



Can Assist and greenslips.com.au help local cancer patients who rely on their cars

Media release, 30 November 2020: When someone in rural or remote NSW is diagnosed with cancer, they may have to travel long distances to treatment. [Through a partnership with www.greenslips.com.au](http://www.greenslips.com.au), Can Assist Gunnedah has received funding to help ease that burden.

The comparative CTP insurance site, greenslips.com.au, knows the cost of CTP car insurance. It recognises the benefits of keeping local cancer patients' cars on the road when they need them most. Cancer patients in need, and who rely on their car to get to treatment, are encouraged to ask for financial assistance from Can Assist Gunnedah.

Long distances to travel for treatment

Kate Knight, Gunnedah Can Assist President says: "We have such long distances to travel, it's critical to have a safe, reliable car to get to treatment. Tamworth is 80 kilometres away and we have some clients who travel to Sydney or Newcastle for essential care. Radiation could require 25 trips, there and back, so the kilometres really add up. Can Assist Gunnedah support other local towns including Carroll, Mullaley, Boggabri and Curlewis, who may have to travel even further", said Kate Knight, Can Assist Gunnedah President.

"We've been supporting a local woman with a rare cancer going through intense chemo in Sydney. It impacts on her, her husband, their four young children and the extended family. Contributions such as this from greenslips.com.au will help us to help her and many others.

"A cancer diagnosis is stressful enough and without a vehicle it adds another significant burden. We have been told Can Assist is a little ray of sunshine in a dark time. If you have support you can get through it. Our support is not just for the patient, but also for the carer, who could be taken away from their job. We want people to know we're here to help," said Kate.

Practical and financial support to cancer patients

Can Assist provides practical and financial support to cancer patients in Gunnedah and surrounding townships, through travel, food and fuel vouchers, pharmaceuticals and utilities payments. Can Assist Gunnedah knows many more in the community need help, especially with the added burden of COVID-19 on cancer patients. The branch is keen to help more patients in need, especially with payment from www.greenslips.com.au for their CTP green slip insurance.

"When you are diagnosed with cancer, it feels like the foundation falls out of everything. If you're the worker and all of a sudden there's no income, it has a big impact and you really need financial support. Your world changes, things halt for a while, but you do get on top and you do move forward," said, Linda Lee, Can Assist Gunnedah Secretary.



“Can Assist Gunnedah can support up to 10 clients a month, sometimes 2-3 times per month, depending on their circumstances. While fundraising slowed due to COVID-19, our Client Liaison Officer has been inundated with requests for help. A lot of people don't like to ask for support, but those who do are truly grateful. The support can continue for several months or as long as it's required”, said Linda.

Can Assist Gunnedah is funded entirely by local fundraisers, donations and corporate sponsorship from companies such as greenslips.com.au, with all money raised locally staying local.

Can Assist Gunnedah invites local cancer patients to come forward and seek their support. It is as simple as calling 0455 135 973. All patient assistance and enquiries are strictly private and highly confidential. For more information on how to support Can Assist, visit www.canassist.org.au.

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About Can Assist

Can Assist aims to ensure that all people, regardless of where they live in NSW, have access to cancer treatment and care. By providing accommodation, financial assistance and practical support to people from rural and regional areas, it ensures country people are given the same opportunities and treatment choices as those who live in city centres.

www.canassist.org.au

Can Assist Facts

- Can Assist provides practical and financial support to people affected by cancer and living in country NSW.
- Established in 1955, Can Assist is funded entirely by local donations and corporate sponsorships.
- In 2019, it responded to over 7,700 requests for assistance from rural and regional cancer patients through 55 branches across NSW.
- Can Assist is a grass roots, community-based volunteer network. It is local volunteers supporting local families affected by cancer.
- All the money raised locally stays local.
- Cancer is expensive, and people in rural and remote communities can suffer reduced income and increased expenses because of a cancer diagnosis. Their position is often exacerbated because treatment may require relocation from home and family support.
- greenslips.com.au is a partner of Can Assist. greenslips.com.au is a price comparison and information service for CTP green slip insurance. It does not sell CTP green slip insurance.

- greenslip.com.au has supported Can Assist head office and 20 branches in Orange, Finley, Dubbo, Armidale, Bega, Balranald, Narrabri, Yass, Bathurst, Tumut, Deniliquin, the Southern Highlands, Wagga Wagga, Manning Valley, Moree, Eurobodalla, West Wyalong, Tocomwal, Gunnedah and Guyra with commitments to give further support across NSW.

Local branch photo on page 3.



Can Assist is a grass roots, community-based volunteer network with local volunteers supporting local families affected by cancer. All money raised locally stays local. Can Assist Gunnedah has a thriving community of 26 volunteer members who are ready to support local cancer patients with financial assistance.

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