

LITTLE SOULS TAKING BIG STEPS

BEQUEST GUIDE

WITH YOUR LEGACY
I CAN REACH MY FULL POTENTIAL

Supporting Early Intervention Programs for children with Autism





Your gift of the future

SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH AUTISM

Little Souls is proud to have built a centre of innovation for families with young children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Established in 2007 Little Souls is the only centre of its kind in Australia specialising in one-to-one early intervention therapy care, social inclusion with typically developing children in a sensory safe environment, early school preparation and parent support and education.

What is Autism?

The most commonly utilised definition of autism that one sees today is that it is a: "developmental disorder which affects how a person communicates and relates to other people. It can be characterised by difficulty in social communication; difficulty in social interaction; and restricted or repetitive behaviors and interests"

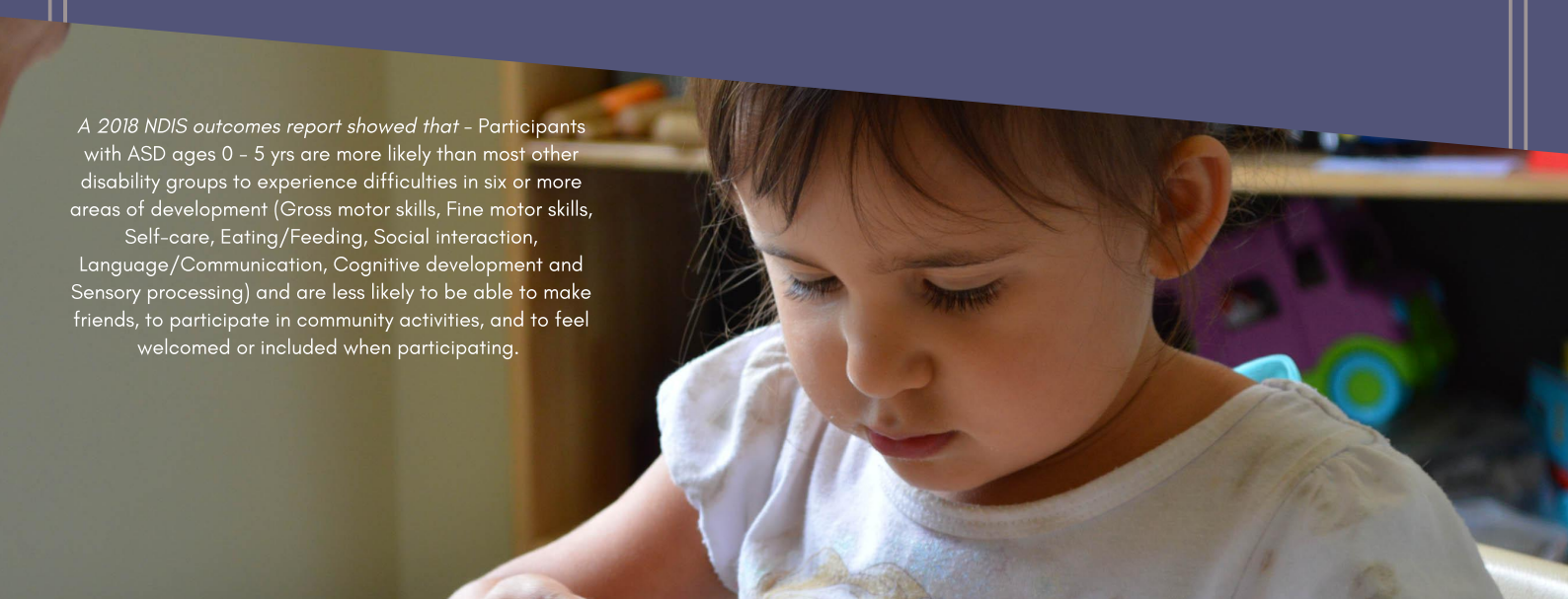
The Australian Bureau of Statistics stated that In 2018: There were 205,200 Australians with autism, a 25.1% increase from the 164,000 with the condition in 2015. Males were 3.5 times more likely than females to have the condition, with prevalence rates of 1.3% and 0.4% respectively.

Help deliver life changing early intervention therapy care for young children with autism.

There are substantial challenges that our parents face. We recognise that they have experienced both emotional trauma leading up to and during the diagnosis stage and know that they are facing years of financial strain ahead of them.

Our Vision is to help as many young children and their families to become inclusive citizens in their community.

With the right support they can learn so much.



A 2018 NDIS outcomes report showed that – Participants with ASD ages 0 – 5 yrs are more likely than most other disability groups to experience difficulties in six or more areas of development (Gross motor skills, Fine motor skills, Self-care, Eating/Feeding, Social interaction, Language/Communication, Cognitive development and Sensory processing) and are less likely to be able to make friends, to participate in community activities, and to feel welcomed or included when participating.

Why we do - what we do

TEACHING LIFE SKILLS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Little Souls believe that children with Autism deserves access to early intervention and education so that they can transition into school and lead happy active lives in the community.

Our individualized approach for each child along with working with the families will give them the best chance of reaching their potential. Typically in their first year we see significant improvements.

For parents and caregivers our aim is to enable them to meaningfully participate in the delivery of their child's therapy and to generalize their child's developing skills to the home environment and the greater community.

As at 31 March 2018, 29 per cent of NDIS participants with an approved plan had a primary disability of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), making it the largest primary disability category for the NDIS.

With your legacy you can help us address this issue, deliver the three primary strategies below and provide critical support for families and their young children.

- 1 Intensive early intervention therapy that is developed through highly structured programs designed to meet the needs of each individual child.

- 2 Dedicated parent education and support giving them the necessary training to help their child apply their skills in everyday situations.

- 3 Integration with typical children a unique aspect of Little souls, helping children build communications skills and provides an opportunity for typical children to help others.



A letter from Mick

YOUR LEGACY CAN HELP CHILDREN LIKE BENNY

Benny was a bright, intelligent baby who could say mummy and daddy as well as approximately 150 words by the time he was 18 months. He made eye contact, smiled, laughed and played, and interacted. He attended playgroup as happily as any other child. He ticked off all the landmarks such as crawling, walking and talking and loved reading books and going to the park.

As he approached his second birthday my wife Gab and I noticed some worrying signs. Soon he lost many of his words, wasn't making eye contact. He didn't respond to his name or people with either a smile or a wave and he wasn't interested in playing with other children.

As Gab is a teacher she has come across a number of kids with autism and knew some of the signs. When assessing signs of a child who may have autism he ticked nearly every box. When you begin researching autism the one continual message you come across is that research suggests the most effective in treatment is EARLY INTERVENTION and a MINIMUM OF 20 HOURS THERAPY A WEEK.

After exploring different options Gab found Little Souls. We flew up to the Gold Coast for an interview and were immediately comforted and impressed by their knowledge, attitude and the amazing facilities they had to offer. On his first day at Little Souls, we were extremely scared and anxious about how he would react to being left with strangers for the first time in his life. After some initial resistance, he settled in and we were pleasantly surprised that despite the odd tear or two he was fine.

We saw immediate results. He had improvements in language, eye contact and ability to follow instructions. He was simply happier, less anxious and more engaged. He now sings and dances and waves and acknowledges people. His therapists are teaching him skills that are taken for granted for typically developing kids but are foreign to kids with autism. With the staff's experience and knowledge they really have all bases covered and no stone is left unturned to give our kids the best opportunity to succeed.

We don't know where Benny will get to but we now have plenty of hope that he will reach his full potential. We have Little Souls to thank for that.

Mick



Lasting legacies

LITTLE SOULS PATRONS

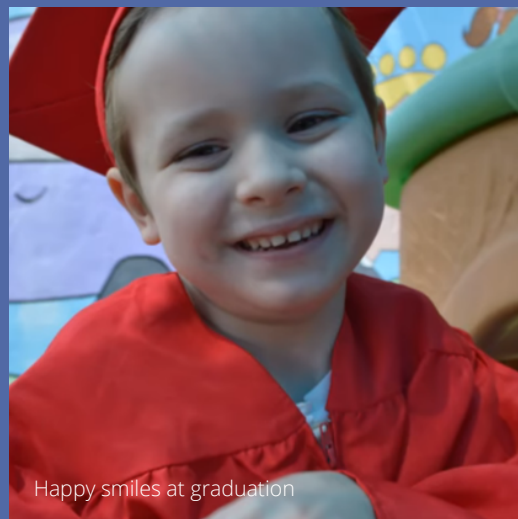
Jock and Beverly McIlwain learned about the community efforts to establish a centre in Arundel back in 2007. They had visited the centre on a regular basis watching the progress and the dedication of the staff. They saw first hand the affects of autism on children and their families.

Jock wrote 'because of the need for individual one on one professional attention the costs of operating the Centre must be a substantial financial burden on the parents of the children, who are benefiting from the therapy. For this reason we have given substantial financial support and will continue to do so into the future'

Jock and Beverly gave generously on an annual basis and shared many graduations and fundraising events, celebrating the centre's achievements.

'We must give them every opportunity to aspire and achieve just as our able children do in our region' said Jock in 2010.

Jock and Beverly, sadly both gone now, have left a lasting legacy to Little Souls. With their bequest we can achieve so much.



The late **Graham Flint's** financial contribution and determination to establish the centre will always be remembered – *'Little Souls simply would not have existed if it wasn't for him.'* said Robyn - Principal and Director of Therapy, *'The number of lives that have been touched by Little Souls is a tribute to his work'.*

Their Legacy will ensure that many children in the future who attend Little Souls will be given the best chance of learning and growing.

Your Legacy

PLANNING A GIFT



When planning a bequest in your Will to Little Souls, there are a few options to consider:

Residual bequest (whole): after providing for your loved ones, the residue (remainder) of your estate is gifted.

Residual bequest (percentage): similar to above, this option, after providing for your loved ones, you wish to bequeath a percentage of your remaining estate.

A cash bequest: A specific amount bequeathed.

Living bequest: A living bequest commences during your lifetime with a series of tax-deductible donations. Your gift in your will completes your living bequest.

You are welcome to visit our centre at anytime to meet the staff and the children, please contact us during work hours on 07 5563 1490.





I bequeath

CHOOSING THE RIGHT WORDS

When including Little Souls Taking Big Steps in your Will, it is important to use the correct wording to ensure your wishes are accurately carried out.

Once you have decided on the type of bequest you would like to make, ask your solicitor to draft the appropriate clause.

You may wish to use the following wording as a guide:

'I bequeath, free of all duties the residue or (percentage) percent of the residue of my estate; or the sum of \$(amount); or (specified items) to Little Souls Taking Big Steps (ABN 30 114 142 648) to be used for its general purposes. The written receipt of the Director of Little Souls Taking Big Steps Ltd may be accepted by my executors as a full and sufficient discharge of my bequest.'

To ensure your bequest reaches us, it is important to use our full legal name ('Little Souls Taking Big Steps Ltd ') our full legal address (1 Allied Drive, Arundel QLD 4214) and registered Australian Business Number (ABN 30 114 142 648).

For a full summary see the back of this guide.



What Little Souls can achieve

WITH YOUR BEQUEST



Leaving a gift in your will ensures that we can continue to deliver our service and programs to the families of children on the autism spectrum.

We see the potential in every new child that starts at Little Souls. Early Intervention and appropriate education is so important.

Over time we witness them learning new skills, beginning to connect more with the people around them and rejoice in the many small victories along the way.

We are exceptionally proud of the Little Souls team for their dedication and commitment to the children in care.

A bequest to Little Souls ensures a future for our children.

All our past students are a living testament that with the love of a determined and supportive family and intensive early intervention therapy with passionate and dedicated professionals, can take the big steps that they are ALL capable of. They are making strides that were once relegated to the realm of the impossible. A world of opportunity awaits them.





Contact us

If you would like to have a confidential conversation about leaving a bequest to Little Souls please contact:

Director and Principle of Therapy
Robyn Hawkins
Little Souls Taking Big Steps
PO Box 662, Labrador QLD 4215

07 5563 1490

This guide does not substitute or replace the advice of legal professionals. It is important to seek the guidance of a qualified solicitor or trustee when making your will.

Important information for Advisors and Executor(s)-

Full legal name:

Little Souls Taking Big Steps Ltd

Full legal address:

1 Allied Drive, Arundel QLD 4214

Registered Australian Business Number:

ABN 30 114 142 648

Charity number

#CH1609.

Little Souls Taking Big Steps Limited is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) from 05 May 2005. It is covered by Item 1 of the table in section 30-15 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.



Registered NDIS Provider