



association for the wellbeing  
of children in healthcare

## Helping You to Help Kids

Ward grandparent volunteers are a valuable resource for parents, children, and hospital staff. They make a real difference to the emotional side of healing by just 'being there' when parents cannot. The Ward Grandparents can be called upon to give their time to the children and provide a loving pair of arms and a familiar, reassuring face.

The Award Winning AWCH Hospital Ward Grandparent Scheme was established in 1986 and has become a highly regarded service in all major NSW children's hospitals, and increasingly in metropolitan and rural hospitals and in other states.

Here is what one of Australia's Ward Grannies had to say about her important work:

'In lieu of parents who cannot visit, I feed and nurse babies (mostly premature ones) in the neonatal Ward, usually for about six weeks until they can go home. Some of them are so tiny I

can hardly feel them in the bundle (the smallest of my 'charges' was 13 weeks prem): nursing, even holding them is a delicate job since equipment such as oxygen tubes must not be displaced. I am there five days a week. Parting from them is always sad, but I am happy to know that they go and take their rightful place in their families.'

**You can recognise a Ward Grandparent and help AWCH to keep this program going!**

A \$50 donation to AWCH will help us continue to bring this wonderful service to Australian families in need.

Donate now <http://www.awch.org.au/donate-to-children-in-healthcare.php>

**Become an AWCH Member today!**

Support our programs and services by going to [www.awch.org.au](http://www.awch.org.au)

