

# 2024 KidzFix Foundation Projects



6<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024 | Parkes to Griffith via Broken Hill

---

## PROJECT 1 – Morwell, VIC

### Ramahyuck Morwell Medical Centre, Central Gippsland Aboriginal Services – Sonoscape E1 Ultrasound Machine

With early monitoring comes early intervention and in pregnancies, this can mean the difference between life and death. An ultrasound machine provides critical monitoring of unborn babies and the Ramchyuck Aboriginal Corporation desperately need this equipment to reduce the number of stillborn babies in their service area.

**Total Project Cost - \$7,900**

---

## PROJECT 2 – Dunedoo, NSW

### St Michael's Dunedoo - Support for individual child needing assistance with cost of travel to attend medical support services

St Michael's Catholic Primary School have some families that wish to receive help from Royal Far West in 2024 but are very unsure of how they can afford the additional costs that families need to fund, outside the funding provided by RFW.

"This financial burden causes added pressure on our families at a time when they are worried about their child's health or educational needs or any disability that their child is learning to live with.

Financial support would be invaluable to our families as it would mean that their child would be receiving the needed medical and educational specialists, without parents having to worry about whether they can afford the travel to Sydney. It would also mean that any parents left at home with other children, may not have the added pressure of supporting the family at home."

KidzFix will fund at least one family whose application is currently being assessed by RFW. There are other students who may also be needing this service as well. This makes the family decision to use these services so much easier knowing that costs for transport, accommodation and incidentals would be met.

**Total Project Cost - \$2,000**

---

## PROJECT 3 – Dunedoo, NSW

### Dunedoo Preschool Kindergarten – Sensory Playground for the Community

Fund a new community playground to bridge the gap for playgroup aged kids with sensory needs.

There are many children in the community identified with sensory concerns that is reflected in their behaviour and therefore learning. This initiative would support development and remediation of visual perception, visual motor integration, motor planning, spatial awareness and fine gross motor control.

**Total Project Cost - \$10,000**

---

# 2024 KidzFix Foundation Projects



6<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024 | Parkes to Griffith via Broken Hill

## PROJECT 4 – Shoalhaven, NSW

### Shoalhaven District Memorial Hospital Paediatric Ward – 3 pieces of medical equipment

- a) **Airvo 3** - Life Saving Equipment for people in respiratory distress. This equipment can be used on newborns right through to adults. The Airvo 3 comes with an extended flow range for children.
- b) **Calesca Milk Warming Device** – Calesca is designed as a single bedside unit for the highest demands in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. When used as a single patient device the process of preparing feedings can be significantly optimised and the potential risk of milk mix-ups can be eliminated. Calesca is also suitable for centralised preparation directly on the ward (i.e. maternity or paediatric department)
- c) **Smiley Scope VR headset**- Smileyscope is a virtual reality solution for needle procedures for use by healthcare practitioners. In the form of a VR headset, Smileyscope comes with a range of relaxing experiences incorporating evidence-based music therapy. The programs simulate alternate world experiences in a variety of languages, distracting patients from the procedure they're undergoing. Appropriate for kids aged 4+.

**Total Project Cost - \$11,606**

---

## PROJECT 5 – NSW

### Cerebral Palsy Alliance - Equipment and resource for children with disability

Children with disability often need additional support to help them grow, learn and play. Having access to specialised equipment and resources can significantly increase a child's quality of life, as they learn skills, have new experiences and meet their goals. From switch button operated toys to help children with limited mobility play, to fun games and technology to support language development and independent communication, ensuring the therapy centres are well-resourced means children can access the equipment they need to thrive.

**Total Project Cost - \$8,000**

---

## PROJECT 6 – NSW

### Freedom Wheels – Disability Bikes

The Freedom Wheels bike service sees people with disabilities ride a bike, sometimes for the first time, thanks to custom supports on the range of bikes and trikes. The team of health professionals assess each client and prescribe a bike designed to support their physical and cognitive needs. KidzFix will fully fund bikes, trikes and frame runners for kids and teens living with a disability who have been on the waiting list for a long period of time and/or who have been declined funding by the NDIS. An integral step in removing the financial burden for many families so that their son/daughter can achieve their goals such as increasing community engagement, physical activity, emotional well-being and social inclusion.

**Total Project Cost - \$25,000**

---

# 2024 KidzFix Foundation Projects



6<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024 | Parkes to Griffith via Broken Hill

## PROJECT 7 – ON ROUTE PROGRAM

### Deadly Science – STEM Kits and a Regional School Visit from DeadlyScience

This project involves the donation of STEM equipment (Robotics Kits) to 4 regional/remote schools along the 2024 KidzFix route. DeadlyScience would provide a team member to conduct face to face sessions with the schools using the STEM equipment.

The objective of the equipment and associated learning sessions is to encourage students to engage with STEM by making it fun, and to have them start to take charge of their lifelong learning.

**Total Project Cost - \$17,000**

---

## PROJECT 8 – Traralgon, VIC

### Latrobe Regional Health - JM-105 Jaundice Meter

Neonatal jaundice or yellowing of the skin and eyes occurs in 50 per cent of full-term babies and 80 per cent of babies born prematurely. It is caused because the liver is not yet developed enough to process bilirubin, a yellow pigment produced by red blood cells. As red blood cells are broken down, the pigment stays in the bloodstream of the babies instead of being removed as a waste product.

Left untreated, jaundice can result in poor health outcomes and may lead to long-term health effects.

Traditionally to diagnose and decide if jaundice needs treatment, a heel-prick test is done for TSB.

The Jaundice Meter JM-105 allows a gentle non-invasive method for clinicians to observe, diagnose and treat a newborn who has jaundice as quickly as possible. It works by measuring the levels of yellow pigment in the subcutaneous tissue using light instead of a needle.

The sensor is gently pressed on the baby's forehead or sternum, it provides a reading instantly in a non-invasive way which has good diagnostic accuracy and significantly reduces the number of invasive blood tests. Both pain-free for the infant and reduces parental anxiety. It is quick and easy to use as well as being a big benefit for the clinicians allowing them to act straightaway if there is a concern.

**Total Project Cost - \$8,250**

---

## PROJECT 9 – Family Support, On Route

### Support for Remi

Remi Heffer is the ONLY child in Australia and one of only a few hundred in the world to suffer from Grin2b. This syndrome is a rare neurodevelopmental disorder caused by a variation to chromosome 12. While there is a foundation in America and Google the family are navigating this journey alone. Remi was diagnosed at 10 months old after extensive testing and research into her symptoms. Remi will never walk, has cortical visual impairment, is non-verbal, suffers from digestive issues and if that isn't enough she also has epilepsy causing seizures. This 4-year-old girl has been through more than most, however has been blessed with two amazing parents Erinn and Jason and a big brother Nate. Erinn has beautifully documented their journey from birth through to today at [https://www.instagram.com/remi\\_roos\\_journey19/#](https://www.instagram.com/remi_roos_journey19/#) it's well worth a read. The Heffer family currently lives in Griffith, but Erinn comes from the small town of Coleambally who always rally around those in need, for the last four years the family has turned down financial offers of help with both parents managing to hold down jobs to pay for Remi's needs in between countless medical appointments locally and interstate.

## 2024 KidzFix Foundation Projects



6<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024 | Parkes to Griffith via Broken Hill

However recently Remi had been on a waiting list for major surgery for almost 12 months to have a feeding tube inserted into her duodenum and her oesophagus tightened, and two days before the trip to Melbourne their car was stolen fitted with her custom car seat. Although the car was damaged it was found in time to make their life changing appointment, but this was a turning point for the family as they turned to the community to help find the car and have finally decided to accept financial support.

As Remi has a normal life expectancy, they are slowly renovating the house to accommodate her needs and with her starting school in just over 12 months NDIS will cover the cost of a wheelchair however the family will need to pay for the car to fit the wheelchair. KidzFix will contribute to the cost of the vehicle.

Total to be ascertained closer to September.

---

### **PROJECT 10 – Family Support, NSW**

#### **Support for the Buckley Family**

Meet Lynette Buckley, Mum to Oli and Isaac. Both Oli (13) and Isaac (10) have Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). DMD is a degenerative genetic neuromuscular condition which affects all muscles in the body slowly deteriorating until they no longer can function.

Her eldest son, Oli is now confined to a powered wheelchair as his legs no longer work. Her youngest son Isaac is now using a powered wheelchair every time he is outside the home as he can no longer walk long distances as he tires too quickly.

This is more than any one family should have to deal with, but Mitch Buckley, Dad and Husband of the family suffers from type 1 diabetes and is in kidney failure. He is on dialysis three times a week and is awaiting a kidney and pancreas transplant. Lynette is now provider and full time carer for all 3 members of her family.

She currently doesn't have a car that is able to transport the boys and their wheelchairs. She has approved funding to fit the vehicle for the wheelchairs and this money is to provide the final funding to purchase the vehicle.

#### **Total Project Cost - \$20,000**

---

### **PROJECT 11 – Tweed Heads, NSW**

#### **Tweed Valley Early Childhood Intervention Services – Shaping Outcomes 'First Steps Program'**

The Shaping Outcomes "First Steps" program helps us provide Key Worker support packages for a minimum of 45 families. These packages include 4-6 hrs of initial individualised support per child/family, along with access to parenting groups and advocacy support in educational and community spaces. Providing supports where the child Lives, Learns and Plays.

These packages are tailored to the individual needs of the child and family but can be broken down to include but not limited to;

1. Early Intervention Supports being delivered to 45 children with mild disability or developmental delay
2. Emotional, planning and strategic supports for families of children to build their skills and capacity to meet the individual needs of their child and their community.
3. Capacity building for Community services to help support inclusion practices for children with mild disability (Early Childhood, Preschools, Sports, Dance, Clubs) as well as increasing their skills and abilities to assist future children accessing their services.

## 2024 KidzFix Foundation Projects



6<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024 | Parkes to Griffith via Broken Hill

4. Itinerant Child and Family Disability Specialist visits
5. Therapy support and coordination
6. Transition to Early Childhood Education Centres and School Support
7. Learning and Play Based activities, to build social, emotional, and behavioural capacity for inclusion in mainstream activities.
8. Gathering medical evidence and documentation to help support access request to NDIS or other mainstream funds that can build and support the child's needs

Recent natural disasters throughout our region have seen considerable displacement of families and interruptions to regular supports, we are seeing an increased need for Early Childhood Intervention supports at present. The need for ongoing Mental Health and Emotional supports continues to grow and is becoming a pandemic, for these families.

**Total Project Cost - \$25,000**

---

### **PROJECT 12 – Dubbo and Surrounds, NSW**

#### **Dubbo & District Parent Support Group for Deaf/Hearing**

The HoHEBP strives to improve quality of life by providing support for the multifaceted effects ear health and hearing loss have on a young child, and their family.

The physical 'Ear Bus' provides a state-of-the-art purpose built facility for quality hearing screening (full audiometry & ear health check) where diagnosis and referrals are made, while the support teacher provides the vital support to the parent and school to ensure the pathways are in place for both health and education intervention.

Funding is for the annual calibration of the 2 automatic audiometers owned by HoHEBP so that we can lend them to schools that the Bus does not service. This would allow the schools to conduct their own hearing level checks and notify HoH if hearing issues are identified. Further FULL ear health checks could then be followed up by HoH if the parents/carers bring the kids to a community day appointment.

This funding would also assist the calibration of other audiology equipment owned by HoH, such as the 4 tympanometer machines and the OAE machine that was purchased using a previous grant from KidzFix. Calibration of equipment is an essential ongoing annual cost.

**Total Project Cost - \$5,500**

---

## **Total 2024 Project Commitment: \$200,000**

Please note: If fundraising targets are met, additional appeals will be committed to.