

Christmas morning will be bittersweet for Madison's family.

Many two-year old children will be laughing and squealing with excitement, running from room to room.

Not Madison.

You see, Madison has a complex series of disabilities. She cannot stand or sit unaided. She cannot communicate her joy like her twin sister, Chloe. But to Sarah and Phil, she is simply their beautiful, courageous little girl.

Imagine the heartache.

Sarah and Phil's journey to parenthood was not as they imagined. After successful IVF treatment, they discovered they were expecting identical twin girls. At 29 weeks, joy turned to despair when Sarah was told she needed an emergency caesarian.

Sarah's tiny babies, Madison and Chloe, were in grave danger. Each weighed less than one kilogram. Chloe rallied, but within hours Sarah was told she should say goodbye to Madison. The valve between Madison's heart and lungs was not opening properly, resulting in a lack of oxygen to the brain. She was in a coma.

"I sat next to my tiny daughter and prayed and hoped. I told her I would never ask her to do anything ever again if she would fight as hard as she could," Sarah said.

Madison was a fighter and she survived her ordeal. But at a doctor's appointment the day after her first birthday, Sarah and Phil learned the truth - Madison had cerebral palsy and global developmental delay.

This brave little girl is still fighting - with the help of Novita.

When Sarah discovered Novita, she was amazed at the level of support that was available to Madison and her family.

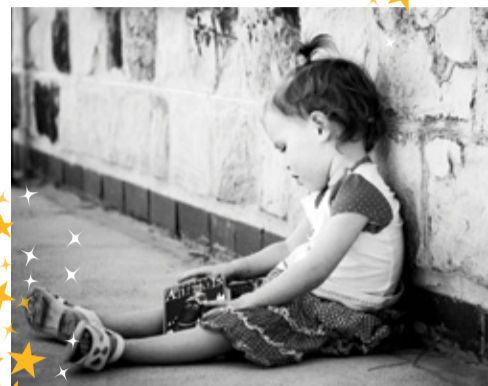
Novita's team of highly trained professionals provides therapy, equipment and family support to more than 1300 South Australian children living with disabilities, just like Madison. Through our broader work with the community, more than 10,000 South Australians benefit from Novita's specialist skills and knowledge every day.

Imagine the joy!

Since Novita came into their lives earlier this year, Sarah says Madison's progress has been phenomenal. She can stand with the help of her standing frame, provided free of charge by Novita. Bath time with her sister is great fun in her special bath seat. She is learning how to sit, in a corner seat provided by Novita. She has improved movement, such as rolling independently, thanks to her Novita therapist and daily physio with her Mum. Her fine motor skills have improved so much she can pick up a tiny piece of pasta between her fingers.

These small but steady changes make Sarah's heart soar.

"Madison inspires me to be a better, brighter person every day. Look at what others have achieved. With the help of Novita and our family, who knows - she could be Australia's first female prime minister!"



"I sat next to my tiny daughter and prayed. I told her I would never ask her to do anything ever again, if she could fight"





Won't you please help Novita support children like Madison?

Your donation could purchase a new therapy toy for the Novita Toy Library, or fund the home therapy visits Sarah eagerly looks forward to each fortnight. It could even help us provide a standing frame like the one that has allowed Madison and Chloe to play "peek a boo" for the first time in their short lives.

At Novita, children living with disabilities are our "brightest stars." So we have a very special star to exchange with you.

In recognition of your kind donation this Christmas, we will place a star on our Novita tree with your name on it. In turn, we have enclosed a star for you.

When you look at this star, remember your donation will not only make a difference. It will change a child's life.

We hope you will give generously to our Christmas Appeal.

Sarah says that your donation will make her daughter smile like a shining star. Who could put a price tag on that?

On behalf of Madison and the 1300 children we support every day of the year, we thank you and wish you a safe and joyous festive season.

Yours sincerely

Glenn Rappensberg
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Do we have your contact details correct?
(please tick or mark your changes clearly)



My phone number is: _____

Mobile number: _____

Email address: _____

My date of birth: _____

*As part of current privacy legislation you are entitled to view all personal information held by Novita Children's Services. Novita respects your privacy and embraced the National Privacy Principals. If you do not wish to receive any more mail, please tick the box.

Yes! I would like to support Novita Children's Services

I would like to purchase the following gift/s on behalf of Novita Children's Services

- \$30** will give the gift of a pick up stick or angled spoon.
- \$50** will give the gift of a grab rail or clamp on bath rail.
- \$100** will give the gift of a shower chair or a walking stick.
- \$500** will give the gift of a non slip surface for a bathroom or a portable ramp.

or

- I would prefer to donate \$.....
- I prefer to make monthly payments of \$.....

Payment Details

My total donation amount is \$.....

Please find enclosed my cheque made payable to **Novita Children's Services**

Please debit my credit card:

Visa Master Card Diners Amex

Card number

□□□□ □□□□ □□□□ □□□□

Expiry date: ____ / ____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

Gifts over \$2 are tax deductible – your receipt will follow shortly.
Please return the completed slip, together with your donation in the enclosed reply paid envelope.