

# SUPPORT WHENEVER YOU NEED IT

No one can prepare you for the impact cancer can have on the lives of you and your family: feeling fear, anger and being overwhelmed, but also worrying about how to keep your family together, the logistics of cancer treatment, the potential money worries.

However you're feeling right now, you're not alone. We're here to support you every step of the way, whether that's by providing grants, advice and a place to stay close to hospital, or simply a listening ear.

## How you can get support from us

- Through your multidisciplinary team in hospital
- Our online grants form: [younglivesvscancer.org.uk/grants](http://younglivesvscancer.org.uk/grants)

☎ 0300 303 5220

✉ [getsupport@younglivesvscancer.org.uk](mailto:getsupport@younglivesvscancer.org.uk)

🌐 [younglivesvscancer.org.uk](http://younglivesvscancer.org.uk)

📘 [facebook.com/younglivesvscancer](https://facebook.com/younglivesvscancer)

📷 [@younglivesvscancer](https://instagram.com/younglivesvscancer)

🐦 [@YLvsCancer](https://twitter.com/YLvsCancer)

**YOUNG LIVES**  
**vs CANCER**

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## Join Team Young Lives

We'll face it all, together. But we can't do it without you! There are so many ways you can help young cancer patients and their families. You could...

### Make a donation

Big or small, all donations will help young cancer patients and their families face everything cancer throws at them.

### Take on a challenge

We have an event to suit everyone. Have fun and raise money for Young Lives vs Cancer.

### Create a fund

Raise money in the name of a child or young person with cancer together with your lovely network of family, friends and the local community.

Search 'join our fight' on [younglivesvscancer.org.uk](http://younglivesvscancer.org.uk) for more inspiration.

**HELPING FAMILIES  
FACE EVERYTHING  
CANCER THROWS  
AT THEM**

## LIV'S STORY

I was having headaches every day, I was so tired. After seeing various GPs my headaches were still horrendous, so my mum took me to A&E.

That's when they told me I had Langerhans cell histiocytosis; 'rogue' cells in my brain had started to eat away at my skull. "It's classed as cancer," they told my mum. It was a huge shock. I couldn't help thinking about that I could go bald.

Going through treatment was horrible. I lost all my friends. Steroids meant I put on lots of weight, I lost all my confidence. I felt so lonely, stuck in my room distanced from everyone with nobody to talk to.

Then I met Peggy, my Young Lives vs Cancer Social Worker. She would just sit and listen. She was my 'someone' who was there for me, as a friend.



When a child is diagnosed with cancer life becomes full of fear, for them and their family. Fear of treatment, but also of families being torn apart, of overwhelming money worries, of having nowhere to turn, no one to talk to.

Young Lives vs Cancer is the charity that helps children and young people (under 25) and their families find the strength to face whatever cancer throws at them.

### Helping families cope

Young Lives vs Cancer social workers help young cancer patients and their families live life as normally as possible. They help with everything, from cutting through medical jargon, applying for benefits and liaising with schools, colleges and work while a child is on treatment, to being there when family members need to offload or a shoulder to cry on.

### Helping with money worries

The financial impact of cancer is devastating. Travel costs, cuts in wages and the extras at home hit hard. We offer grants and make sure children and young people with cancer, and their families, get the support they're entitled to from the government.

### Keeping families together

Young cancer patients have to go through exhausting treatment which often happens at specialist treatment centres far away from home. Our Homes from Home are free places for families to stay close to those centres, keeping them together during their child's treatment.

Keen to find out more or want to get in touch?  
[younglivesvs cancer.org.uk](http://younglivesvs cancer.org.uk)

0300 330 0803 (Mon – Fri, 8am – 6pm)

[supporter.services@younglivesvs cancer.org.uk](mailto:supporter.services@younglivesvs cancer.org.uk)



## DAWID'S STORY

When Dawid was seven, he had to go to hospital because he'd fallen off his scooter and was feeling unwell. While he was there, doctors discovered Dawid had a brain tumour. Mum Aleksandra remembers:

We were devastated. To find out he had a brain tumour – it was unbelievable. After the operation to remove the tumour, Dawid couldn't talk or walk and was unable to feed himself. He needed constant care.

Thankfully, Young Lives vs Cancer was with us from day one. They were there whenever we met with doctors to make sure we got all the information we needed and helped us access the support we either didn't know about or didn't feel we had the authority to ask for. They met with Dawid's teachers to provide training around how to maximise his potential when he returned to school.

Having someone there who's an expert to support you through everything is amazing. You can't put a value on that.