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Newsroom

Arthritis New Zealand's kids camp takes off with \$30,000 Jetstar grant

- Jetstar picks Arthritis New Zealand's kids camp for latest community grant
- More than 1,000 Kiwi children suffer the disease
- Next round of grant applications now open

Kiwi kids suffering from arthritis will have the chance to attend a unique camp with the support of a \$30,000 grant from Jetstar's Flying Start programme.

More than 1,000 New Zealand children, from toddlers to teenagers, suffer from arthritis. The annual camp run by Arthritis New Zealand for the past two years offers young sufferers a chance to meet, to learn new skills and to build their confidence.

The Jetstar Flying Start Programme grant of \$15,000 in flights and \$15,000 in cash means many more children from around the country will have the opportunity to attend the camp in Matamata.

Jetstar Australia and New Zealand CEO David Hall said the judges assessing Flying Start grant applications were moved by the stories of children who had attended the Arthritis New Zealand camp.

"To live with this disease at such a young age would be a very difficult burden for families, so supporting this camp was an easy decision to make," said Mr Hall.

"We're an airline that carries a lot of young families in New Zealand and through our grants we've so far focussed on supporting local community groups that help children and their parents."

Arthritis New Zealand CEO Sandra Kirby said the grant from Jetstar will mean many kids who may have otherwise missed out on the 2013 camp can now be part of it.

"We get requests from families all over New Zealand who want their child to attend but getting them to the camp can really stretch our budget. We've had to make some tough calls," Ms Kirby said.

"With the flights and cash from Jetstar we can now help many more kids suffering from this debilitating disease."

Flying Start judge and rugby league legend Steve Price also suffers from arthritis after years of on-field tackling.

"The camp is a chance for children to take a break from what can be a very limiting condition. These kids are inspirational and the work that Arthritis New Zealand is doing deserves our support," said Mr Price.

Jetstar has so far awarded \$60,000 of \$120,000 through its Flying Start Programme in 2012. Auckland-based charity Bellyful received the first grant in April and is using it to provide more home cooked meals to young families struggling with a new baby across New Zealand.

Applications for the third grant round close at 5.00pm (NZST) on 31 August 2012 and application details can be found [here](#).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – JETSTAR'S FLYING START GRANTS PROGRAMME

Grant Allocation

Each quarterly grant will be worth \$30,000, comprising:

- \$15,000 cash
- \$15,000 worth of travel with Jetstar anywhere on the Jetstar network
- Promotion of their community group or organisation on Jetstar's website and Facebook page

Who can apply

Entry is open to New Zealand based not-for-profit community groups and organisations of any size, who are seeking funding to help enhance the lives of people in their local community and can be classified into one of the following categories:

- Charity;
- Educational organisation;
- Health organisation;
- Sporting group or organisation; or
- Arts group or organisation

The community group or organisation should have a specific project in mind for how the grant will be used to benefit their local community.

How grants are awarded

Entries are reviewed by a judging panel that includes Jetstar Australia and New Zealand CEO David Hall, rugby league legend Steve Price, Jetstar pilot Richard Falkner and Jetstar Passenger Services Manager Sharon Cocker

When applications open and close

Grants will be awarded quarterly. Applications for each quarter open and close on the following dates:

GRANT ROUND - APPLICATIONS OPEN - APPLICATIONS CLOSE

Q1 2012 - closed 13 December 2011 - 28 February 2012

Q2 2012 - closed 1 March 2012 - 31 May 2012

Q3 - 1 June 2012 - 31 August 2012

Q4 - 1 September 2012 - 30 November 2012

About Jetstar

About Jetstar Group

Jetstar first took to the skies in 2004 and has since flown more than 350 million customers across an extensive international and domestic network. The Jetstar Group is made up of Jetstar Airways (subsidiary of the Qantas Group) in Australia and New Zealand, Jetstar Asia in Singapore, and Jetstar Japan in Japan. A leading low-fares airline, Jetstar is committed to offering everyday low fares to enable more people to fly to more places, more often. As one of Asia Pacific's fastest-growing airline brands, Jetstar was voted Best Low-Cost Airline in Asia Pacific in 2021 and was recognized for its excellent flight safety records and services when listed on the "2022 World's Top 10 LCC" released by Airline Ratings.

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