

WHEN THE DOCTOR SAYS 'CANCER'

**YOUNG LIVES
vs CANCER**

A report for The Smile of Arran Trust

Thank you so much for your loyal support of young cancer patients and their families. **Your most recent gift of £16,500 last year took your total giving to a fantastic £94,750!** Your grants have provided young cancer patients and their families with vital support when they need it most.

**THANK
YOU!**

Background

Today, **12** children and young people will receive a devastating cancer diagnosis. This threatens everything, for them and their family. At a time when they should be busy being children, enjoying their rollercoaster teenage years or finding their feet at uni, life becomes full of fear. Fear of treatment, but also of families being torn apart, of overwhelming money worries, mental health stretched to breaking point, of having no one to talk to. We step in the moment the doctor says 'cancer' to provide a wide range of emotional, practical and financial support, tailored to a family's individual needs.

What we achieved last year, thanks to supporters like The Smile of Arran Trust

- Supported 6,547 children and young people with cancer, and their families
- Supported 2,878 newly diagnosed young cancer patients and their families
- Awarded 4,932 Young Lives vs Cancer financial grants totalling over £1 million
- Welcomed 174 families to our 10 Homes from Home around the UK (lower than previous years due to coronavirus pandemic)
- Worked with Child Bereavement UK to support 17 families through a dedicated phone/video call bereavement support service

How the Smile of Arran Trust supported young cancer patients

Your generous £16,500 gift came at a critical time, helping us navigate the devastating impact of the coronavirus pandemic. The table below highlights how your grant supported families:

Month	Smile of Arran grants awarded	Total (£)
April 2021	3	£450
May 2021	10	£1,500
June 2021	12	£1,800
July 2021	12	£1,758
August 2021	6	£900
September 2021	8	£1,200
October 2021	1	£150
November 2021	12	£1,750

General enquiries 0300 330 0803

younglivesvscancer.org.uk

Young Lives vs Cancer is an operating name of CLIC Sargent Cancer Care for Children. A registered charity in England and Wales (1107328) and in Scotland (SC039857). Also operating in Northern Ireland. A company limited by member guarantee (No. 05273638). Registered office: No. 1 Farriers Yard, Assembly London, 77-85 Fulham Palace Road, London, W6 8JA. VAT no: 863639196.

December 2021	19	£2,850
January 2022	15	£2,250
February 2022	3	£392
March 2022	0	0
TOTAL	101	£15,000

The ongoing impact of Covid-19 and how we are responding

At the start of the pandemic, we moved our care teams online, so they could continue supporting families safely, helping them decipher government Covid-19 guidance for families; arranging grants to help with mortgage and rent payments, bills and food; and facilitating video calls and online activities to help families to interact with their peers, reduce feelings of isolation and aid their mental health.

We have now moved to a hybrid service delivery model, with our teams providing support both face-to-face in hospitals and virtually. This will ensure that young cancer patients and their families are getting the support that best suits them.

Due to the pandemic, we received a spike in demand for our support and grants. Last year, we provided over £300,000 in Financial Hardship grants to help families pay for essentials such as food and bills. This dramatic increase in demand was against a £9 million fall in our income last year, almost a third of what we planned to raise.

Service updates

Central social care team

For a number of reasons, Young Lives vs Cancer currently reaches 69% of UK diagnosed young cancer patients. We want to ensure that every young cancer patient that needs our support can access it. We aim to achieve this by enhancing our digital support, which our research and ongoing consultation with young cancer patients and their parents has shown there is a demand for.

We have created a central social care team who are offering support digitally to young cancer patients and their families. The team of staff and volunteers are providing a range of practical and financial support to help young cancer patients overcome varying challenges. The support is delivered over the phone, via video calls, Live Chat, email and social media. It is helping us overcome geographic barriers that currently limit our reach, in a cost-effective way.

Winter Emergency Grant

Following feedback from our social workers regarding how tough winter is for families, we introduced a Winter Emergency Grant. We offered grants of £350 per family or young person to those that need it. Families could access them up to a year post-treatment, or up to 18 months post bereavement. They can be used to cover increased heating, food and energy bills, ensuring the car is winter-ready, clothing, and to support mental health over winter, e.g. through a gym pass or access counselling.

Thank you

Thank you so much for your loyal support of children and young people with cancer, and their families. We hope you enjoyed hearing about the impact of your donation.