

KEY TALKING POINTS

World CP Day – Sunday, October 6 2019

WHY THIS ISSUE IS WORTHY OF ATTENTION AND EFFORT

Cerebral palsy is the most common childhood physical disability (affecting an average of one in every 700 people). There are over 17 million people living with CP, with over 350 million caregivers.

When people with CP have the same opportunities as everyone else to live up to their potential, they prove how significant it can be—not just for individuals with CP, but for everyone in the societies in which they live. One need not look any further than the poets and comedians and computer programmers and writers and activists living with CP to realise what a powerful contribution the community of people living with CP can make around the world.

Yet people living with CP are one of the least understood, and most stigmatised communities in the world.

World CP Day conducted research—from the tribal regions of Pakistan to Poland, from Brazil to Baltimore, from Sydney to Sri Lanka—and found incredibly frustrating realities everywhere.

Too little money is being spent on prevention and supportive tools; too many doctors and therapists lack the knowledge to diagnose and treat people with CP; too many families lack access to basic information and support; too few educators have the training to ensure people with CP get the education they deserve; and, perhaps most importantly, it is still far too easy to keep people with CP out of sight, out of mind and out of options in communities around the world.

This is not just a question of human rights. It has a direct impact on our collective social and economic wellbeing. The artistic, economic, social, scientific and political contribution of 17 million people—and those who commit everything on their behalf—are simply unrealized.

**It’s 2019 – time for change!**

Information is available. Support exists. Effective policies can be shared among countries. New therapies and preventative tools are emerging every day. People just do not have access.

HOW WORLD CP DAY CAN HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Around the globe on October 6 each year, groups of people with CP, supporters, carers, educators, researchers and more get together to celebrate people with CP and create change. There’s an overwhelming amount of engagement on social media, and even interest from traditional media.

It gives people in the global CP community the chance to band together and combine their resources, energy and knowledge. It allows us all to share stories and ideas and make real progress in awareness, education, understanding and research.

WORLD CP DAY 2019

This year we’re celebrating with two key themes – Cerebral Palsy Move As One and Go Green For CP.

**Move As One**

In partnership with the Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association (CPISRA), we’re celebrating World CP Day with #CPMoveAsOne—encouraging everyone to do something active at 1pm with friends and family, and showcase to the world what our community is capable of.

CP Move AS One promotes the benefits of sport and physical activity on the quality of life of people with cerebral palsy. With so much information out there about sports and physical activity, and a significant amount of stigma and misunderstanding about what is possible for people with CP, we’re sharing real, useful information to support people to get moving and keep fit and healthy.

**Go Green 4 CP**

For a condition that affects so many people around the world, cerebral palsy receives very little media and public interest. #GoGreen4CP aims to combat that, with nearly 200 landmarks around the world confirmed to light up green on Sunday, October 6.

This will go an incredibly long way in raising awareness for people with cerebral palsy, starting a conversation about inclusion and quality of life.

To find out which landmarks are going green, visit our [Go Green Map](https://worldcpday.org/our-campaign/go-green-4-cp/go-green-4-cp-map/).

HOW YOU CAN JOIN AND CAN STAY CONNECTED WITH THIS WORK

1. Follow us on Social Media - [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/worldCPday/), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/worldcpday/) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/WorldCPDay)
2. Visit <http://worldcpday.org/>
3. Sign up for News (at the bottom of our website)
4. [Join us on the Map](http://worldcpday.org/add-your-story/) and share your story
5. Read about the [Campaign](http://worldcpday.org/our-campaign/) and take action!



CONTACT US

**Alex McGrath**, World Cerebral Palsy Day Manager

E: alex.mcgrath@cerebralpalsy.org.au T: +61 2 9975 8873