going when things have peaked".

See Ella and Dawson's fundraising campaigns at:

www.treeofhope.org.uk/ellas-dream-to-walk/

www.treeofhope.org.uk/dawsoncandoit/

You can follow their journeys on Facebook too!

@EllasDreamToWalk

@DawsonCanDoIT



Smiley Ella!

Fundraising during the Pandemic... and beyond!

The Pandemic has certainly thrown some challenges our way over the last 18 months, but it has also carved a path for new fundraising avenues to explore. Whilst we are looking forward and are eager for traditional fundraising and social events to be safe once again, we have also been inspired by some of the ways our families have (and continue) to adapt to the challenges thrown at them. We spoke to a few of our fundraising families to hear about their upcoming plans whilst we enter a new stage of easing out of lockdown.

Whilst fundraising has traditionally been a very sociable occasion where people gather to show their support or perhaps take part in team challenges, over the past year we've seen families adapt to online or socially distanced fundraising as a way of keeping the momentum going for their campaigns. We've been blown away by their versatility and

are in awe of their imagination when it comes to thinking up fresh and engaging fundraising events which adhere to government restrictions.

From online raffles, sponsored walks, selling hand crafted goods and participating in various sporting challenges, the pandemic has proven to be a source of creativity for many



Jack with the sunflower seeds for his fundraising competition!

of our families, including Jack's. Jack also has Cerebral Palsy causing his legs to have spasticity, which results in a lot of pain and discomfort so his family are fundraising with Tree of Hope so that Jack can receive SDR surgery, as well as

physiotherapy and rehabilitation, which has the potential to be life-changing!

We spoke to Jack's mum, Claire, about some of the fundraising events that her family have been putting on over the past few months, as well as their plans moving forward as lockdown restrictions begin to ease.

Claire told us that 'trying to think of ideas during lockdown has been hard, but Jack has loved hosting a live online spin to win show, he spins the wheel to reveal who wins prizes. These prizes have been donated by friends, family and local businesses'. Jack's family have also 'done a sunflower growing competition in which entrants paid a fee. They all received the same seeds to make it fair, and we are looking forward to seeing everyone's beautiful flowers later in the year' Claire explained.

With lockdown restrictions easing, the opportunity to hold in-person fundraising events has also inspired Claire to organise a 'fundraising evening in our local working men's club. My friend will be singing for entertainment and we will have a raffle and goodie bags for the children'. Claire added that 'the support we have been receiving has been incredible and we are so lucky to be surrounded by so many lovely

people'.

It's hugely inspiring to see families embracing all kinds of fundraising avenues, but it's so encouraging and exciting for us to see in-person events returning over the coming months, as we know how popular and successful these events can be.

At Tree of Hope, we have once again teamed up as a charity partner of the Marvel Superhero Series. The Superhero series is the UK's one and only disability sports series for everyday Superheroes, and so we jumped at the chance to be a part of the Find Your Power Challenge, a one-off event this Spring.

In previous years, the event has taken place at Dorney Lake, but due to the pandemic, the event has stayed virtual for another year running, meaning that superheroes can complete their challenge wherever they choose to!

Despite the fact that the challenge is once again virtual, the sense of community and togetherness is

along with hundreds of fellow teammates, who are all collectively competing to race 10,000km virtually! Encouraged to find their own power, each challenger will be selecting their own goal to complete, which could be walking 100m or maybe even cycling 10 miles!

Waving the flag for Tree of Hope, we have a number of families taking part this year including Nini! We spoke to mum, Omolara who told us that Nini will be taking to the local park alongside her parents and little sister, dressed as Captain Marvel, which is her absolute favourite Superhero!

Beau also wouldn't miss the chance to take part in such an epic challenge! Beau has Autism Spectrum Disorder and so his family are fundraising for a Supporting Paws dog to offer him support when he needs it most, and so Beau's mum jumped at the chance to take part in this fundraising mission!

Sable-Katie (Beau's mum) told us that for his challenge 'Beau will be doing a pier to pier

and ending up at Walton Pier.' Beau is a huge superhero fan so 'ofcourse he wouldn't miss the opportunity to dress up as his favourite superhero, Spiderman, while we do it!'

Receiving incredible support for their challenge, Beau and his family have 'assembled some other superheroes to walk with us and show support for Beau [who is] super excited to dress up with his friends and family and to show his superhero moves along the way!'

The Find Your Power Challenge is just the start of our summer of fundraising as we will soon be launching the summer 'At Home Superhero Series' which we're super excited about, so keep your eyes peeled on your inboxes over the coming weeks to see how you can get involved.

Need some fundraising inspiration?
Call our Family Support team on 01892 535525 or email families@treeofhope.org.uk for more info



Nini will be dressed as Captain Marvel for her Superhero Challenge!



Beau dressed as his favourite superhero - Spiderman!

still as strong as ever before, as all Superhero challengers have been put into one of five teams

walk starting at Holland on Sea



#WhatWillYouHost

Whilst last year's Dine and Donate went digital, we're so excited that in it's fourth consecutive year, we can once again reunite with loved ones for Dine and Donate 2021, albeit in a Covid secure environment!

Dine and Donate has already kicked off and is running throughout the month of June, so you can

enjoy hosting some alfresco dining including sunny Summer BBQs, afternoon tea, picnics and cocktail parties!

There are over 700,000 children in the UK registered as disabled and we're so determined to reach and help as many of these families as possible and to do this, we need your help!

What's the idea?

Host a foodie event for friends, family, neighbours and colleagues in return for a donation to Tree of Hope or your child's campaign!

How do I get involved?

All you need to do is head to the Dine and Donate website where you can register your event and receive your exclusive Host Pack which includes recipe inspiration, menu cards and invitations!

Top tips

- Don't put a price on your event

as guests can often be more generous when asked to donate!

- Ask for donations instead of the usual wine, flowers or chocolates!
- Challenge your guests to start their very own 'Come Dine and Donate With Me!'
- Encourage as many of your supporters as you can to host their own Dine and Donate

So, #whatwillyouhost?

Head to our dedicated Dine and Donate Website for recipe inspiration and to register your event today!
www.dineanddonate.uk

Dragon Boat Race



We're really excited that the Dragon Boat Race returns which has always been a really popular summer fundraising event! Read on to hear about how you can get involved to help us raise vital funds!

This year, the Dragon Boat Races return in two fantastic locations in Kent later on this summer!

Taking place at Tonbridge and Bewl Water, the Dragon Boat Race is a really fun and exciting team challenge and is always a popular event!

You will need to have a team of 16 (but you may need some extras, just in case), and we're looking for you to take up the challenge to help us raise much needed funds!

The event is organized by Dragon Boat Events and so you will need to register your interest and book your space directly with the organisers, but be warned – spaces do get booked up super quickly so don't delay in booking your team!

Of course, we'd love to hear if you're planning on taking part, so don't forget to let us know, so that we can support and guide you through your fundraising and come and say "hi" to cheer you on, on the day! Just contact karen.warner@treeofhope.org.uk or

keep us posted by tagging us on social media!

When are the events and how do I sign up?

Dragon Boat Race – Bewl Water

Saturday 4th September

To book, contact

enquiries@dragonboatevents.com or visit www.dragonboatevents.com/ contact

Dragon Boat Race – Tonbridge

Sunday 5th September

To book, contact dragonboatrace@tonbridgelions.org or visit @TonbridgeDragonBoatRace on Facebook for updates

Don't forget to let us know about your team by contacting karen.warner@treeofhope.org.uk



Dragon Boat Race at Bewl Water!



Smiley Emmie!

My little sister Emmie

Here at Tree of Hope it's our aim to give families whatever they need to help make their children be able to live life to the fullest potential possible. We are always inspired by so many of our family's stories and this little lady and her loving family are certainly no exception.

Emmie is 3 years old and lives with her, Mum Hannah, Dad Marat and big brother Adam in Essex. Emmie has a rare genetic condition called Kniest Dysplasia, which only one in a million people live with, in the world.

Before Emmie was born, doctors knew that Emmie had complications and Mum Hannah spent 9 weeks in hospital prior to giving birth, which was really tough on the whole family.

Emmie was born with a cleft palate and was tube fed as a result. She also had to have 16 casts on her legs as she has club feet. Despite Emmie's difficult start in life spending lots of time at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, Emmie always kept smiling throughout.

The family were told that she required extensive surgery on her eyes, her feet, her cleft palate and on her spine too which gave everyone hope that her quality of life would improve, but at Christmas time in 2020, the family were given the heart breaking news that any

sort of surgery was too risky for Emmie and her chances of survival would be slim and sadly doctors expect her now not to live past her 10th birthday.

Devastated by this news, Emmie's family made the decision to give Emmie the very best quality of life they possibly could, to make her comfortable, for her not to struggle in her own home and to future proof Emmie's needs.

Today Emmie is a happy, funny and sweet little girl. Mum Hannah told us: "She is very bossy and is always telling us what to do! She can't speak but she signs and is always singing. Emmie can't walk but she shuffles around and uses a speedy little wheelchair. She wears hearing aids and very strong glasses which she never takes off, even to sleep!"

On asking Hannah how they manage Emmie's condition and her challenges, Hannah told us, "The thing with Emmie is that at the moment, her medical

needs aren't very intense and obvious. When people see her, they think she is just so cute and small!" She went on to say, "the main challenge at the moment is that Emmie can't talk. We know Emmie is very bright and she knows what she wants so it's just frustrating for her that she can't get this across and what we know she would be able to if she didn't have her condition. That's really hard."

Babies with cleft palates will usually have them operated on but due to anaesthetic being too risky for Emmie, she isn't able to be operated on. Hannah told us "We sign with Emmie and she also has a communication aid that we've recently started using and getting her used to. We're learning at the moment, but the hope is that when she starts school she will be able to use this to learn and have little conversations with her friends which will be lovely." Hannah also said "The other big challenge is that she can't walk. It's not so much of a problem at the moment as she is very small, so we

do tend to carry her, but she is getting quite heavy now!"

Emmie's family are all about having fun together and being active. On asking what they like to do together, Hannah told us that Emmie "loves to hang out with her big brother Adam and his friends. Adam is older but he is very good at spending time with Emmie. He is very sporty, and he always adapts games to suit Emmie".

Hannah went on to say, "Emmie benefits greatly from hydrotherapy and that is something we love to do as a family altogether. We're also very excited to be getting a dog soon! Emmie absolutely loves animals, so we are buying a dog (already named Stardust!), so we're really looking forward to all being involved in her walks, training and routines that we'll make for her."

On asking Hannah what they want to achieve for Emmie, Hannah replied, that's a difficult one to answer. I struggled with the whole fundraising idea as because she is so tiny, people assume she's a baby really and I don't think they really get it, but I think once I accepted that Emmie's life will be limited which did make me so cross, we just thought that Emmie shouldn't not have nice things and a nice way of life that's comfortable and now is the time to make those changes for her. Hannah went on to say "At the moment she sits by the backdoor just watching Adam play and it's things like that need to change now for her. It's important that there is a garden that she can use and come in and out of when she likes as well as therapies to make her stronger." Hannah also said "Our greatest aim is for Emmie to be happy, that's all we

want. Emmie is at high risk of losing her sight completely so we hope having a dog will act as a comfort to her if this was to happen, so that was a big reason behind us getting Stardust."

We asked Hannah if there was any advice she would give to other parents who are in a similar circumstance, to which Hannah replied, "Not taking away the fact it is really hard but take each day as it comes and don't be hard on yourself. I struggled with trying to do absolutely everything that we should do all the time, rushing around for therapy, doing physio at home, getting her to hydrotherapy, using her communication aid, I could go on and on, there is so much, but you can only do the best that you can."

She went on to say, "Enjoy every moment and if your child knows that you love them and you spend quality time with them, then that's the most important thing."

On asking Hannah about their journey so far with Tree of Hope, she told us, "We've honestly been blown away by the support we've received. I found out about Tree of Hope through a friend who works for a company who helped another Tree of Hope family get their garden all done. So, because I'd heard how they helped it did encourage me to go for it. I spoke to Georgina on the phone and that was it! It was so easy, and it did give me the confidence to

Emmie with her mum, dad and big brother



go for it.

We asked if the family had any fundraising plans, to which Hannah replied, "We started out at the beginning just to see what sort of response we would get asking for donations, and we never imagined we would have raised so much in a short time. So, I'm still taking it in really! We find out from the local grants office what funding we're entitled to for Emmie's adaptations and then once we know what we have left to raise, we can start making some plans. I know it won't all be this easy and straight forward, but people have been so kind which has definitely given us confidence."

On asking what advice Hannah would give to families who are looking to fundraise, Hannah said, "I would say just go for it! Friends have been encouraging me to fundraise for a while. Also don't think that people will think that you don't deserve the help. It's really hard to get support from charities and companies and very often you're put on the end of a big waiting list or told no so having Tree of Hope there to help us is great."

"Our greatest aim is for Emmie to be happy, that's all we want"



Emmie, Adam & Stardust!

To follow Emmie's story and to donate, please head to her fundraising page:

www.treeofhope.org.uk/my-little-sister-emmie/

Fundraising News



Thank You!

We want to say a huge thank you as always to our supporters, your generosity helps us to continue supporting our families across the UK.

Our corporate supporters M & S Tunbridge Wells have continued to support us, who donated £1130 and thank you to Royal Victoria Shopping Centre Tunbridge who donated £1000 – we love working with you both and hope to continue for many years to come.

A very special thank you to Jim Lewcock from Blue.io who generously gave us a personal donation of £15,000 – this is truly amazing!

M&S
EST. 1884



Volunteering

Our student volunteers have continued to support our fundraising work as part of their work experience and Duke of Edinburgh (D of E) scheme. Freya, Oliver and Sophie have produced some great project work for us and we are really grateful for their input and insights into Fundraising.

Freya tells us “choosing to volunteer at Tree of Hope has enabled me to feel like a valued member of an incredible team. In addition to being able to help families and children fundraise for treatment, therapy and surgeries, volunteering has been an extremely rewarding experience, especially during the lockdowns we have experienced over the past year”.

We are still able to offer work experience and D of E placements, so please do get in touch if you know a young person looking for some charity sector volunteering. We will also be working with Runway Training in the future as part of the young Traineeships programme.

Please contact karen.warner@treeofhope.org.uk if you are interested in volunteering!



Heroes Dinner!

We are really looking forward to our Heroes Dinner, taking place at Hush Heath Winery on 8th September. We're delighted to welcome Eddie the Eagle Edwards as our guest speaker and we cannot wait to share more information with you

Watch this space for more information and keep your eyes peeled on our events page !

Student Fundraising

Are you a student looking to bolster your CV with some fundraising experience?
Or a teacher looking for your school's next fundraising project?
Have a real passion for raising money for those in need?

Then you've come to the right place! Tree of Hope is looking for enthusiastic school volunteers to get stuck in. No matter what stage of education you're in, there are many ways in which you can get involved.

Events:

Host an event or take part in your own sponsored challenge! Some great ideas include: bake sales, summer fairs and clothing exchanges. You could do a sponsored silence, or even a talkathon if you're feeling chatty!

Duke of Edinburgh Award:

Volunteer with us or turn your Physical portion into a sponsored activity.

Charity Adoptions:

Are you looking for a new charity for your school to support? Choose us to be your charity of the year or for single term and fundraise for us in a variety of ways!



Golf Day

Our annual Charity Golf Day has always been a really popular event and has now sold out again for another year! We're teeing off from Hever Golf Club on the Championship Golf Course, on Wednesday 7th July 2021!

The day will include 18 Holes of Golf, breakfast rolls on arrival and a 2 course meal!

We'll also have various competitions throughout the day including Nearest the Pin & Longest Drive, as well as a raffle and an auction!

Thanks to all the teams who are joining us! Fingers crossed for some glorious sunshine!



University Fundraising

RAG Groups and Students' Unions - support us through RAG week and organise fundraising events at your university through the year.
Sports Teams and Societies – choose to support us for the year and organise a bake sale, clothing exchange, coffee morning, or whatever else you can come up with!

We want to make sure that you have the best possible time fundraising, and that you get something back from this experience. To find out more, or to get started on your fundraising journey, contact Charlie at charlie.allum@treeofhope.org.uk

We can't wait to hear your ideas!



Thank you to the Jack O'Donnell Foundation

At Tree of Hope, we are continually grateful to receive support from some wonderful organisations, including The Jack O'Donnell Foundation, who continue to support our children, to help them reach their fundraising targets quicker.

We as always are delighted to work with people and organisations who share our passion to offer support to families who need access to equipment, treatment or therapies that are not freely available through the NHS, and it is with huge thanks to the Jack O'Donnell Foundation

This is something we at The Jack O'Donnell Foundation place a great deal of value on".

They went on to say "Tree of Hope are organized, efficient and above all the passion and care they have is wonderful.

They have taken the time to understand our objectives and work with us to this aim, but with the same overall goal. We look forward to continue working with Tree of Hope as our primary partner for many more years. Thank you, Tree of Hope, we do wonderful things together and we make a difference".

Many families over the years have benefited from the support of The Jack O'Donnell Foundation,

that we can collectively make a huge difference to so many children.

When speaking about our 10-year partnership with the Jack O'Donnell Foundation, the Trustees told us that "We chose to partner with Tree of Hope as they not only focus clearly on the specific needs of each child but extend this to provide help for the wider family, making more lives better.

meaning that they are able to purchase vital pieces of equipment, access more therapy sessions, or reach their final target figure, and so we would like to extend our thanks on behalf of everyone at Tree



Smiley Joey

of Hope and the families who have benefited from the support of The Jack O'Donnell Foundation!



Oona in her new T-Shirt!

A very happy Alex!

Support Tree of Hope

Tree of Hope offers hope to seriously ill and disabled children living in the UK and their families by helping them to raise funds for vital operations that the NHS can't provide, therapies and treatments needed for rehabilitation and improvement, and specialist disability equipment and/or adaptations to a family home.

We need your support to make a difference!

You can help to improve the lives of children with complex disabilities and illnesses by making a regular donation or a one-off gift to Tree of Hope.

Your gift will enable Tree of Hope to:

- continue providing the legitimacy of belonging to a well-respected charity to hundreds of families, enabling them to access funds for their child that would not be possible otherwise
- offer online giving platforms for fundraising, making the fundraising journey far more simple for the family than it could be otherwise
- provide advice and guidance on the best ways of fundraising, and giving support throughout a family's fundraising campaign, including dealing with invoices and suppliers, and sharing news of other families in similar positions, reducing the stress for families in very difficult situations

- You can donate by cheque which needs to be made payable to 'Tree of Hope'. Cheques can be posted to our address: Tree of Hope, Salford House, 19-21 Quarry Hill Road, Tonbridge, Kent. TN9 2RN

- You can donate by paying directly into our bank account, details below:

Tree of Hope

Metro Bank

Account Number: 21862665

Sort Code: 23-05-80

Payment Reference: TOHGDonation

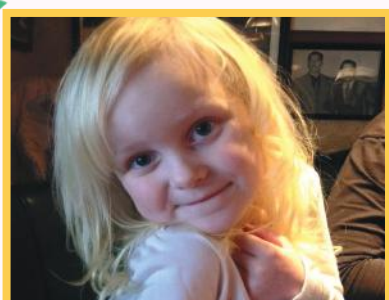
- You can set up a standing order from your own bank account for a monthly donation using the above bank details
- You can donate online via www.treeofhope.org.uk using the Donate to Tree of Hope button. We use a platform called Go Cardless which pay us via direct debit. DD are used for either a monthly or one-off donations.
- To donate by text, text 'TOHDONATE' to 70085 with the number of how much you would like to donate between 1-20. The cost of a standard rate message plus the amount donated will be debited. All donations can be gift aided.
- You can set up a donation or a fundraiser via Facebook, please visit facebook.com/treeofhope. childrenscharity for details and set up.
- You can now donate by shopping on Amazon, Easyfundraising and selecting Tree of Hope on the list of available charities, this is a great way to support, just remember to click Tree of Hope every time you shop.

Remember to Gift Aid where applicable to add 25% to your donation at no extra cost. Please contact accountsreceivable@treeofhope.org.uk to obtain a gift aid declaration form.

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How we help...



Tree of Hope helps children and young people with a disability or illness by supporting their families to raise the funds that they need to pay for specialist care that is not available through the health care system.

Our staff team support Tree of Hope families by:

- Assisting with the creation of a Tree of Hope online fundraising campaign via Just Giving
- Making fundraising tools and advice available to parents
- Ensuring staff are available on the telephone
- Enabling each campaign to claim gift aid because it is part of registered charity Tree of Hope
- Putting families in touch with other families in similar situations for moral support
- Giving greater exposure to campaigns nationally through being associated with a well recognised charity brand
- Support with managing funds and paying invoices

Who We Help...

- Children under the age of 18, with access to funds up to their 25th birthday
- Children anywhere within the UK
- A child suffering from a disability, illness or autism

Medical Conditions we have helped families with (not an exhaustive list)

Cerebral Palsy
 Retts Syndrome
 Downs syndrome
 Global Developmental Delay
 Hypermobility
 Congenital Hypotonia
 Epilepsy
 Visual Impairments
 Meningitis complications
 Lebers Congenital Amaurosis
 Dravet Syndrome
 Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy Injury
 Dystonia

What you can fundraise for

Equipment including but not limited to trikes, hydrotherapy pools, specialist pushchairs & sensory equipment

Therapy, including; physiotherapy, horse riding & swimming lessons

Operations and treatment inside and outside of the UK

House Adaptations including sensory gardens and bathroom adaptations

Please remember to include all your fundraising needs at the start of your campaign. Speak to our Family Support Team on 01892 535525 for advice.



Tree of Hope

Transforming the health of sick and disabled children

www.treeofhope.org.uk
01892 535525