

Following Citroen Wells Three Peaks Challenge, which raised a fantastic £17,656.04, I am delighted to report that React has been able to provide the following urgently needed equipment thanks to your efforts:

Harry is a five year old boy living with Global Developmental Delay, severe learning and behavioural difficulties and significant mobility difficulties. He is able to walk independently at home but struggles when out and about, which poses a safety issue. Harry's mother is a single parent and cannot manage long distances with Harry, particularly as she has another young child to care for (aged 4 months).

The Occupational Therapist working with the family recommended a specialist double buggy, which would enable her to care for and transport both children safely when out of the house. The OT explained that a standard double buggy, which the local authority had offered, would not suffice as it would not provide the correct support for Harry and would be unable to hold his weight properly, particularly as he continues to grow.

With the assistance of the OT, the family applied to React for an adapted Activate Tandem Buggy, which would meet Harry's support needs and enable his Mother to take both children out safely.

**Activate Tandem Buggy: £3,185.53**

Four year old Eva has been diagnosed with a number of complex conditions including 1p36 Deletion Syndrome, Epilepsy, Hypotonia, Dystonia and Scoliosis. She has an impaired swallow function, is fed through a gastrostomy tube and is also visually impaired.

Due to her medical conditions she has very complex needs and her local council has assisted by funding home adaptations to provide a downstairs bedroom and wet room. However, they were unable to provide a bath suitable for Eva's care. Eva's Dystonia causes her extreme pain and frustration, which would be greatly eased by the use of a Hydrotherapy Bath. The Community Children's Nurse working with the family endorsed the application, stating that it would not only relax Eva but also provide her with good sensory stimulation.

Eva's Mother is a single parent and full time carer for Eva and her older brother, who is also disabled; therefore, the item was beyond her financial means.

**Hydrotherapy Bath System £2,098**

Henry is two years old and lives with Microcephaly, Epilepsy and Developmental Delay. Henry has very complex needs as he regularly suffers seizures and is fed through a gastrostomy tube.

Henry is very large for his age and his parents were struggling to transport him. Henry's Occupational Therapist supported the family's application for a specialist car seat which would offer Henry the postural support and comfort he requires whilst travelling.

The item is not available through the local authority and with Henry's parents reliant on income support benefits, they were unable to afford the item.

**Specialist Car Seat £1,247**

Anthony is fifteen years old and lives with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, a muscle wasting condition that affects around 1 in 3,600 boys.

Anthony uses a powered wheelchair and has very limited movement in his upper limbs, which was causing him difficulty with everyday tasks such as feeding, brushing his teeth and using equipment. This was having a negative impact upon his social life and confidence.

Anthony's Physiotherapist recommended he acquire a Neater Arm Support, which would enable him to perform many tasks he was currently unable to and give him much greater independence. The movement encouraged by the arm supports would also improve Anthony's lung function and in turn reduce his susceptibility to chest infections.

The item was unavailable through the local authority and at **£3,167**, far beyond the family's financial reach.

**Neater Arm Support £3,167**

Liam, aged four, lives with Lissencephaly and Epilepsy. Due to his condition he requires a specialist bed which will protect his body shape as he develops. The local authority was able to offer a bed that met Liam's 'clinical' needs, however it was in a 'cage-like' structure.

Liam spends long periods of time in bed, confined to his room and his Physiotherapist recommended a Klearside Bed and Mattress, which are fully height adjustable and have clear panels to enable the family to monitor Liam much more easily and allow him to see out of the bed. She stated how the bed would be much more beneficial for Liam's quality of life due to the amount of time he has to spend there.

As they had offered an alternative, 'suitable' option, the local authority would not supply this item and at **£3,263**, it was beyond the family's financial means.

**Klearside Adjustable Bed £3,263**

Amanda is a three year old little girl who has been diagnosed with Aperts Syndrome, a congenital disorder characterised by malformations of the skull, face, hands and feet, as well as Hydrocephalus.

Upon applying to React, the only supportive seating Amanda had for her use at home was her pram. Feeding was very difficult and the pram was also uncomfortable for Amanda to spend long periods of time in. The Occupational Therapy Team working with Amanda recommended a 'Huggie' Specialist Seat as it would provide Amanda with the postural support and comfort she requires. It is also equipped with a lap tray, making feeds much easier and enabling Amanda to play with greater ease.

The chair was unavailable to the family through any other source but thanks to Citroen Wells' donations, React was able to provide it and by doing so, improve Amanda's quality of life.

**'Huggie' Specialist Seating £1,150**

Thomas, aged two is Tracheostomy dependent and has complex health needs. He requires a suction machine for continuous use throughout the day and night to maintain a clear airway.

The local authority provided a piece of equipment; however it was 'noisy, heavy, and unreliable' and had to be 'chopped and changed between patients'. The family were in desperate need of a reliable piece of equipment for Thomas to use at home. Thomas' Social Worker endorsed the application, recommending a 'Vario 18 Suction Unit' as it is 'quiet, lightweight, portable and has a long battery life' and would 'make life easier for Thomas and his family'.

As the local authority had provided an alternative machine, they were unable to supply this item and at **£950**, it was beyond the family's financial means, as both Thomas' parents are not in work due to being Thomas' full time carers.

**Vario 18 Suction Unity £950**

Nadia is 18 months old and lives with Molybdenum Cofactor Deficiency.

Due to her condition, she is unable to communicate or access standard toys. When in hospital, Nadia responded very well to sensory toys and the Nurse working with the family recommended they acquire fibre optics and a light source to give Nadia sensory stimulation at home, which would both keep her entertained and help with her development.

The items were not available through local authority funding and at a combined cost of **£593**, were beyond the financial reach of the family, who are reliant on the Father's sole wage as a factory worker.

**Fibre Optics and Light Source £593**

Elliot is a seven month old baby who has been diagnosed with Pierre Robin Syndrome, a congenital condition comprising of a chain of developmental malformations. Elliot was born with a cleft palate and has a tracheostomy and a nasogastric tube.

Elliot's family requested a video monitor to observe him from a different room and ensure his safety, as well as a tandem pushchair to support both Elliot and his brother to hospital appointments. The pushchair would also provide storage space for Elliot's equipment such as tracheostomy equipment, feeds and his suction machine. Elliot's Specialist Health Visitor endorsed the family's application stating how the items would improve Elliot's level of care.

**Video Monitor & Pushchair £574.99**

Melanie, aged five, lives with an undiagnosed neurogenic condition, Epilepsy and Scoliosis.

React provided Melanie with a P-pod seat in 2012 which meant she could sit safely and comfortably when at home and was able to feel like part of the family by sitting at the table for activities. However, as she has grown her needs have become more complex and the Nurse working with her recommended adaptations to the P-pod seat to ensure she has proper postural support. This included a custom cover and liner for her seat. The Nurse stated how liners can be specially moulded to meet a child's needs and that it would be hugely beneficial by helping to manage Melanie's Scoliosis.

The family were unable to source the item from anywhere else and at **£583.94**, it was beyond their financial means, as they are reliant on the Father's sole wage as a manual worker.

**Custom Cover and Liner for P-pod £583.94**

Lilah is six years old and lives with a very rare genetic disorder called Megalencephaly Polymicrogyria Polydactyl Syndrome.

Due to her condition, Lilah's development is globally delayed and she is completely dependent on her parents/carers for all her needs and is likely to remain so throughout her life. She requires full postural support to achieve a sitting position and maintain posture alignment, which is achieved by supportive equipment. Lilah is also wheelchair dependent

In spite of her difficulties Lilah is a very sociable little girl and her Mother likes to take her to visit family and friends as much as possible to encourage this. However, her Mother is a single parent and already struggling with transporting Lilah, who is larger and heavier than most children of her age. Her Mother has experienced back problems, which are most likely linked to lifting Lilah, and requires a mobile hoist as Lilah gets older and grows further in size.

The Occupational Therapist working with Lilah fully supported the application, however it was unavailable through statutory funding, therefore an application was made to React.

**Compact Folding Hoist £640**

Kyle is a baby boy of 8 months who lives with Congenital Heart Disease and Downs Syndrome, is visually impaired, developmentally delayed and tube fed.

In hospital, his Social Worker trialed him with a Fibre Optic Sensory Harness and Bubble Tube, to which he responded extremely well. Consequently, his Mother became very keen to acquire similar sensory items for use at home as they would greatly aid Kyle's development.

The items were unavailable through statutory means, but thanks to your kind support, React was able to provide Kyle with these beneficial sensory items.

**Fibre Optic Sensory Harness & Bubble Tube £392.23**

**TOTAL: £17,844.69**

React would like to express our sincerest gratitude to Citroen Wells for all of your fantastic efforts throughout the Three Peaks Challenge, which made all these awards possible. Without your generous support, React would not have been able to provide these families caring for a terminally ill child with the vital equipment they required, which is now enabling them to live with greater comfort, dignity and opportunity to participate in life.