

Dear UK Government,

We are the families and young people living with cancer being supported by CLIC Sargent, the UK's leading charity for children and young people with cancer.

**We are urging you to provide CLIC Sargent with immediate financial support during the coronavirus crisis, so they can continue to help families like ours during the worst time of their lives, in addition to taking pressure off vital NHS services.**

Being a young person with cancer, or a parent of a child diagnosed with cancer is an incredibly scary and worrying time. Your life as you know it is thrown upside down and every aspect is affected – from your finances to your mental health and family life.

**We don't know what we would have done without the support of CLIC Sargent.**

They are here for us, providing practical, financial and emotional support from diagnosis. CLIC Sargent's Homes from Home provide beds for families to be near their child's hospital so they can be by their side during treatment. CLIC Sargent Social Workers are there to talk to us when we are worried, and right now we could not be more anxious. As if watching your child go through cancer isn't devastating enough, the reality is many families will end up in crippling debt because of cancer. That's why CLIC Sargent needs the Government's support to try and stop this happening. Our CLIC Sargent Social Workers help us to fill out benefit forms and access grants.

And right now, CLIC Sargent are also there for the families who are facing their final moments with loved ones in isolation, unable to make the memories they had planned. They need to be there for them when the unthinkable and unimaginable happens.

The charity's support is always vital – but evermore so with the coronavirus pandemic. CLIC Sargent rely 100 per cent on donations and do not receive any support from the government or NHS. As a result of the pandemic they have seen a 60 per cent drop in income – £8 million this year. The charity has had to furlough and reduce working hours of staff – including those on the frontline. This impacts CLIC Sargent's ability to support families like ours going forward.

The voices of children and young people with cancer must not be forgotten in the coronavirus pandemic. As a parent, a young person and someone living with cancer, we are joining their fight so they can continue to be there for children and young people with cancer, now and in the future.

We cannot begin to imagine what experience children and young people with cancer and their families would have without CLIC Sargent. It would be unimaginable and devastating to not have their support.

Cancer doesn't stop for coronavirus – and neither can CLIC Sargent. Families like ours need them. We are urging you to provide CLIC Sargent with immediate financial support.

To arrange a meeting and show your support for children and young people with cancer, please contact [campaigns@clicsargent.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@clicsargent.org.uk).