

Nurse Care & Equipment Services



“The loan of efficiently supplied, effective equipment providing immediate support for terminally ill children - those who just can’t wait!”

Newlife Nurse



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foundation for disabled children

“Newlife gave us peace of mind to ensure the best treatment for our child. Thank you so much, we can keep our sanity. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you Newlife,”

Family Quote



About Newlife Foundation

The UK's leading disabled children's charity

Disabled children have been at the heart of the charity since 1991. Since that time we have become, through our work, the specialists for special children. Their needs and the needs of their families and carers, their health and their voices are all central to the work of the charity. Originally the charity focused on the biggest cause of disability in children, inborn conditions. As times have changed and more babies and children survive conditions, accidents and infections and cancers . we see more children thankfully live through these experiences. However as a result many go on to face both short term and enduring disability. Others will live with their life expectance limited, while tragically others children become terminally ill. Newlife exists to respond to all these children with care, professionalism and determination and to provide informed support to their families and carers.





Newlife is a national charity and has 3 key areas of activity:

★ Nurse Care & Equipment Services

Nurses and specialist equipment making a real difference to the lives of children and families.

★ Medical Research Action

Pioneering work to improve child health, treatment and the knowledge to prevent disability. the best researchers provide the best chance of improving child health.

★ Campaigning & Awareness

To achieve improved services and knowledge and to be the voice of affected children and families.



Nurse

“I know from my own experience and from other families, that having a child with a disability often feels like going into a restaurant and finding they have no menu. They don't know what's on offer, what the possibilities are, what questions to ask and what to expect. Newlife's Nurses provide reliable, individually tailored information and access to equipment services and grants. Thousands of families every year find that calling a Newlife Nurse is the first step to getting the help they need.”



Mrs Sheila Brown OBE,
Newlife CEO

About Newlife Nurses:

Professional and caring help, providing support and information is just one call away. No memberships, no costs, all Newlife services are free. All Newlife services are accessed by contacting the Newlife Nurses. They are the easy access gateway to finding the help and support a family needs or the equipment a child requires.

Callers will normally speak directly to a named Nurse on a freephone number and callers can be assured of being able to speak in complete confidence. Newlife Nurses have between them, many years of experience. They will normally have worked in the community seeing people in their homes or local clinics, so they know how the real world of family life works. They will also be experienced in clinical practice with skills ranging from Midwifery, Health Visiting, Special Care/Neonatal Baby Unit, Paediatrics, Surgical Units and much more. So callers can be assured of a professional, caring and practical approach to their enquiries and needs.

Care & Equipm

Nurse Helpline

Newlife Nurse are asked thousands of questions every year by families all over the UK. Nothing is too small or too important to discuss with a trusted Newlife Nurse.

Queries and concerns vary enormously - from where to get specialist clothing, questions on benefits, or rights, what long medical words mean, information on conditions, what are the options, who does what in the world of care and statutory provision, what to do about certain behaviours, how to find and access local services. Newlife Nurse are also trusted to help and understand the worries and fears of Mums and Dads, Nans and Uncles who call to share their distress or their worries for the future. Whether it's asking how to cope or to sharing a sadness or a joy, seeking information or need direction, Newlife Nurses understand.

Whether you choose to contact them through a freephone telephone call, through the online Live Nurse Chat system or by email for our website, you can be sure of an understanding listening ear and professional skills.

Newlife Nurses offer help, support and information on a wide variety of queries or issues in complete confidence.

- ✔ Medical queries
- ✔ Care services
- ✔ Treatments
- ✔ Understanding terminology
- ✔ Benefits/Rights
- ✔ Who's who
- ✔ Grants
- ✔ Equipment
- ✔ Medications
- ✔ Family Support
- ✔ Local Services/Facilities/Contacts
- ✔ Education
- ✔ Specialist Services



Nurse Services Telephone
0800 902 0095 (Freephone)

In addition to calls our nurses receive confidential e-mails and respond to a live chat service via our website.

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Equipment Grants Service

Newlife Nurses know that equipment can make a real difference to helping disabled, life limited and terminally ill children. Equipment can help relieve pain, make treatment easier, prevent conditions worsening, help communication, overcome inability, give greater independence, stimulate and improve their quality of life. If the statutory health and social care services cannot help, Newlife Nurses can progress a grant for equipment direct from Newlife funds or they can provide information of grants available nationally from other sources. This equipment could be anything from a wheelchair to a bed, a hoist to a seating system and much more. The needs of the child and family are uppermost in our assessment for a Newlife Equipment Grant so we do not means test families and if we make a Newlife Equipment Grant everything is ordered and delivered direct to the door. Applying for a grant is simple - no long forms and once a professional has supported the application we can, in emergencies, agree the application the same day by fast-tracking or if less urgent, work to find the funds for the equipment in a speedy and efficient way based on the needs of the child and family.

Newlife is the only charity able to provide such a wide range of vital equipment such as:

- ✓ A variety of wheelchairs, specialist pushchairs and buggies
- ✓ Standing frames and walkers
- ✓ Specialist cots and beds
- ✓ Specialist car seats and safety harness
- ✓ Seating systems
- ✓ Sensory development and therapeutic stimulation equipment
- ✓ Communication aids
- ✓ Specialist clothing
- ✓ Hoists and handling equipment
- ✓ Safe spaces
- ✓ Sheds

The most important thing is that in each case it meets the individual needs of the child. For operational reasons we do not fund adaptations and fixtures to homes or vehicles and our grants are for the benefit of individual children so we do not fund equipment for schools or similar bodies.



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Just Can't Wait Service

A priority equipment loan service, helping terminally ill children across the UK

In 2011, Newlife launched this innovative service to meet the specific difficulties of equipment provision faced daily by terminally-ill children and their families across the UK.

The service was launched because our Nurses heard that many terminally ill children have to enter Hospices prematurely, due to lack of equipment at home or they face long delays from statutory services for such provision. Sadly, too often we heard of children whose lives have ended before equipment can be sourced to relieve their pain, aid their care or improve their quality of life.

Newlife's Just Can't Wait Service maintains a suite of equipment ready to go out at very short notice - because terminally ill children simply cannot wait.

Just Can't Wait! is a FREE service and offers:

✔ Easy Access

An Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist or other Healthcare Professional who is actively involved in the child's end of life care, can refer a terminally ill child to our Newlife Nurses. They will check eligibility and confirm specification and availability of equipment.

✔ Fast delivery

If equipment is available, specification has been agreed with the professional and the terms and conditions of the loan are confirmed by the family, Newlife will aim to deliver within 72 hours - a streamlined service for disabled children who just can't wait!

✔ Support

The cost of individual adaptations, technical repairs and maintenance are covered by Newlife, at no cost to the family. Emotional support and guidance will be available through Newlife's Nurse Helpline - 0800 902 0095

✔ Reactive

If the child or the family's needs change Newlife will look to exchange or provide a replacement, if available at the time. When the equipment becomes surplus to the child's needs, the equipment will be withdrawn quickly and sensitively.

Kaj

Aged Nine - Devon

Kaj is 9 years old and lives in Devon. He was born three months premature. Because of this Kaj spent the first three months of his life in intensive care, diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy and later Autism

As Kaj has grown his disabilities have become more apparent. As have his behavioural problems associated with his inability to communicate effectively.

He needs round the clock assistance in all aspects of his life. He finds eating difficult and frequently chokes, he has no perception of danger so cannot ever be alone.

Kaj's mother is his sole carer after her husband passed away.

Kaj's mother had wished to create a sensory room for Kaj in the hope that it would be a calming influence, improving his behaviour and well-being. Without her husband however the finances of funding such a room seemed impossible.

That was until Newlife stepped in to fund the sensory equipment Kaj needed.

The room has been of huge help to Kaj and has improved the quality of his life. It allows him his own sanctuary where his senses can be stimulated in a safe and tranquil way.



Kaj's urgent application is one of hundreds which are dealt with by Newlife Nurses - resulting in urgent provision of essential equipment.



FREE CONFIDENTIAL HELPLINE & EMAIL SERVICE



0800 902 0095

Lines open Monday-Friday 9:30am-5pm & Wednesdays until 7pm plus 24 hour answerphone

Email us: nurse@newlifecharity.co.uk

Nurse Chat: www.newlifecharity.co.uk/live

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Newlife Centre, Hemlock Way,
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Registered Charity No. 1001817
Formerly known as Birth Defects Foundation/BDF Newlife.