

MORE THAN A HOSPICE

An urgent appeal to help
transform children's
hospice care in Scotland



Children's Hospices Across Scotland



Help rewrite the future of children's palliative care: Where choice comes first

Every week in Scotland, three children die from an incurable condition.

Behind each of those children is a family full of love, laughter, and fierce resilience. And with your help, their story can be one of comfort, dignity, and unforgettable moments.

Imagine being told your child has a life-shortening condition. In an instant, your world changes. Hospital visits become routine. Sleep becomes rare. You become a nurse, a carer, a counsellor and still, a parent. Siblings feel forgotten. Finances are stretched.

Time becomes painfully precious.

No one should face the death of their child alone. Children's Hospices Across Scotland (CHAS) stands alongside families through the most difficult journeys.

You're invited to stand with these families too.

Your support will be the spark that ensures families always have a choice of how they spend precious time together and where they decide to spend their final moments, with CHAS by their side, so they never feel alone.



Cameron Currie and his granny

“At Rachel House I can just be her mum and not her nurse, physiotherapist, administrator... it’s just lovely and Evelyn gets to experience things she might not be able to at home.”

Grace Dennison White, mum to Evelyn Dennison White

THE MORE THAN A HOSPICE APPEAL



Emily Birrell and CHAS nurse Cathy Anderson

OUR VISION IS BOLD:

To rewrite the future of how Scotland cares for dying children by creating the world's most advanced children's hospices and reaching every child and family who needs us, wherever they are.

But we can't do it without significant investment and support.

Right now, children and families are navigating an unthinkable reality with little real choice.

Your leadership can be the catalyst that unlocks the future of children's palliative care, where every family is empowered with real choice and unwavering support.



Story time for Eoin Norquoy

In the last ten years the number of children living with life shortening conditions has risen by 40%. Their needs are complex and require round the clock care impacting on family finances and security at a time when they need stability and assurance.

Our NHS plays a vital role in providing healthcare for these children. CHAS brings much more. Modern medical science means children who once would not have survived are living, often for years, with multiple and complex needs. Without investment our hospices will not be able to keep up with clinical advances.

For those in remote or rural areas, the nearest children's hospice may be hours away. Others may not want a hospice setting at all.

The choice of how and where a child dies - at home, in hospital, or in a hospice - should be theirs.

For too many families in Scotland, that choice doesn't exist.

CHAS is determined to change that.

Together, we won't just change care, we will transform lives and build a legacy that echoes for generations.

Families say they want a choice.

You can make sure they get one.

Your gift will mean from the point of diagnosis CHAS is there, helping families know they are not alone, focusing on giving children the chance to live well while they can. When the time comes, CHAS supports a gentle death and ensures families receive bereavement care for as long as they need it.

“We help families access information, support, and space when they get the shattering diagnosis that their child may die young. Working closely with NHS teams across Scotland and with state-of-the-art medical facilities in our hospices, children and families have real choice in the care they would like throughout their lives.”

Dr. Annabel Howell, CHAS Medical Director

A LIFELINE UNDER PRESSURE

“Our approaches are designed around what matters to children and their families. Each child is unique and at CHAS we aim to celebrate, support and respond to that uniqueness, enabling true choice at every step of the journey.”

Jennifer Rodgers, Director of Nursing and Family Support

With your help, we will raise £20 million to deliver the most ambitious expansion of children's hospice care in Scotland's history.

It's 30 years since CHAS opened Scotland's first ever Children's Hospice, Rachel House in Kinross, followed a decade later by our second and more modern hospice, Robin House in Balloch. Both buildings need essential upgrading.

Your generosity connects the dots across children's palliative care in

Scotland, bringing vital support to families in hospices, in hospitals and at home.

With your help, families today – and for decades to come – will have the essential support they need to face the hardest journeys with confidence and choice.

Your gift builds a future where no family will ever walk this path alone. They'll have the support and choice they need to live well even in the hardest times.

It begins with you.



Eilidh Currie cuddles
little sister Summer
Currie and staff nurse
Natasha Lovick



With **£20 million**, turning the dreams of the families we support into reality will mean:

Rebuilding Rachel House
into a world-class, flexible, and welcoming space that meets the most complex needs of today's families.

Renewing Robin House
ensuring it remains a world-class home away from home.

Reimagining our services,
expanding our reach so every family in Scotland has real choice, whether that's care in a hospice, at home, or in hospital.

**WHAT
YOUR
SUPPORT
WILL
FUND**



Rachel House entrance

REBUILD RACHEL HOUSE

£17 MILLION STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

“We’ve collaborated closely with children and their families to ensure Rachel House truly reflects their needs. By listening, observing, and even using GoPro cameras on children’s wheelchairs to experience the world from a child’s perspective, we have designed a ‘home from home’ that is child-centred and will be filled with love, care, and joy.”

Alastair Forbes, Architect

Rachel House has brought peace to thousands since HRH The Princess Royal opened its doors in 1996. Now three decades later, it urgently needs an upgrade to become Rachel House 2.0.

This is more than a redesign, it’s a transformation. To meet the growing and changing needs of patients and families to ensure children and families can get world-class care, not just today, but for the next 30 years.

Working hand-in-hand with families and young people, Rachel House is being rebuilt. It’s a world first innovative approach putting children and young people, many with disabilities and complex conditions, at the heart of the redrawing of Scotland’s first ever children’s hospice.

Their vision will deliver:

- Light-filled, spacious bedrooms for care and cuddles
- Private family rooms for moments of quiet or final goodbyes
- Play and sensory spaces that bring joy even in the hardest times
- Hydrotherapy suite for families to swim together for the first or last time.

This **£17 million strategic investment** is the central aspect of the More Than a Hospice Appeal. CHAS has committed to this upgrade and has ringfenced some funds in reserves, but significant funding is sought. Work will start on site in 2026 to see the building redesigned and reimagined to address:

- Inadequate space for complex medical equipment
- Cramped rooms that limit family time
- No dedicated areas for quiet, grieving, or counselling.





Hudsons Hideaway



Gardens



Gardens



Hydrotherapy pool



Family dining



Teenage Den

RENEW ROBIN HOUSE

£2 MILLION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

Nestled a stone's throw from Loch Lomond, Robin House opened its doors in 2005. Built on a large site with generous gardens Robin House was our next generation hospice and still retains high medical standards.

Our investment in Robin House has been guided by the voices of those who know best; children, parents and carers who understand what makes care feel like home.

However, 20 years is a long time and Robin House requires **£2 million** to enhance its facilities, assure its world-class status, and ensure it is ready to meet the changing needs of families. Our vision, shaped by the people who use Robin House will:

- Expand accessible spaces for children with high needs
- Build sensory rooms that stimulate, soothe and comfort
- Create new therapy and family support spaces.

“They asked us where we would like Amelia to die. We’d always said we wanted her to be at home but in that moment we just knew we should go to Robin House. It was so peaceful.”

Ainslidh Stevenson, mum to Amelia McMillan





Brooke Duffy
enjoys a manicure

REIMAGINE CHILDREN'S PALLIATIVE CARE

£1 MILLION

End of life is no longer just about a building. It's about being where children and families want to be:

- In the living room, for specialist CHAS at Home visits and care at the end of life
- In the hospital, with CHAS specialists working alongside NHS colleagues
- On call, 24/7, for a family in crisis.

Your vital support will make these options a reality. With **£1 million** we will ensure families and children can access the palliative care they choose, wherever they want and need.

REAL CARE IN REAL HOMES

Your support will sustain and expand our CHAS at Home teams, working side-by-side with NHS staff to support more families who want their child cared for - and to die - at home. We'll pilot integrated 24/7 care in Glasgow, a first in Scotland.

HOSPICE CARE IN HOSPITALS

PARTNERED WITH NHS

Creating hospice in hospital provision bringing dignity and comfort to children who die in clinical settings. Delivered by specialist CHAS staff working with NHS hospital boards within Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen children's hospitals, as well as Raigmore and Crosshouse.

A SPECIALIST ON THE LINE

ANYWHERE IN SCOTLAND

By summer 2026, our clinical advisory line will reach every corner of the country, so no matter where a child lives, their local NHS or CHAS nurse can call on expert guidance from a specialist palliative care consultant.

"CHAS is our lifeline. I really don't know what we would do without the support. Everything they do is to help children and families like ours. It's not the scary place we first thought it would be; it's really quite a happy place where staff go the extra mile and make the impossible, possible."

Lyn French,
mum to Jessica French



A FULL TEAM OF SPECIALISTS, WHEREVER THEY'RE NEEDED

This is a revolution in children's palliative care. Your donation will:

- Support a new consultants outside our hospices
- Fund social workers in key hospitals.

Your gift will mean more end-of-life care visits in children's homes and more consistent support for families who want CHAS care at home in the heart of their family surrounded by their child's favourite things.

Your gift will ensure these roles are there to offer essential emotional and practical support to families during their most fragile moments.

**Dr Satyajit (Bubu) Ray,
CHAS and NHS Consultant in
Paediatric Palliative Medicine**



YOUR IMPACT WILL LEAVE A LEGACY OF COMPASSION

Kayden Trayner with younger brother Kodie,
little sister Cassidy and mum Valerie

“There are no words to explain how hard it is as a parent to plan for your child’s death.”

Gillian Donald, bereaved mum to Fin

Your gift isn't just bricks and beds, it's bedtime stories, garden giggles, and quiet cuddles. It's:

Time to just be a family.

Space to laugh, cry, and make joyful memories.

Support that wraps around everyone, like a warm blanket.

Choice to say goodbye in their own way.

This is what your support truly means, not just helping families cope but helping them live, and die, well.

“You hear the word ‘hospice’ and you think of sadness and death but the minute you walk through the door, those thoughts are totally reversed. There’s laughter, kids running about, and just so much happiness.”

Debbie Ramage, mum to Cameron Glasgow and his brother Kenzie Ramage.

Cameron has sadly died while Kenzie is still cared for by CHAS.



Playing outside in the sunshine Eoin Norquoy and play assistant Becky Williamson

A PERSONAL INVITATION: YOU ARE THE DIFFERENCE

You are invited to be part of something extraordinary.

With your donation you'll join a group of key transformational leaders delivering change that can't rely on goodwill alone.

It will take your bold investment, visionary leadership, and belief that no child in Scotland should die without the care they need.

This vision wasn't imagined behind closed doors. It was shaped by the children and families who live this reality every day, from building design, to room layout to what truly matters most.

Without you, families may face impossible choices, like where their child spends their final moments.

Whether you choose to:

- **Fund an entire service expansion**, such as our national clinical advice line,
- **Invest in world-class buildings**, supporting our advanced children's hospice facilities,
- **Support a regional transformation**, like 24/7 end-of-life care at home in Glasgow, or enhanced medical cover in Grampian,
- Or **sustain our frontline teams** to keep pace with growing demand.

You won't just be funding a project. You'll be changing the way Scotland cares for dying children. Forever.

Your support can bring comfort, dignity and the freedom to choose their care on their terms.



Chloe Thomson

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TO LIVE AS
WELL AS A
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PLACE TO DIE**