MEMBERSHIP OFFER

Norwegian Childhood Cancer Society

Become a member of the Childhood Cancer Society

We are here to help you when a child has cancer

Our values

We give *hope* to each other and the world.

We have the *courage* to speak
out on behalf of our families.

We have the *strength* to support
children and families who are affected.

We create *joy* in daily life.

About the Norwegian Childhood Cancer Society

The Norwegian Childhood Cancer Society is a voluntary and nationwide organisation. We have our office in Oslo and county associations run by families who have or have had children with cancer. The county associations work voluntarily for the families. Our goal is that no child should die of cancer.

The Childhood Cancer Society exists to help children and adolescents with cancer and their families. We are there for the whole family, meaning that the sick child, siblings and parents are all included. Some of the sick children have recovered, some are living with symptoms, some are under treatment, while others we have unfortunately lost.

At the hospitals, our peer contacts organise parents' evenings with the offer of having a conference with new families. When your child is diagnosed with something as serious as cancer, it can be good to have someone to talk to who has experienced what you have. We also provide positive experiences for children who to be hospitalised for long periods.

The Childhood Cancer Society aims to be a support partner and source of information for families affected by childhood cancer so that they don't feel alone. At the same time, we want to be the largest driving force in Norway for focusing on childhood cancer in the media and society. We contribute to research and education to fight childhood cancer.

→ **Read further to see what we can offer your family in a difficult situation.**

Community

It can be very supportive to meet others who have been through a similar situation. The Norwegian Childhood Cancer Society is an organisation where you can meet others through various activities and there are a number of opportunities to find a community that suits you.

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE GOLD RIBBON IS THE INTERNATIONAL SYMBOL FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER?

About Childhood Cancer

It is difficult to imagine the situation for parents who are told that their child has cancer.

Although cancer in children and adolescents is fortunately rare, about 200 children and adolescents aged 0–18 are diagnosed with cancer over the course of a year. Childhood cancer can be divided into three almost equally large groups:

- Leukaemia
- Brain tumours
- Solid tumours

Most children who develop cancer have a long and intense treatment ahead of them. The treatment can take from six months to several years. Most have to receive chemotherapy; some also need surgery and radiotherapy.

The treatment depends on the type of cancer the child has. Although cancer is a very serious disease, there are good chances of recovery with a number of the cancers children and adolescents develop.

Every year the Air Force takes families affected by childhood cancer to Paris and Disneyland with the Hercules squadron aircraft.

Membership services

As a member, you get access to a range of services both locally and nationally. We organise everything from courses and conferences to safe holidays for the whole family.

The peer contacts of our county associations organise parents' evenings at the different hospitals, so that you as a parent have someone to talk to. They also provide positive experiences for children who have to be hospitalised for long periods.

→ **Read further to see which membership services you get access to.**

Peer contacts (Likeperson)

When you become a member of the Childhood Cancer Society, you will be offered a peer contact. This is a parent who has had a child with cancer and where possible, we will try to find someone with a similar diagnosis to your child. A peer contact can also be an adolescent or adult who has themselves been treated for cancer as a child. You can get advice and tips from a peer contact, who knows what your family is going through.

The peer contact service is one of the pillars of the Childhood Cancer Society. The peer contact service is located in the counties of the Childhood Cancer Society, and is, among other things, regularly available in hospitals around the country.

In order to ensure high quality of the Norwegian Childhood Cancer Society's peer contacts, each one attends the Childhood Cancer Society's training course. Everyone is an approved peer contact before entering the service.

TIPS

Contact the Childhood Cancer Society or hospital staff if you wish to have a peer contact.

Legal support

The Childhood Cancer Society aims to provide families with the support they need during a difficult time. We therefore offer legal assistance as part of our membership services.

All members receive up to two hours of free legal advice from the law firm Lippestad. The law firm has cleared up matters involving NAV and insurance companies numerous times.

Squadron trips (Skvadrontur)

Every year, the Air Force takes families affected by childhood cancer to Paris and Disneyland with the Hercules squadron aircraft. The Childhood Cancer Society's county associations organise and alternate on the trips.

The idea for trips with the Hercules aircraft came from an employee of the 335 Squadron who had a child with cancer. The desire to do something for others in the same situation came from his own experience.

> *"It's amazing. When you have an organisation like the Childhood Cancer Society that makes sure we're having the best possible time ... It's great being here."*

Anders Næs
Parent and participant at Holiday with a Meaning

Ferie med mening

Ferie med mening (Holiday with a Meaning) is a week-long event organised in four locations in Norway, spread over the South-East, West, Central and North health regions. The event is for families who have a child undergoing cancer treatment or who has just completed treatment.

It is arranged as a holiday with leisure activities for the whole family, where both the sick child, siblings and parents are well looked after. The aim of Ferie med mening is for the family to have positive experiences together with others, and to share experiences that create a sense of security and hope for the future.

Ferie med mening is a rare opportunity to have a secure holiday where hospital staff are available, a space for parents to seek professional advice on psycho-social health and where children get to experience being a child. We guarantee a holiday experience you will never forget!

Barretstown

Barretstown is a specially adapted camp for children and adolescents with cancer and other serious illnesses.

The camp is located around Barretstown Castle outside Dublin, Ireland. The Norwegian Childhood Cancer Society is allocated space for children aged 11 to 17 at Barretstown each year.

We cover all travel and accommodation expenses. The children and adolescents are accompanied by two experienced volunteers from Norway who are hand-picked by the Norwegian Childhood Cancer Society for the task.

Through a fun, activity-based process of challenge, success, reflection and discovery, the goal is for children to experience empowerment and discover new sides to themselves.

Cottages and flats

The Childhood Cancer Society owns flats near the four major regional hospitals, in Oslo, Bergen, Trondheim and Tromsø. The flats are intended for families with children who are hospitalised for treatment and are lent out free of charge.

All rentals are administered by the respective hospital department.

The Childhood Cancer Society also offers two cottages for rent to members. You must apply to stay in these, and as a member you get a discounted price. The cottages are at Trollbu (Geilo) and Sletvold Park (Oppdal).

INFO **You can find the application form on our website.**

Bereavement support services

The Childhood Cancer Society's bereavement support services are a combination of peer support, local services and an annual national bereavement support event organised in collaboration with professionals. The event is for parents and siblings of school age (primary and secondary school) who have lost a child to cancer in the last three years. The programme for the bereavement support event is developed in collaboration with a psychologist. The aim of the weekend is to provide the whole family with a solid foundation for coping with life going forward.

The local service consists of bereavement support groups, which are always attended by a peer contact. The purpose of the bereavement support groups is to get together with others who are in a similar situation. The service varies from evening sessions with socialising, weekend sessions with and without children, and one-to-one counselling according to individual needs.

“Really got a break from daily life up here … We have to thank everyone who has made it possible for those of us with children with cancer to have such an experience in an otherwise tough daily life.”

From the guest book of the cottage at Trollbu

Late effects support event

Anyone who has undergone cancer treatment in childhood and adolescence can develop late effects of varying severity. The late effects of cancer treatment vary widely. In particular, radiation treatment and certain types of chemotherapy can lead to different challenges over time.

Late effects can affect quality of life, and some people may feel they consume a significant part of their lives. It is then a matter of finding and accepting a new daily life. It can be a challenge for both the individual who has undergone cancer treatment and their family members to accept that they do not have the same capacity as before.

The Childhood Cancer Society organises an event for parents and caregivers every year, which combines professional information with time for questions, sharing experiences and group discussions after the lectures. Here you will learn how to facilitate your child's participation in school and leisure activities. You will also get information about the effects of the disease and rehabilitation options, and how the network should work together to respond to the late effects.

The Childhood Cancer Society also organises an annual professional conference on the effects of cancer for educators, cancer coordinators and other professionals to ensure that the child and family are well cared for in the home municipality.

Financial support

We have two financial support schemes for members of the Norwegian Childhood Cancer Society:

Besøksreiser (Visit trips) are offered to families where the patient under treatment has to stay in the hospital for a long period of time. The support ensures that friends or family can get financial means to visit the child and family. Travel support funds for member families can be applied for throughout the year, but it is only possible to apply once a year.

Terminalstøtte og begravelsesstøtte (Terminal and funeral support) are support schemes for families where curative treatment has ended, and/or those of you who have lost a child. The support funds are intended to provide the family some comfort during a difficult time.

→ **You can find all our membership services at: barnekreftforeningen.no/medlemstilbud**

Different types of membership

Family membership

Family membership is for families in the same household who have a child who has or has had cancer. The age limit for the child and siblings is 18 years. Children and siblings over the age of 18 who wish to remain members must take out personal membership. Family membership gives both parents and their children over 15 voting and speaking rights. The same applies to guardians of children who have died of cancer.

There are three versions
of family membership:

- under treatment,
- completed treatment and
- bereaved.

It is also possible to enrol
in a late effect group.

Personal membership

Personal membership can be taken out by individuals over 15 years of age who have been treated for cancer as a child, siblings and by guardians who live at a different address from their sick child.

There are three versions
of personal membership:

- under treatment,
- completed treatment and
- bereaved.

Personal membership has voting
and speaking rights.

Supporting membership

Supporting membership is for those who wish to get information about in childhood cancer and support the work being done for children and adolescents with cancer. Supporting members can be elected to office.

Corporate membership

Companies can also take out supporting memberships.

→ **You can register and pay the membership fee via barnekreftforeningen.no**

What do the memberships mean?

As a member you have a unique ability to have an impact on conditions for children and adolescents with cancer and their families.

The membership fee is used for activities in the county association you belong to. Membership in the Childhood Cancer Society means access to a community of families who are, or have been, in the same situation. The association provides information, advice and support at all stages of a child who has, or has had, cancer.

TIPS

Contact your county association or the staff of the Childhood Cancer Society and tell us what is important to you.

Contact

If you have any questions about membership or the Norwegian Childhood Cancer Society, please contact us.

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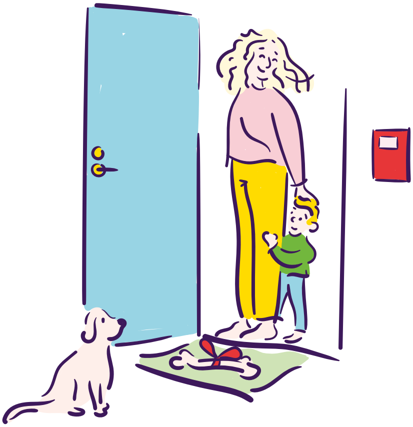

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Register on
barnekreftforeningen.no

Our county associations

Agder
agder@barnekreftforeningen.no

Buskerud
buskerud@barnekreftforeningen.no

Innlandet
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Møre og Romsdal
more.romsdal@barnekreftforeningen.no

Nordland
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Oslo og Akershus
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Rogaland
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