

Making an impact that lasts a lifetime

Sporting Chance Cancer Foundation
**The James Tedesco Outreach
Program**



Our gratitude

We extend our deepest gratitude to the Sporting Chance Cancer Foundation for your unwavering support in transforming regional oncology care for children, young people, and their families battling cancer.

Your partnership with the Sydney Children's Hospitals Foundation, the Kids Cancer Centre (KCC), and Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick, has been pivotal in upholding the highest standards of care and driving meaningful change.

The KCC at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick, stands as one of Australia's most esteemed paediatric cancer centers, with over 50 years of expertise in treating children with cancer. By seamlessly integrating clinical care and research, KCC has significantly contributed to global advancements in paediatric oncology.

Your generosity and unwavering commitment have empowered KCC's multidisciplinary team of nearly 200 professionals—doctors, psychologists, social workers, specialist nurses, and outreach nurses—to deliver holistic, family-centered care. This integrated approach ensures that every child and family receives comprehensive, compassionate support.

We are profoundly grateful to the Sporting Chance Cancer Foundation and its dedicated supporters. Your extraordinary generosity is transforming lives of children and their families. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the James Tedesco Outreach Program, and for being an integral part of our movement of many.

Current Landscape and Needs

In 2021, 310 children were diagnosed with cancer across the Sydney Children's Hospitals Network, with 159 treated at Randwick.

On average, 50 children receive oncology treatments at KCC daily.

Despite medical advancements that have raised cancer survival rates to 80%, significant challenges remain. Many families, particularly those in rural and regional areas, face logistical, financial, and emotional burdens when accessing care.



Achievements of the Outreach Clinical Nurse Consultant (CNC) Role

The James Tedesco Outreach Program has successfully implemented specialised paediatric oncology care to rural and regional areas, addressing critical gaps in service delivery.

Key achievements of the Outreach Clinical Nurse Consultant (CNC) role include:

- **Enhanced Local Capacity:** Provided education and expert guidance to regional healthcare providers, improving their ability to manage paediatric oncology cases.
- **Improved Continuity of Care:** Ensured timely post-discharge visits, facilitating smoother transitions from hospital to home and reducing readmission rates.
- **Reduced Travel Burden:** Delivered essential services closer to home, significantly reducing the need for families to travel to Sydney for treatment.
- **Strengthened Palliative Care Support:** Offered ongoing, specialized support to palliative care families, improving the quality of end-of-life care in regional areas.
- **Professional Development:** Supported rural paediatricians and nursing staff, enhancing their skills and confidence in managing complex oncology cases.
- **Responsive Program Evaluation:** Implemented continuous service reviews to adapt and meet the evolving needs of patients and families, ensuring the program remains effective and relevant.

Through these initiatives, the Outreach CNC role has built stronger relationships between KCC and regional medical services, contributing to more equitable and accessible paediatric cancer care across New South Wales.

Strengthening Regional Healthcare Capacity

Our dedicated Outreach CNC builds strong, collaborative relationships with regional medical services. This role enhances local capacity to manage paediatric oncology cases, addressing gaps in resources and expertise. By supporting local healthcare providers, the program delivers consistent, high-quality care and reduces the burden on families who would otherwise need to relocate for treatment.

The commitment and strategic investment from Sporting Chance Cancer Foundation in outreach services ensures that children and families in rural and regional areas have equitable access to the same standard of care available in metropolitan settings.

Featuring Kylie Stark, Clinical Nurse Consultant Outreach Services – James Tedesco Outreach Program



Every morning at dawn, Kylie Stark often boards a 6 a.m. flight bound for a regional town in New South Wales. By 9 a.m., she's at a clinic—greeting children, speaking with parents, and collaborating with local healthcare teams. As a Clinical Nurse Consultant for the Kids Cancer Centre's (KCC) James Tedesco Outreach Program at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick, Kylie's days are filled with dedication, precision, and purpose.

Her mission is clear: ensure children battling cancer in regional and rural NSW receive the same high-quality care as those in Sydney. In this role, she plans, coordinates, and facilitates oncology clinics across five regional sites, liaising closely with families and healthcare providers

A Day in the Life of an Outreach Nurse

Clinic days are intense but immensely rewarding. Kylie and a team of specialist doctors see up to 16 children a day, providing consultations and support. These visits make a profound difference for families. Imagine not having to leave work or miss school for an essential medical appointment because the doctor comes to you. Fathers, mothers, and siblings frequently attend these local clinics, maintaining a sense of normalcy amid the chaos of a cancer diagnosis.

When not on the road, Kylie's work at the KCC involves virtual education sessions, coordinating Sydney-based visits for families, and participating in multidisciplinary team meetings—all aimed at enhancing care quality and access.

Transforming care by bringing support closer to home



Expanding Reach and Impact

Kylie's efforts serve children from 0 to 18 years old across various regions, including Canberra, Wagga Wagga, Coffs Harbour, and Wollongong. The outreach also extends beyond clinics. Virtual education programs for paediatric nurses provide essential training, ensuring they are equipped to care for young cancer patients confidently and competently.

Future Focus:

- Strengthen the capabilities of regional care sites to offer a broader range of services.
- Standardise education and training for nurses, fostering a robust and knowledgeable workforce.
- Explore new outreach clinic opportunities, ensuring that no child's care is compromised due to their location.

Thanks to the ongoing support from Sporting Chance Cancer Foundation, Kylie's role is more than a job—it's a lifeline for many families. This support reduces the financial and emotional strain of traveling to Sydney for treatment. Families stay together, children maintain routines, and communities stay connected.

One mother summed it up poignantly:

"It means we are all together eating dinner around the table. That is very special for us as a family."

Reducing Barriers, Enhancing Outcomes

Living in rural NSW should never be a barrier to world-class paediatric oncology care. SCHF funding has facilitated a seamless link between regional clinicians and the KCC, fostering safe, collaborative, and high-quality care. Families report reduced stress and a greater sense of normalcy, and local clinicians gain invaluable experience and support.

For vulnerable groups—single-parent households, refugees, migrants, and Indigenous families—this localised care model is especially impactful. It minimizes disruptions, reduces costs, and ensures that families can focus on healing together.





By the Numbers: Outreach Impact 2023-2024

ACT: 558 children treated

Campbelltown: 102 children treated

Coffs Harbour: 92 children treated

Wagga Wagga: 126 children treated

Wollongong: 96 children treated



A Heartfelt Thank You

“To the donors and supporters behind Sporting Chance: your generosity is transforming lives. Thanks to you, children in rural and regional NSW receive care that keeps families together, minimises disruption, and enhances health outcomes.

Your support means more than medical care; it means hope, resilience, and the comfort of sharing dinner around the family table.”

Kylie Stark, Clinical Nurse Consultant, James Tedesco Outreach Program

Thank you Sporting Chance Cancer Foundation

**Together, we can go
all in for kids' health**