

# Your child and congenital heart disease



**HeartKids**

Supporting your heart journey for life

[heartkids.org.au](http://heartkids.org.au)



**HeartKids**

**We are here to help.**

Dylan 4 months

HeartKids provides support for people and families impacted by congenital or childhood acquired heart disease.

Many people find out that their child has a congenital heart condition during pregnancy or at birth. This can be a very stressful and confusing period.

HeartKids understands.

HeartKids can provide:

- Face to face or telephone support
- Access to information and education
- Practical advice based on experience
- Connection to the HeartKids community
- Practical Assistance. For example, patient travel, food vouchers, etc.
- Emergency Care Packages, Care Bags, and a Heart Beads program.
- Teen transition, youth, and adult support programs.

No matter where you are located, or how far you are into your congenital heart disease journey, HeartKids is here for you. Speak to us today.

**HeartKids Helpline 1800 432 785**

9am - 7pm AEST, Mon-Fri (except public holidays)

HeartKids Helpline is a free, confidential information and support service for people living with congenital heart disease, their parents, carers, families, friends, teachers and healthcare professionals.

“  
We spent 7 months in hospital,  
HeartKids provided my family  
with incredible support.  
We really appreciate everything  
they did to make our lives just  
that little bit easier.”

Julia,  
Mum to William

## What is Congenital Heart Disease?

Congenital heart disease, shortened as “CHD”, incorporates a group of abnormalities of the heart and is a general name for any type of malformation of the heart, heart valves or major blood vessels which are present at birth. Some children may acquire heart disease during childhood. Defects can range from simple to complex and can occur alone or in groups, depending on how the heart has developed.

## How Can HeartKids Support You?

HeartKids is the only national not-for-profit organisation who is solely focused on supporting and advocating for all people impacted by congenital or childhood acquired heart disease. Our purpose is to help you and your family lead the most fulfilling life possible and ensure that you do not feel alone in your journey.

Our support is a commitment for life because there is no known cure. People with congenital heart disease and their families face unique challenges for their entire life.

Whether you are a heart parent, a young person or adult with CHD or a bereaved parent, our family support team are trained to help guide you and often have lived experience of CHD. HeartKids understands your hardships and will support you wherever you are in your heart journey. With nationwide networks, you will receive high quality service and family centred care.

“HUGE shout out to Heartkids who have supported my niece’s loving family of three adorable heart kids with the love and care which is second to none.

You guys do an amazing job both looking after these families and in your fundraising events too and are all to be highly commended, you are a massive part of their lives and they’re all so much better for all your kindness and love”.

**Nance Sand, Aunt to Xander, Scarlett & Allegra**

[heartkids.org.au](http://heartkids.org.au)

HeartKids is the only organisation in Australia dedicated to supporting families impacted by congenital or childhood acquired heart disease (CHD). No matter where you are located, or how far you are into your congenital heart disease journey, HeartKids is here to support you.

**HeartKids Helpline 1800 432 785**



**HeartKids**

Supporting your heart journey for life

**Luka-Angel**  
14 years

[heartkids.org.au](http://heartkids.org.au)

