

Melbourne woman wins \$5k grant to help niece with cerebral palsy

The dream of Melbourne woman, Sally Desbois, to help her five-year old niece from the Gold Coast with cerebral palsy receive six months of conductive physical therapy has come true thanks to a \$5,000 Sunsuper Dreams for a Better World grant.

Sally submitted her dream for her niece Tilly Wilson, in the April round of the Sunsuper Dreams for a Better World competition, which helps people realise their dream for a better world by offering \$5,000 grants to Australian-based causes.

Sally said she entered the competition to support the progress Tilly makes with conductive therapy and to provide some relief for her parents who have to cover the cost of these expensive classes.

“Tilly's cerebral palsy means that the simple things you and I take for granted are a struggle for Tilly, like sitting, walking, talking and using her hands. Cognitively Tilly is a bright and determined little girl with ambition and drive; she loves playing with her friends but is limited with what she can do because her body doesn't work the same,” said Sally.

“This is where conductive education therapy really benefits Tilly, teaching her how to use her body and walk, for example. The classes are two and half hours long and are very intensive, but Tilly's parents have seen some great progress in her strength and willingness to want to sit up independently and walk as a result.

“By attending these conductive therapy classes we are giving Tilly the tools she needs to be the best she can be. With the help of Sunsuper's \$5,000 grant we are able provide Tilly with 20 classes, which will give her the opportunity to enhance her motor skills, increase her coordination, improve her communication skills, and overall improve her quality of life.”

The \$5,000 grant will go to The Dream Workers who will facilitate Tilly's classes with Footprints Rehabilitation Services.

Ends

Media enquiries: Rebecca Cassidy, Sunsuper, (07) 3333 7059 or 0402 246 851

Interview and photo opportunities: Sally Desbois (Melbourne-based), Tilly Wilson and Tilly's mother Angie Wilson (both Gold Coast based) are available for interview, photo and broadcast opportunities if required.

About Sunsuper's *Dreams for a better world* initiative:

Sunsuper's *Dreams for a better world* initiative is all about doing something positive for the community in a really meaningful way and giving individuals, groups and organisations the opportunity to help realise a dream for a better world.

Australian-based dreams are submitted through www.sunsuperdreams.com.au. Visitors to the site then vote for their favourite dream/s and the dream with the most votes at the end of each round of voting will be awarded a \$5,000 grant.