



MEDIA RELEASE Monday 27 April

## Starlight urges Australians to help deliver happiness to sick kids

Starlight's biggest national fundraiser - Starlight Day, Friday 1 May

With less than a week to go until <u>Starlight Day</u> on Friday 1 May, <u>Starlight Children's</u> <u>Foundation</u> (Starlight) urgently needs Australians to make a donation to give happiness to over 5,000 seriously ill and hospitalised children around the country.

Starlight CEO Louise Baxter said Starlight is hoping to raise \$250,000 to support its vital hospital services, the <a href="Starlight Express Room">Starlight Express Room</a> and <a href="Captain Starlight">Captain Starlight</a>.

"Life as we know it has been turned upside down. Now more than ever, kids in hospital need fun and joy to help them cope with the loneliness, isolation and fear they are facing. In these uncertain times, we need your support to continue keeping our Starlight programs and Captain Starlight services running daily," she said.

"As little as \$50 will give one child a fun Starlight Surprise pack filled with activities and games, and \$80 will provide access to 48 hours of Starlight TV hosted by Captain Starlight."

Starlight TV is an interactive show that broadcasts live into the bedsides of sick kids in hospital. Loaded with quizzes, silly games, jokes and activities from Captain Starlight, sick kids in hospital can continue to enjoy the magic of Starlight whilst in isolation.

As the health situation has evolved, Starlight has been there every step of the way, working with the hospital community to ensure it continues to deliver its vital programs to sick kids in need. Through virtual play sessions, interactive livestreams on Starlight TV and daily emails filled with activities and quizzes the whole family can enjoy, Starlight continues to be a light in the darkness for sick kids and their families.

Please make a donation today on the <u>Starlight Day</u> website, with all donations made before midnight AEST Friday 3 May generously double-matched by four Starlight partners, including Spotlight and NAPA.

To donate today, please visit starlightday.org.au.

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## For more information, please contact:

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## About Starlight Children's Foundation

Starlight Children's Foundation brightens the lives of seriously ill and hospitalised children and young people by replacing pain, fear and stress with fun, joy and laughter. Since its establishment in 1988, Starlight has expanded to become the broadest reaching children's charity in Australia. There is now a Starlight Express Room in every children's hospital in the country and over 180 Captain Starlights nationwide.

In 2019, Starlight granted 500 life-changing wishes with 100% of families recommending a wish experience to other families. Starlight also delivered over 625,508 positive Starlight experiences to seriously ill children, young people and their families. <a href="https://www.starlight.org.au">www.starlight.org.au</a>











