1 June 2016

High-tech hospital bed improves Gympie patients’ safety and nurses’ backs

Gympie Hospital’s kids ward has a new state-of-the-art VersaCare bed.

The $13,000 bed was donated by KidzFix to help make children with palliative conditions more comfortable.

KidzFix is a not for profit organisation that supports sick and disadvantaged children in Australia through fundraising activities like the annual KidzFix Rally.

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service Director of Gympie Health Service Leuwin Ferguson said the VersaCare bed would make a big difference to not only patients, but also their families who wanted to see their child as comfortable as they could be during their hospital stay.

“We’re extremely grateful to KidzFix for this generous donation; the VersaCare bed is an excellent choice for our patients and staff,” Ms Ferguson said.

“The children in our kids ward can be at risk of developing pressure injuries from prolonged bed rest. The VersaCare bed adjusts automatically to relieve pressure for patients; and has easy-to-use controls so the kids can easily adjust their position.

“Our nurses also benefit from using this bed through reduced strain on their bodies when it comes to turning patients or lifting them up in bed,” she said.

Children’s ward patient, 16 year old Billy, said the bed made his time in hospital more pleasant.

“Because of my injured leg, I had to stay in bed for quite a while and this bed made me feel more comfortable. The previous bed did not suit my height and size, but this bed gives me maximum support,” he said.

“A big thank you to KidsFix and everyone who supported the purchase of this bed for our kids ward,” Ms Ferguson said.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

- Shaneen Osborne, Nurse Unit Manager, Maternity/Women’s Health and Paediatric Unit and two Directors from KidzFix Lyn Burgess (Sydney) and Michelle Agnew (Gympie) check out the state-of-the-art features of the VersaCare bed.
- 11am Thursday, 2 June 2016, in the paediatric ward, Gympie Hospital.

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