



The team at Together for Short Lives

Dec 02, 2019 11:08 GMT

# Center Parcs sets ambitious fundraising target for fifth year of

# partnership with Together for Short Lives

Center Parcs has extended its charity partnership with Together for Short Lives for a fifth year.

The partnership, which launched in 2016, will continue until April 2021 and the business is aiming to take the total amount raised to more than £1,000,000. Since 2016, more than £850,000 has been raised through a mixture of fundraising and guest donations.

As part of the national partnership with Together for Short Lives, employees from across Center Parcs' five UK villages and Head Office have been raising funds for their local children's hospices:

- Center Parcs Sherwood Forest and Head Office, both in Nottinghamshire, are raising money for Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice
- Center Parcs Elveden Forest, in Suffolk, is raising money for East Anglia's Children's Hospices
- Center Parcs Longleat Forest, in Wiltshire, is raising money for Children's Hospice South West
- Center Parcs Whinfell Forest, in Cumbria, is raising money for Jigsaw
- Center Parcs Woburn Forest, in Bedfordshire, is raising money for Keech Hospice Care

The teams have cycled more than 1,300km, jumped out of planes at 13,000 feet, trekked 40km on horseback and run more than 700km, as well as holding raffles, duck races and spinathons. However the donations haven't just been financial – employees have also donated their time to help the charities, from creating beautiful garden spaces through to taking the Center Parcs experience to children and families at local hospices.

Center Parcs CEO, Martin Dalby, said: “Together for Short Lives really is the perfect charity partner for Center Parcs – like us, they are dedicated to making sure families have quality time together. However, for them, these families are often dealing with the knowledge that they won't have a long time together and the fact that we can help support those families is incredibly humbling. I know from speaking to my colleagues that this is a charity that has really touched the hearts of our employees and guests, right from the beginning of the partnership, and I'm thrilled we will be supporting such a worthy cause for another year.”

Andy Fletcher, Chief Executive Officer of Together for Short Lives, said: “Thank you so much to the wonderful people at Center Parcs. I am so excited to be entering into our fifth year of partnership to support children

and families who need it most. It is a testament to their dedication and passion for our cause that we have raised over £800,000 to date, but to reach the million mark would just be incredible for all the families supported by children's hospices up and down the country. Center Parcs go above and beyond to help the families we're here for – from epic fundraisers to gifting short breaks so families can make precious memories together. Here's to the next chapter of fundraising and working together to make life better for seriously ill children.”

Together for Short Lives is a UK charity that makes sure the 49,000 seriously ill children and their families can make the most of every moment they have together, whether that's for years, months or only hours. Many of the children they support have complex conditions and need specialist care 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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### **Notes to Editors**

When a child's life is expected to be short, there's no time to waste. Together for Short Lives is here to make sure the 49,000 seriously ill children and their families across the UK can make the most of every moment they have together, whether that's for years, months or only hours. They stand alongside families, supporting them to make sure they get the vital care and help that they need.

They support and empower families caring for seriously ill children by listening to their needs and helping them find the right care. They provide easily digestible information about available support so families can spend less time searching for help and have more time together. They connect families with support services and other families who understand what they are going through, so they don't feel as alone.

49,000 babies, children and young people are living in the UK with health conditions that are life-limiting or life-threatening—and the number is rising. Many of these children have complex conditions and need specialist care 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The impact is enormous; affected parents, brothers and sisters, grandparents, and the wider family make up an estimated 399,000 people who are actively involved in care. For those who love these children, accessing help and the right care can be emotionally stressful. For those of us who haven't faced it, it's unimaginable.

Together with their members they champion, improve and support children's palliative care services and professionals. They raise awareness and understanding about childhood death and campaign for policy change, so every child and family can get the right care and support. And they raise

vital funds through their collaborative partnerships to ensure children's hospice care not only continues, but also improves.

Getting the right support can make a lifetime of difference. And that's what they are here for.

Contact the Together for Short Lives press office: 0117 989 7820

Visit [www.togetherforshortlives.org.uk](http://www.togetherforshortlives.org.uk) for more information

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