

A diagnosis of cancer is shocking enough, but when you live in a rural or regional area, this challenge is even more daunting

Patients, families and carers face enormous physical, emotional and financial burdens.

Founded in 1955, Can Assist (formerly Cancer Patients Assistance Society of NSW), is a registered charity, providing care and accommodation for country cancer patients and their families.

Through a growing network of more than 40 branches and more than 1800 volunteer members, Can Assist also provides direct financial assistance for travel, accommodation, treatment, wigs, prosthetics, pharmacy bills and other necessities for people who need it most.

Funds raised in rural/regional communities support local people facing the trauma of cancer. It really is a case of locals helping locals. Through the Jean Colvin Hospital in Sydney and Ecclesbourne (Sydney) and Lillier Lodge (Wagga Wagga), we provide subsidised accommodation for rural cancer patients to stay during their 6 weeks of cancer treatment.

Without this service many country patients would be unable to access this treatment. Each year, Can Assist provides more than \$1.8 million in direct assistance to people disadvantaged by distance.

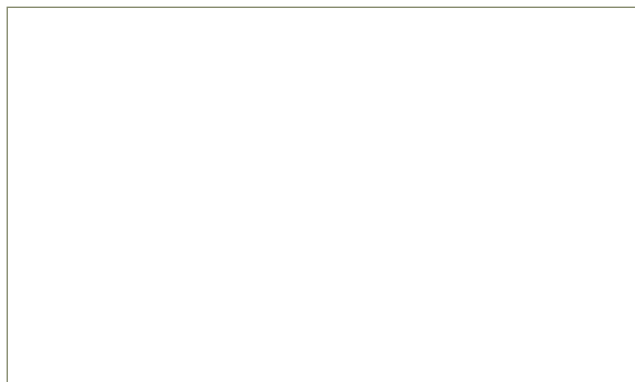
By volunteering with Can Assist you help raise much needed funds to support families in your community affected by cancer and other Can Assist services. Becoming a member shows your commitment to the future of Can Assist and supports the branch structure across rural NSW.



“ Based on our experience, when locals know that donations to Can Assist will directly help people in their own community, they are very generous with their time and money. We hear regularly how important the work of our volunteers and members is. It is very satisfying to volunteer your time when you know it makes such a significant difference. For those that do, we are immensely grateful for your contribution. ”

Robyn Cahoun, CEO

Local Branch Details:



9 Loftus Street Darling Point NSW 2027

Phone donations: 1300 226 277 (cost of local call)

Phone administration: 02 9362 3429

Fax: 02 9362 4371

YOU CAN ASSIST



Country people helping country people

Become a Member or Volunteer

Be part of a team. Be part of something that strengthens your community.



I would like to become a volunteer and/or member of Can Assist

Can Assist relies on the volunteer efforts to support more than 2000 people each year through the provision of valuable services to families in regional and rural NSW, affected by cancer. It is not possible for us to do this without your help.

You are not alone. Join over 1800 other volunteers who are already part of our network and who have made an enormous contribution to their communities. You will be trained and your efforts will bring you more rewards than you ever imagined. Imagine what you can bring to others.

Some people choose to stay volunteers and others choose to become members. There are benefits to both of these and both are vital.

Can Assist members join a local branch and can be a part of the branch committee structure. Our members are part of their community and are involved in numerous activities, ranging from assisting with fundraising, promoting the work of Can Assist, managing the finances, organising events or talking to people with cancer about their support needs.

Each and every one of them does this as a volunteer and by doing so, strengthens the community within which they live. We understand and respect that not everyone can commit the same amount of time to their community, however, every bit helps.

We are seeking your contribution, whatever that may be, to join with Can Assist in providing support for families in regional and rural NSW affected by cancer.

“ You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give.”

-- Winston Churchill

What are the similarities between Volunteers and Members?

- Contributions to Can Assist are unpaid
- Get reimbursed for any pre-approved expenses incurred whilst undertaking Can Assist work
- Assist with fundraising and delivery of critical services
- Represent the image of Can Assist
- Receive training and development
- Have clear roles and functions
- Support the local branch
- Abide by a Code of Conduct
- Are accountable for their actions when they represent Can Assist
- Are recognised and rewarded for their contribution

What do Members get that other Volunteers don't?

- The right to stand for election as an Branch Office Bearer
- The right to stand for nomination and become a Director on the Board of Can Assist
- The right to vote at a Branch level
- The right to vote on things that affect Can Assist, including the election of Directors to the Board of Can Assist
- Colvin Chatter newsletter
- Access to Branch newsletter
- Access to branch information that is specific to members
- A voice within the organisation
- Attendance at the Annual Branch Conference
- Ability to be nominated as Cluster Co-ordinator and attend Cluster Meetings
- Direct telephonic support from the Sydney Office

Both are critical to the success and on-going sustainability of Can Assist and we seek to develop the quantity and quality of both.

We embrace all Volunteers

Please tick to indicate your preferred relationship with Can Assist. Remember that Members are automatically volunteers.

- Volunteer only (to help at events, programs or projects)
- Member (to support committee structure, vote and representation)

Please enclose your yearly membership payment with this form and give both to your local branch President or Secretary.

My local branch is: _____

Your Details

Title: _____ Preferred Badge Name _____

Postal Address _____

Suburb: _____ P/Code: _____

Phone: () _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____

For Membership Application - Please read and sign below:

I agree to comply with the Constitution, By Laws and Policies of Can Assist (Cancer Patients' Assistance Society of NSW). I agree that during my membership with Can Assist and after the membership ceases, I will hold and keep confidential all personal information that comes into my knowledge or possession. I agree to protect the privacy of those to whom the information relates, and will not discuss or divulge personal information at any time or to any person, unless as a necessary part of my work with Can Assist. I give an undertaking that I will observe this confidentiality at all times.

Signature Applicant: _____ **Date:** ____ / ____ / ____

The Can Assist Annual Report is available online at www.canassist.com.au or from your local branch.

Please tick here if you wish to receive a copy by mail.

Branch use only

Received \$ _____ on ____ / ____ / ____

Branch Signature _____