



A Gift in Will gives foster children a brighter future

Your legacy will
transform their lives.





Your legacy

A gift in your Will is **powerful**, it represents your life's essence and core values.

As you craft or amend your Will, consider how supporting The Pyjama Foundation aligns with your beliefs, offering hope and opportunity to future generations.

Once you have met the needs of those you love, a gift in Will to The Pyjama Foundation ensures that vulnerable children in care receive the vital support they need for a brighter, resilient future.

You will forever be The Pyjama Foundation's **Guardian Angel**.

Invest in their future

It's hard to imagine the trauma a child goes through when they enter the foster care system. These children, through no fault of their own are removed from their original homes for their own health and safety.

Many have experienced trauma, neglect and instability at a young age. It impacts their confidence, their ability to trust others, and their core foundation for learning.

Like Amira, who at two years year old, was placed into her first foster home for her own safety and wellbeing. Scared and confused, she learnt to quickly navigate the world through turbulence at such a young age. With support, guidance and some extra love, Amira's future can be bright with the help of an empowering mentor.

Without adequate support, these children face heightened risks such as lower educational achievement, increased likelihood of homelessness, elevated rates of mental illness, unemployment,

substance abuse, and involvement in the youth criminal justice system.

The Pyjama Foundation was created to provide children in care with a world full of unlimited opportunity, to create positive relationships, and instil a love of learning.

Our unique Program focuses on the development of positive, meaningful and caring relationships between a child and their Pyjama Angel mentor, which lasts for many years.

After a potential community volunteer is screened and found suitable through our Love of Learning training Program, this results in the recruitment of dedicated and adaptable learning mentors who understand their vital role.

These volunteer 'Pyjama Angel' mentors provide one-on-one support to children in care by visiting them once a week to empower them with learning, life skills and confidence to reach their full potential.



Since 2004, more than 19,000 children in care have spent more than 902,000 hours with volunteer mentors, who work tirelessly and lovingly to empower those children.

Founder and CEO Bronwyn
Sheehan OAM with child



**Your lasting legacy can be one that ensures children
who live in foster care have a future filled with
possibilities.**

A message from our Founder & CEO

I first met a foster carer when my daughter attended school alongside a child in foster care. Witnessing the commitment, love, and dedication this carer exhibited towards the children she cared for deeply moved me.

One day, I encountered the same carer with an 18-month-old boy, covered in bruises and suffering from a terrible cold. My heart shattered at the sight, and in that moment, I knew I had to take action for children in foster care.

From that day, the concept of a one-on-one mentoring program began, and the **Love of Learning Program** was brought to life.

Children in foster care often struggle academically due to the trauma they endure, hindering their ability to engage in learning.

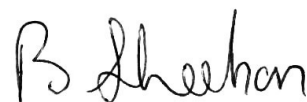
Now, two decades later, The Pyjama Foundation has flourished, providing support to over 19,000 children in out-of-home care.

Each child has been paired with a mentor, empowering them with learning, life skills, and confidence to navigate their lives. But there's always more to be done.

Every single gift in Will we receive, regardless of size, can make a difference.

We know that you will always look after your loved ones first, however, once you have discussed with your family and solicitor, and have considered leaving a gift to The Pyjama Foundation, know that you will be looking after vulnerable children who need extra support, helping them reach their full potential and improve their life trajectory.

On behalf of future generations to come, thank you so much for considering to leave a legacy with The Pyjama Foundation.



Bronwyn Sheehan OAM
Founder and CEO



**"The things you do for yourself
are gone when you are gone,
but the things you do for others
remain as your legacy."
- Kalu Ndukwe Kalu**



From humble beginnings

2004

The Pyjama Foundation started in Bronwyn's home where she hosted her first training on my back verandah with 50 interested volunteers who had heard about her newly formed charity in the newspaper. Her 'why' was simple, to ensure children in foster care have the same opportunities as other children - so that no child gets left behind.



2024

Fast forward to 20 years later, in 2024, The Pyjama Foundation has mentored more than 19,000 children in need, and trained more than 12,000 volunteers.

To a future of unlimited opportunity..

Our dream is for all children in care to reach their **full potential**. To feel empowered and have a love for learning.

Our mission is to create **positive relationships** for all Australian child in care to have their own special **Pyjama Angel mentor**.

Our vision is a world of **unlimited opportunity** for all children, despite their fragile start in life.

If you have the same dream, please consider leaving a gift in your Will so your wishes can come to fruition.

“There was no question we want to make kids dreams come true for the next generation.”

Volunteer June Thorn has been with her beautiful Pyjama Child since 2008. The Pyjama Foundation is where June’s heart is, so she didn’t give a second thought to leaving a gift to the Foundation.

“Leaving a gift to The Pyjama Foundation was a decision made together with my husband. There will be more children coming into care in the future who need our help, which we can do by leaving a gift in our Will. Helping children to gain a love of learning, like my girl, is very important to us.”

Foster carers are the unsung heroes of the system and Pyjama Angels give them a brief respite by providing one-on-one mentoring time to children in foster care.

June shared “It is so important to keep this program running in the future to assist them and the children they care for.”

June has seen firsthand the tangible and vast difference the program makes in the community and she is passionate that it continues in the future.

When you commit to leave a gift in your Will, you will join an exclusive group of supporters like June, who share a vision of care and generosity.

You will become The Pyjama Foundation’s Guardian Angel.





Nadia's Pyjama Angel changed her life for the better.

When Nadia's father died, she ended up in foster care at only eight years old. She bounced through ten different families over the years.

Despite the instability of Nadia's life, she had the support of The Pyjama Foundation and her very own Angel every step of the way.

Pyjama Angels and children, like Nadia, spend dedicated time together every week, focusing on reading, writing and educational games.

"I wanted to be someone who can make a difference, who will change lives. And I didn't believe I could go to university, until Alison told me I could."

Leaving a gift in your Will is a powerful way to create a legacy that will continue to shape the future of children living in foster care for many years to come.

"Alison was much more than my mentor," Nadia says. "She was someone who stood up for me, someone who spoke up for me. She was someone who encouraged me."

Your lasting legacy with The Pyjama Foundation will be one that breaks the cycle of disadvantage for children in foster care, for generations to come.



**"I would not be who I am now,
without the support and love of
Alison, my Pyjama Angel."**



Charlie's journey with The Pyjama Foundation has been transformative, enriching his life in so many ways. Through the powerful love from his foster mum, and incredible support of his Pyjama Angels, Charlie has grown into a confident, resilient young man with a bright future ahead.

Charlie came into Maria's care whilst only a small baby. Maria, a midwife at the time, turned into a single parent overnight to Charlie.

"I am very fortunate to maintain a positive relationship with his biological family which has provided him with a strong connection to culture. He has had regular contact with his biological family, including his parents and siblings."

"Charlie's parent's education was very limited. They wanted him to stay with me as his health needs were carefully met and he had access to good education."

With the juggle of being a single parent, Maria turned to The Pyjama Foundation for support. From age of three, Renee became a beacon of love and encouragement in Charlie's life.

Her dedication and warmth provided him with a sense of security and belonging, instilling in him a love for learning. With Renee's guidance, Charlie developed a passion for reading, a skill that fills his family with immense pride and joy.

After 8 years, as Charlie entered his teenage years, Peter, another Pyjama Angel stepped in as a much-needed male role model, offering him guidance and support during a pivotal time of growth and self-discovery. Peter's presence allowed Charlie to open and express himself freely, fostering a deeper sense of understanding and connection.

The Pyjama Foundation provided Charlie with a sense of purpose, offering him a haven where he felt supported and valued.

Through his involvement with The Pyjama Foundation, Charlie became a source of inspiration and hope for others, sharing his story at gala dinners and even traveling to Canberra for special events.

The foundation became more than just a support network; it became Charlie's extended family, providing him with opportunities for growth, empowerment, and endless possibilities.

Today, as Charlie embarks on his journey towards a degree in Social Work, he carries with him the lessons, love, and support he received from The Pyjama Foundation and his Pyjama Angels.

His future shines bright.



I think what The Pyjama Foundation does is very special. What the volunteers do is a big thing. They take on a big responsibility and it really benefits the kids, like it did for me.

Charlie

A gift that makes a lasting impact

You can change the lives of children in care. By leaving a gift in your Will, you're helping achieve the long-term vision of The Pyjama Foundation - to provide children in foster care with vital support including:

- Gifting them their very own dedicated trauma-informed learning mentor to help them achieve their dreams. These one-on-one weekly mentors known as Pyjama Angels are recruited, screened, and trained to deliver an evidence-based literacy and numeracy program to empower them with learning, life skills and confidence
- Our Teen Life Skills Program for 12–24 year olds who are transitioning out of the Foster Care system. The Program focuses on five key areas including life skills, becoming work-ready, building resilience, boosting self-esteem, and improving health and wellbeing.
- Our vital phone service for volunteers. This provides Pyjama Angels and foster carers emotional support and practical advice including age-appropriate resources, dealing with sensitive situations, addressing diverse learning needs and ways to work with First Nations children to recognise their culture. Thousands of calls are received each year.
- Learning resources for our eleven resource centres. Items such as books, games, puzzles and education-based are readily available to assist Pyjama Angels in making learning more fun during their weekly visits.
- Funding critical research to support the key components of our programs to ensure they continue to influence academic resilience, school connectedness and learning confidence.



How to leave a gift in your Will

There are a number of ways you can leave a gift in Will to help children in foster care through The Pyjama Foundation. You can:



Specify a dollar amount or a percentage of your estate, or an asset (e.g. property or shares),



Leave a percentage of the residue of your estate, provide a share of your estate, or



Include The Pyjama Foundation as a beneficiary in your life insurance policy.

We would always recommend you discuss your preferred option with your loved ones and your solicitor.

Suggested wording for your gift in Will

I give and bequeath to The Pyjama Foundation Ltd (presently located at Unit 1, 43-49 Sandgate Road, Albion, Queensland, ABN 43 111 196 742):

- The residue of my estate or A percentage of my estate or;
- The sum of \$ (insert the relevant amount) and/or
- Items from my estate
- Description of your gift

For its general purposes, free from all duties, deductions, and charges. The receipt of an authorised officer of The Pyjama Foundation Ltd shall constitute a full and sufficient discharge of the executor's duties.

Our promise to you

We understand the gravity of such a significant decision and respect the personal timing and manner in which you choose to make it.

Should you decide to include The Pyjama Foundation in your Will, we deeply appreciate your generosity. Your support means the world to us, and we would be honored to personally express our gratitude.

However, if you prefer privacy, we will fully respect your wishes and refrain from any further contact.

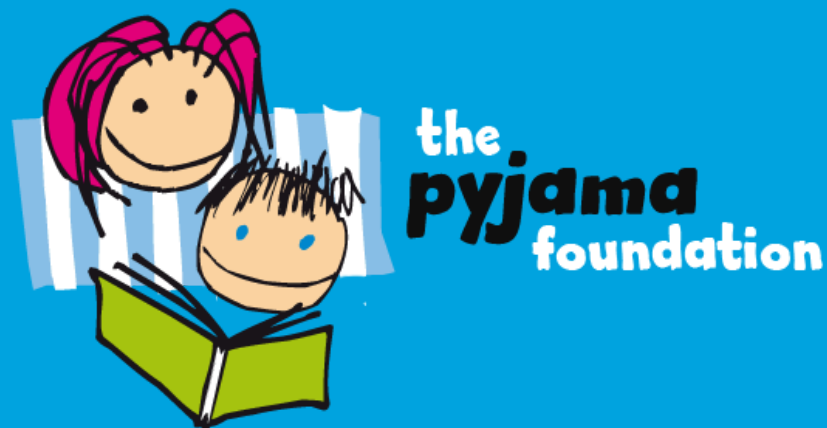
Your legacy will provide invaluable support to children and young people in foster care, enabling them to realise their full potential and strive for a brighter future.

We will ensure that your gift is utilised thoughtfully and effectively to make a meaningful impact.

Furthermore, we will extend the opportunity for your loved ones to witness firsthand the transformative work facilitated by your contribution to The Pyjama Foundation.

In administering your gift, we pledge to uphold the values of compassion, integrity, and honesty. Every gift in Will entrusted to us will be handled with the utmost respect and gratitude, honoring your intentions and legacy.

We are incredibly grateful that you have thoughtfully considered The Pyjama Foundation.



**Together we can ensure more children in
need have the best chance in life.**

If you would like to speak confidentially about your decision and have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Kirsten our friendly Gifts in Wills Manager via Kirsten@thepyjamafoundation.com or call us on 07 3256 8802



The Pyjama Foundation Ltd is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) as a company limited by guarantee (ABN 43 111 196 742). We trade under the name The Pyjama Foundation and are subject to the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012.