



Mr John Smith
c/o Smith & Sons Building
Unit 2/247 Smithsons Way
Townside QLD 4023



Dear John,

SHARE THE GIFT OF HOPE

The greatest gift you can give to a child this Christmas is the gift of hope; hope that the abuse will stop, hope that the neglect will end.

Child abuse and neglect is very real in Australia – over 46,000 cases were confirmed in 2009-10. That's one case every 12 minutes where a child is suffering from neglect or physical, sexual or emotional abuse, often by people they know and trust.

With your help, we can make a difference and give these children and their families real hope.

I'm immensely proud of what we've been able to achieve this year. We've lightened little hearts, brightened tear-stained faces – we have turned lives around and given hope when there was none.

We have set ourselves some very ambitious goals for the next five years. We aim to deliver more for the kids who deserve better. But we can't continue to make a difference without your help.

In the past, we have had to turn parents away who were asking for help for their children.

Please give now knowing that you are helping us to help more children than we've been able to reach before.

My years as a teacher, counsellor, university lecturer and leadership and executive development coach taught me that there is nothing more rewarding than seeing a child reach their full potential. Many of the kids we see have suffered the unthinkable; their stories are shocking. All it takes is a helping hand – a gift of hope – and these same kids rise above their past and find themselves skills, confidence and a brighter future.

Please give generously this Christmas knowing that you can make a difference to the lives of many abused and neglected children. I also encourage you to consider using the enclosed Christmas gift card to make a donation on behalf of a loved one or dear friend.

All the children thank you, from the bottom of their hearts.

Dr Neil Carrington
CEO

PS – please call 1300 228 000 or visit the website to make your donation today

actforkids.com.au/christmasappeal



☒ **Yes, I want to help share the gift of hope this Christmas**

Please accept my donation of:

☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other \$ _____

OR

I'd like to become a 'Kids Crusader' by donating monthly:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$ _____

☐ I authorise ACT for Kids to deduct this amount from my credit card on or around the 25th of each month until further notice.

Payment

Please make cheque payable to ACT for Kids OR

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex Expiry Date: ____ / ____

Card No: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

☐ I am considering including ACT for Kids in my Will / I have already included ACT for Kids in my Will.

☐ Please send me further information about making or updating my Will.

Mr John Smith
c/o Smith & Sons Building
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Townside QLD 4023

Supporter Number:
0000000000

Email: _____

Phone:(H) _____ (M) _____ (W) _____

Please amend any of the above details if they are incorrect.

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.



CHRISTMAS APPEAL



CASE STUDY

Blair*, 9 years old
29 September, 2011

Blair is nine years old. Instead of skipping through life with a smile, she came to ACT for Kids carrying the weight of the world on her shoulders.

She was referred by her grandmother and father after she told them about the sexual abuse. Her mother's step-father was responsible for taking away the innocence of this precious young girl.

Consequently, Blair's parents had separated and communication between them was very poor. Blair visited her mother but lived with her siblings, father and paternal grandparents.

Blair's father and grandparents were very concerned about her. She was sad and had lost interest in her friends. She was not motivated to play. Instead, she took on more of a parenting role and tried to care for and discipline her siblings. This caused lots of fights.

Blair seemed desperate to please everyone. On one occasion she put herself at great risk by leaving her family and going to help an adult she didn't know.

With the help of her ACT for Kids therapist, Blair now has a spring in her step.

Although she had experienced significant sexual abuse, Blair's main concerns were around her parents' separation. She felt that the separation was her fault, and if she was good and helped everyone out, perhaps her parents would get back together.

We worked with Blair and helped her to understand that her parents' separation wasn't her fault. We also helped her to feel less like she needed to please others and assisted her to reconnect with her siblings and friends.

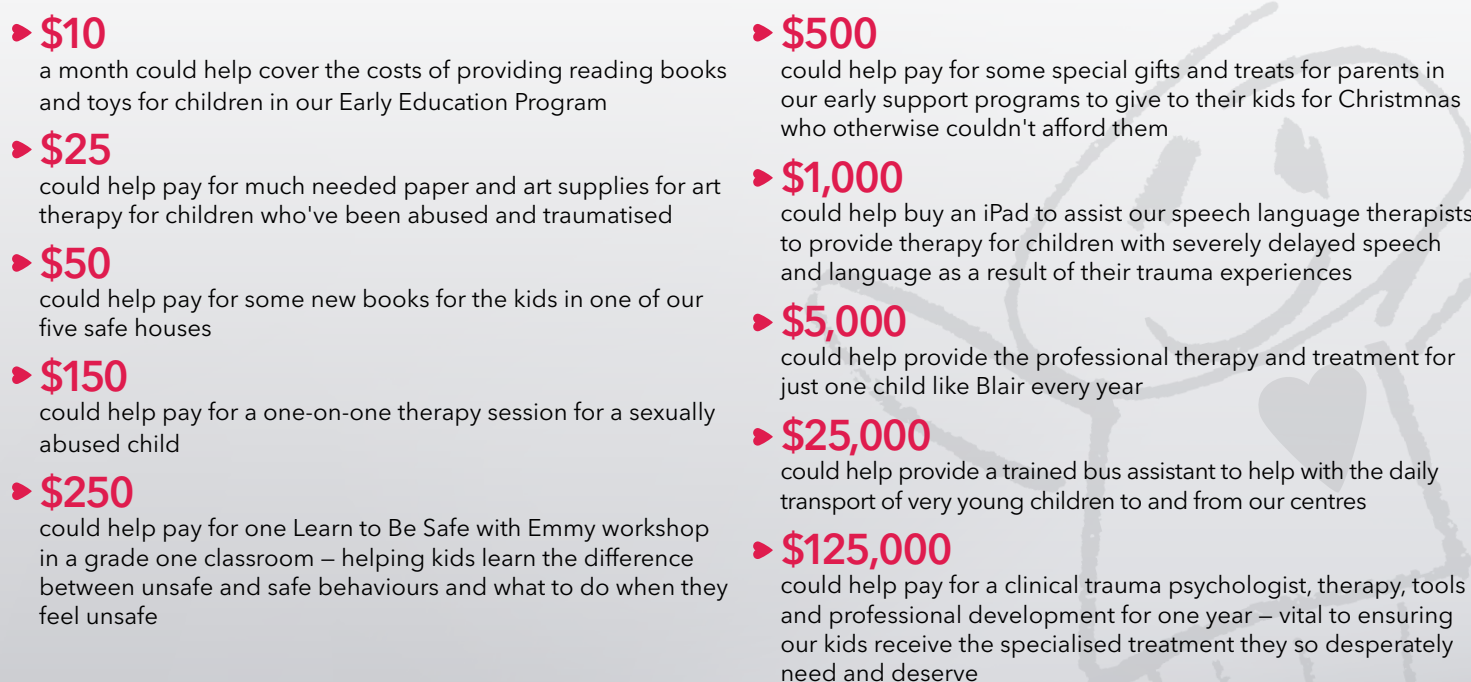
When Blair first came to us, her dad attended the therapy sessions with her. From the third visit, Blair's mum was able to join in with the sessions too.

Blair's newfound happiness is a direct result of the therapy that she and her family received. It costs \$125,000 each year for one ACT for Kids therapist to work in one of our centres. Imagine the difference we could make if we had more therapists helping the Blair's of the world.

Please give generously this Christmas and help us to make that difference.

actforkids.com.au/christmasappeal

*name changed to protect privacy

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- **\$10**
a month could help cover the costs of providing reading books and toys for children in our Early Education Program
 - **\$25**
could help pay for much needed paper and art supplies for art therapy for children who've been abused and traumatised
 - **\$50**
could help pay for some new books for the kids in one of our five safe houses
 - **\$150**
could help pay for a one-on-one therapy session for a sexually abused child
 - **\$250**
could help pay for one Learn to Be Safe with Emmy workshop in a grade one classroom – helping kids learn the difference between unsafe and safe behaviours and what to do when they feel unsafe
 - **\$500**
could help pay for some special gifts and treats for parents in our early support programs to give to their kids for Christmas who otherwise couldn't afford them
 - **\$1,000**
could help buy an iPad to assist our speech language therapists to provide therapy for children with severely delayed speech and language as a result of their trauma experiences
 - **\$5,000**
could help provide the professional therapy and treatment for just one child like Blair every year
 - **\$25,000**
could help provide a trained bus assistant to help with the daily transport of very young children to and from our centres
 - **\$125,000**
could help pay for a clinical trauma psychologist, therapy, tools and professional development for one year – vital to ensuring our kids receive the specialised treatment they so desperately need and deserve