

Support for the sick newborn and their parents

Information re SSNAP

SSNAP supports premature and sick newborn babies, their parents and the amazing NHS staff that care for them. We operate from the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxfordshire, a hospital with specialist support that cares for babies from all over the country. For nearly 40 years we have supported those born in, the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, the Dependency Units and the supporting maternity wards.

Our support very much varies to the needs of our babies and parents. We have a 7 day a week Family Care Team that provide practical and emotional support to parents at their most vulnerable and anxious times; and fund Clinical Psychologists to intervene when mental challenges become too demanding. We fund staff training and study days for NHS staff ensuring they continue to provide the very best care possible for babies. SSNAP also funds essential equipment, not funded by the NHS, primarily for items that make life easier for parents, including reclining chairs and breast pumps to make new mums more comfortable; and furniture and fittings for a purpose-built Bereavement Suite.

Ultimately SSNAP care for the welfare of babies, parents and staff, to ensure they are in the safest and most comfortable environments they can be, during highly distressing and uncertain times.

SSNAP Shopping List of how your donation can make a difference:

- £3 buys a Julia Donaldson book for a family to read to their premature baby whilst on the unit. Reading to a baby can help with brain development and is also soothing for the parent during times that can be very distressing.
- £4 buys a 'SSNAP Teddy Bear' which goes into our 'Admission Welcome Boxes' for new babies and parents coming into the unit. Both the baby and siblings can have a teddy bear which they can touch and cuddle to feel connection together.

- -£6.50 buys 10 hot drinks to help fuel both parents and staff 24/7, especially through the night.
- £12 buys a food voucher for a family to be able to get a hot meal and drink within the hospital. Enabling them nutritious support and self-care time whilst not having to be too far away from their baby.
- £14.50 buys an 'Admission Welcome Box' for new babies onto the unit, which includes all the essentials and niceties needed for parents and baby. This includes; 'Our Journey Booklet', Photo Certificate, Teddy Bear, Muslin, Thermal Coffee Mug and more.
- £17 Provides a 'Mini Cuski' which is a developmental comforter for a premature baby. A baby will have one in their incubator whilst a parent will wear one close to their body, these are then swapped, and evidence shows the Mini Cuski can reduce the babies HR & BP, comforting them from the parents scent.
- **-£17.50** provides a breast-feeding cape/cover to give mothers privacy whilst expressing cotside.
- **-£18** provides a day of snacks and food for all the parents in the unit, so that they don't have to leave their babies side. Families say these snacks are a life-line for them.
- £44 provides half a day's emotional and psychological support along with sign posting relevant services for parents from the Family Care Team
- £120 provides a 'Vcreate' system for all familes in the unit for a week. Vcreate enables a secure server where staff can take photos and videos of the babies for parents, capturing special moments and activities when parents cannot be cot side. It helps reduce anxiety and worry, particularly during the night, enables personal messages for siblings and gives parents much cherished memories for their babies journal.
- -£180 provides a microwave for enabling parents to sterilise milk bottles on the unit.
- £180 will also provide training for NHS staff for the day, for example a psychologist course to enable more specialised support for parents if needed.
- **-£800** provides special recliner chairs for parents to help with comfort, kangaroo care and feeding cot side.
- **-£1500** provides a Medula Express Pump for mothers to use
- £2000 provides enhancement and soft furnishings plus everything a family may need within the bereavement suite and family rooms.
- £15,500 would provide a 'Giraffe incubator,' creating a controlled and protective environment for premature babies and healing.
- £50,000 would provide a new ventilator for the unit.