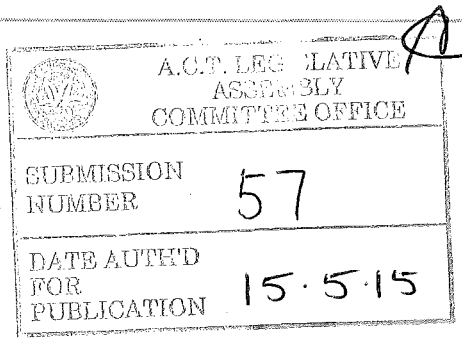
From: Phyllis Wallace
Sent: Monday, 11 May 2015 9:38 PM
To: Committees
Subject: Submission for ClubsACT



My name is Phyllis and I am Lucas' mum, I would like to share with you our story...

Lucas was born on the 2nd December 2011 at 7.49pm. He was born with a heart rate of 70bpm and was born in a hypoxic state. The midwives hit the emergency button and whisked him away to start oxygen. They pumped oxygen into him for 24 mins before he took his first breath. When he was only a couple of hours old he was transferred to The Canberra Hospital as he had starting having seizures as well as complications with breathing.

Lucas was on a cocktail of drugs to reduce the seizures and at 5 days of age he was taken for an MRI which changed our lives drastically. They gave us the diagnosis of cerebral palsy.

When Lucas was 14 days old we were able to take him home! Unfortunately he had another seizure at 17 days old which resulted in being admitted to hospital again. He didn't have any seizures in the time that we were there and he was discharged two days later.

At 6 months of age we weaned him off his anti-seizure medication as he hadn't had a seizure since he was 17 days old. His paediatrician gave the diagnosis of moderate cerebral palsy which was yet again a big shock to the system as we all thought he was going so well.

Lucas has achieved so much in the short time he has been with us. He can eat pureed food and drink from a bottle - both things we were told may never happen.

Just a few short months later we were advised that Lucas has Spastic Quadriplegia with Athetoid Movement. Lucas can't do many of the things children his age can do naturally. He cannot stand, walk, talk, sit or play unassisted but he is so bright and bubbly and has a smile that just lights up the room.

Lucas is now 3 and is receiving a number of different therapy services from Cerebral Palsy Alliance ACT as well as being able to access their equipment loan pool, which is making a significant difference to his treatment and he has achieved so much in the short time he has been with us.

We would like to say thank you to ClubsACT and the Vikings Group for their major support of Cerebral Palsy Alliance ACT. We don't know what we would do without you.