



Kids With Arthritis New Zealand NEWSLETTER November 2019

WWW.KIDSWITHARTHRITIS.ORG.NZ

COME JOIN IN THE FUN WITH KWANZ

FUNDRAISING FOR KIDS WITH ARTHRITIS NZ

A great way to spread the word around New Zealand about Juvenile Arthritis and other auto immune conditions is to support Kids With Arthritis NZ and run an awareness fundraising activity.

Giving your time and energy to fundraise can be rewarding and fun, especially if you get your family, friends, child's school, sport club or work colleagues involved.

Please also contact KWANZ if you know of a company that would like to sponsor a KWANZ project.

100% of all money raised will go back to the KWANZ children.

There are many exciting ways you can fundraise. You can run a coin trail, mufti day, car wash, sausage sizzle, busking, quiz night, GO BLUE at work, BLUE high tea, BLUE cupcake stall – the ideas are endless.

Together we make a difference for our CHILDREN WITH ARTHRITIS and OTHER AUTO IMMUNE CONDITIONS.

KWANZ's Auckland Christmas Event



Contact Robyn:-
kwanz.executive@gmail.com
OR Mobile:- 021 1704 257

YOU MAY LIKE TO INSPIRE OTHERS AND POST YOUR KWANZ FUNDRAISER PHOTO ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

INSTAGRAM @kids_with_arthritis_nz

FACEBOOK kidswitharthritis kwanz

Hugo Charitable Trust has generously sponsored the Kids With Arthritis NZ Christmas Parties throughout NZ.

A very big thank you to Hugo Charitable Trust.
www.hugocharitabletrust.nz

Teens, come sail away on Spirit of Adventure

This special 5 Day voyage provides an opportunity for physically challenged young New Zealanders to take part in an adventure of a lifetime. Thirty young people from around New Zealand, that are **aged 16-20 years**, come together to face challenges outside of their usual boundaries, gaining confidence and achieving tasks that previously might have looked impossible.

The annual Inspiration voyage is sponsored by the combined Lions Clubs of New Zealand, led by the Karori Lions Club.

The cost per person for the year 2020 is \$615.00. Funding may be available through the 'Halberg Trust Sport Opportunity Fund'. Visit www.halberg.co.nz for more information.

VOYAGE DEPARTS 23rd Feb 2020
Wellington
VOYAGE RETURNS 28th Feb 2020
Wellington

Inspiration voyage participants are partnered with a support person (usually one to three ratio). Support personnel are recruited from experienced Spirit volunteers who have



participated in 10 Day voyages. They offer support and personal assistance to the participants as required.

Unique voyage focuses on the following life skills activities

- building self-confidence - climbing the mast, swimming alongside
- developing leadership skills - putting up the sails
- communicating with new people
- learning to be resilient - helping clean the ship
- working in teams - rafting ashore
- dealing with close confines - sleeping in bunks

- learning new skills - sailing the small boats

To find out more out more and register your interest visit:-
www.spiritofadventure.org.nz/voyages/voyage/inspiration

PLEASE NOTE

Kids With Arthritis NZ will assist you in preparing your application. KWANZ will be your Nominating Organization

For assistance contact:- Phil Donnelly

President.kwanz@gmail.com



Many of our KWANZ children have experienced this wonderful trip with Koru Care NZ

Koru Care NZ - California Adventure

The FREE trip is 2 weeks in duration in October and the group consists of 26 children and 15 caregivers with each caregiver assigned 2 children. The Annual Koru Care California trip is for 7-14 year olds. Applications to Koru Care will be accepted at any time during the year.

Parents cannot attend.

The Koru Care application form is found on the Koru Care NZ website. On your application form please add "Referred by KWANZ" www.korucare.co.nz/california-adventure/

The group has a 3 day pass at the "Happiest Place on Earth" – Disneyland and California Adventure.

Universal Studios, Knott's Berry Farm, SeaWorld in San Diego and the San Diego Zoo are also on the itinerary.

The California Highway Patrol in San Diego and the LA Coast Guard Air Station are more fun places they visit.

With all this activity the kids have a chance to relax. They can spend the afternoon relaxing by the hotel pool or head down to Venice or Huntington Beach, they can also go shopping, Target, Walmart and Toys 'R' Us are not far away.

A KWANZ Mothers Story

By Pam Lyons KWANZ Mother

A Mothers Journey with JIA

My daughter was young and full of life
but also sore and unwell, her body in strife.
Some doctors we saw said she'd be fine
we just needed to wait and give it some time.
Our GP was helpful in every way
he's still on board with us today.
Larry saw that things were really tough
and referred us on as we'd had enough.
But over time things just got worse
we saw specialist doctors, paediatricians and a nurse.
The road at times was hard to climb
there seemed to be no reason or rhyme
for the way she was feeling and I was sad too
at times we really felt quite blue.
Her intermediate 'friends' who turned their back
she looked normal to them – they went in to attack.
Her college friends though, for them we are grateful
they only showed love – nothing was hateful.
We met Priscilla and Sue who took her into their care
and helped us to understand her welfare.
Then someone suggested we go on a camp
where we met new friends and KWANZ champs.
The champs were the children getting injections and
meds
we didn't know at the time this is what we would
dread.

Soon after the camp at the age of fifteen
this became our life and what has since been.
To be told she has arthritis was not easy
in fact it was hard, anything but breezy.
It has also been hard on my Mumma's heart
but KWANZ has been there from the start.
KWANZ, especially Karen, Robyn and Phil
were there with support to help us keep chill.
My girl is now twenty-seven and a nurse
and gives back at the children's camp to
reimburse
for all the support and the time she's received
and for making it easier for me to grieve.
We have all walked in each other's shoes
and know this is not the path we would choose.
However, the reality is here
and so now we cope, year after year.
Thanks to KWANZ and for reading my rhyme
if you are new to this world then give it time.
Time to adjust and time to cry
then contact KWANZ and give it a try.
I guarantee you'll be happy you did
if not for you – then for your kid.

By Pam Lyons (Mother)



Ronald McDonald Family Retreat House - Rotorua

Ronald McDonald Family Retreat provides **one week of free holiday accommodation and activities** for families who have experienced the impact of a chronic/long term illness or bereavement in their family.

For the many families who have gone through weeks, months or even years preoccupied with their child's medical journey, RMHC New Zealand can provide a welcomed break so these families can spend some time together at our beautiful Ronald McDonald Family Retreat.

The Family Retreat consists of two houses which are situated on the shores of Lake Rotorua – R & B Lodge and Lions Lodge. Both houses are identical and located on the same property. The accommodation sleeps up to 8 people.

Many of our KWANZ families have enjoyed this wonderful opportunity, spending a week of quality time and fun together.

Visit the website for more details: - <https://rmhc.org.nz/stay-with-us/family-retreats/>
OR contact Robyn for more details kwanz.executive@gmail.com



KWANZ NOTICEBOARD

Juvenile Arthritis Presentation for Schools

Kids With Arthritis NZ commissioned a video to educate teachers about the challenges that children with arthritis have when attending school.

The presentation pack that you would leave with your child's school includes a DVD and flash drive of the video, more information about arthritis in children, and details of the support that KWANZ provides.

This is an excellent resource that we would like to present to as many schools as possible. KWANZ offer support and suggestions on how to present this fantastic resource.

Contact Robyn:-
kwanz.executive@gmail.com
OR
Mobile:- 021 1704 257

Kids With Arthritis NZ Wristbands

KWANZ silicone wristbands are a great way to let people know that, 'EVEN KIDS GET ARTHRITIS'.

DESCRIPTION

The KWANZ purple wristbands are silicone with the words 'EVEN KIDS GET ARTHRITIS' and have the KWANZ website www.kidswitharthritis.org.nz

ADULT

The adult sized silicone wristbands have a circumference that measures 20cm and is 1.2cm wide. **Cost \$2.00 each.**

CHILD

The child sized silicone wristbands have a circumference that measures 17cm and is 1.2cm wide. These would be suitable for children 4 to 10 years approx. **Cost \$2.00 each.**

Place your order with Robyn:-
kwanz.executive@gmail.com



Kids With Arthritis NZ Up-coming events

Kids With Arthritis NZ will be having a South Island Christmas Party. It will be in early 2020.

Date and venue to be advised

An invitation will be emailed to you.

Please contact Robyn if you have any queries.

executive.kwanz@hotmail.co.nz

Kids With Arthritis NZ

Rainbows End a bit far?
Don't panic! We've got you covered!

Join us for a warm dip, some food, fun, and all things celebration of Christmas!

When: Saturday, 30th Nov 3-7pm
Where: DeBretts Hot Pools
76 Napier-Taupo Rd, Hilltop, Taupo

Sausage sizzle provided. However, please bring a salad or dessert to share.

Registration is essential!
Please RSVP to
Sheena Harris by Mon 25th Nov.
wko.kwanz@gmail.com OR 021 151 1738