

Welcome

We're very excited to launch this sneak peek at our new-look *Insights* newsletter for friends and families of The Infants' Home. We hope you enjoy reading it, and that you sign up to receive the first full edition of the newsletter, coming in Spring.

Since 1874 The Infants' Home has worked with children and families to further develop or enhance their strength, skills and confidence to create a positive future for themselves. We know that a child's experiences in the early years strongly influence their journey through life.

Support from our community and our partners helps make a difference in the lives of children and families living in vulnerable circumstances or with complex needs. The fees our families pay do not cover the full cost of providing our services, so fundraising needs to fill that ever-widening gap.

Our *Insights* newsletter will provide our families and friends with regular updates on what has been happening around our services and how our supporters have been involved in our programs.

Each issue will also feature inspirational stories about children at The Infants' Home.

Please email us at fundraising@theinfantshome.org.au to join our mailing list.

Special Issue | August 2019

Getting help where it's needed most



For the launch of our new Insights newsletter we revisit two of our recent stories that highlight how we are able to make a difference for the children and families at The Infants' Home.

Amalia: At five months old Amalia (pictured above with educator Sabrina) was diagnosed with dystonic cerebral palsy. This condition impacts all aspects her daily life, including her mobility (she uses a walker), her ability to eat, drink and swallow, her speech and her fine motor skills.

The Infants' Home's team of educators and allied health professionals worked tirelessly with Amalia, her parents and her external therapists to help Amalia to gain greater independence and to get ready for school. She learned to use the bathroom on her own and to drink independently from a cup, both of which were significant milestones for Amalia and her family.

This year Amalia successfully started at her local mainstream primary school with the support of The Infants' Home's dedicated team.

Kirra and Jason: Parents Kirra and Jason* wanted to build a better life for themselves and their young children. Traumatic childhood experiences, including family violence and drug misuse, had left them emotionally scarred, and sometimes they made choices that compromised their family's wellbeing. It was hard for them to break this cycle.

The Infants' Home provided the family with transport and fee scholarships so that their two boys could regularly attend our preschool programs to get a head start in those crucial years before starting school. Their daughter was also supported with her start at primary school through our targeted transition to school program.

*Names have been changed for privacy.

each child, every opportunity

Our impact in 2018

- Over **2,000** children and their families accessed one or more of our services
- **83** postnatal visits were conducted as part of our postnatal home visiting program
- **751** children, parents and carers attend our supported community playgroups
- **133** children transitioned to primary school from our early education program
- **172** children participated in targeted integrated early intervention programs in our child care centres
- **156** Parents and carers attended our parenting courses and wellbeing programs
- **576** children attended our Early Childhood Education and Care centres
- **815** children attended our Family Day Care services
- **30%** of our on site services are targeted to support children at risk, with vulnerabilities or with additional needs.

How can you help?

Did you know that The Infants' Home relies heavily on fundraising to provide our services? Over ten percent of our revenue comes from our wonderful supporters.

While parents pay a fee to access our long day care and family day care services, we do not refuse support to those who cannot afford it. Some of our families are unable to access government support for child care or have children that other services are unable to enrol because of the complexities of their needs.



Children living with vulnerabilities of all kinds need your support to ensure that they can continue to make the most of every opportunity.

You can help not just today's child, but also tomorrow's children by:

- Making a one-off gift today
- Signing up to make a regular monthly gift—for less than the cost of a cup of coffee a day, you can make a significant difference in the life of a child and family
- Helping us introduce workplace giving at your organisation, a tax benefit to you and a huge benefit to the children
- Supporting us through community events or hosting your own event to raise money on our behalf.

For more information call our fundraising team on 02 9799 4844.

We can't do it without you—thank you!

***“The Infants' Home is a truly special place... The educators put a huge amount of thought into the program. They are very caring, enthusiastic and passionate about what they do. I have complete trust in them”—
Althea, parent.***

Become a 'Friend of The Infants' Home'

If you would like to become a Friend of The Infants' Home you can do so by making a donation to ensure 'each child, every opportunity', not just for today's child, but for all of tomorrow's children.

You can donate:

- online at theinfantshome.org.au
- over the phone on 9799 4844
- by mailing a cheque to 17 Henry Street, Ashfield, 2131 (please include your name, address and contact details).

All donors will receive our regular *Insights* newsletter. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

