



18 KILOMETRES OF COURAGE: 16 YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES CLIMB MOUNT KOSCIUSZKO TO RAISE \$500,000 FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH CEREBRAL PALSY

This February, sixteen remarkable young Australians living with cerebral palsy or similar disabilities are gearing up for the Krazy Kosci Klimb, an 18-kilometre trek to the summit of Mount Kosciuszko and back. The event is more than a physical challenge; it is a celebration of determination, teamwork, and the unbreakable spirit of the participants, all while raising vital funds for the Cerebral Palsy Alliance (CPA).

Supported by families, friends, corporate sponsors, and CPA staff, these young climbers will test themselves on Australia's highest peak. The Krazy Kosci Klimb also fuels CPA's Health and Wellbeing Program, which provides therapies, equipment, and support for children and adults living with cerebral palsy.

Among this year's lead participants is 15-year-old Ashton from the NSW Central Coast, a talented junior para-athlete diagnosed with right-side hemiplegia and cerebral palsy at 10 months old. He will swap the athletics track for the trails of Mount Kosciuszko, raising funds to help other children living with cerebral palsy. Leaning into his 'Slim Shady' era, Ashton will sport peroxide-blond hair while his support crew rocks early-2000s rap vibes.

Joining him is 8-year-old Electra from Killarney Heights, who was born with cerebral palsy and is non-verbal and non-mobile. She will take on the Krazy Kosci Klimb with the full support of her school community, tackling the trek alongside her team, known as the 'cheeky pirates'.

"Watching these young climbers push past every challenge is nothing short of inspiring. Every step they take and every dollar raised transforms lives, giving children and young people with cerebral palsy the tools and confidence to reach for their own summits, both on the mountain and in life," said Rob White, CEO of CPA.

Since its inception, the event has raised over \$3.66 million, positively impacting more than 180 young people with cerebral palsy. Funds have provided access to tailored therapy, specialised equipment, qualified exercise physiologists, and inclusive exercise and sporting programs.

Preparation for the Krazy Kosci Klimb began in October, with teams engaging in practice hikes and creative fundraising campaigns, rallying support from families, workplaces, and the wider community over a six-month journey. Each team is supported by a generous sponsor, joining participants to foster diversity and inclusion while supporting an extraordinary cause.

CPA is inviting friends, families, businesses, and the broader community to cheer, donate, or hike alongside these young climbers. Every step and every donation helps young Australians with cerebral palsy achieve their personal best.

Head to krazykosciklimb.com.au for more information or to donate.



EVENT DETAILS:

Date: Saturday, 7 February 2026

Start/Finish line: Charlotte Pass, Mount Kosciuszko Rd, Mount Kosciuszko

Start time: 7:00am-8:15am

Finish time: 3:30pm-5:00pm

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ABOUT CEREBRAL PALSY:

- Cerebral palsy is the most common physical disability in children, and in Australia, a child is born with cerebral palsy every 20 hours, accounting for 1 in every 700 births.
- There are approximately 17 million people globally currently living with cerebral palsy, including more than 34,000 in Australia.
- Cerebral palsy is a physical disability that affects movement and posture. Cerebral palsy is an umbrella term that refers to a group of disorders affecting a person's ability to move. Cerebral means 'of the brain' and palsy refers to 'a lack of muscle control'.
- Cerebral palsy in most cases is caused by an injury to the developing brain either during pregnancy or shortly after birth. It is a permanent life-long condition, but generally does not worsen over time.
- Cerebral palsy affects body movement, muscle control, muscle coordination, muscle tone, reflex, posture and balance. People who have cerebral palsy may also have visual, learning, hearing, speech, epilepsy and intellectual impairments.
- Although there is no cure, advancements in healthcare and technology have helped improve quality of life. This includes assistive technologies, therapy programs, and innovative care approaches that enable individuals with cerebral palsy to lead fulfilling lives

ABOUT CEREBRAL PALSY ALLIANCE:

- Cerebral Palsy Alliance is a ground-breaking, global centre of expertise for cerebral palsy research, advocacy, intervention and assistive technology innovation.
- As the world's largest private funder of cerebral palsy research, we bring together a powerful alliance of great minds. Our research-informed interventions are world-class, our unique accelerator program is unlocking the potential of technology to drive greater inclusion for people with disability, and our voice is a powerhouse for bringing together communities and countries in effecting change.
- For over 75 years, we have been driven by our founders' vision of a future where nothing is impossible for people with cerebral palsy and similar conditions. Today, the 17 million+ global cerebral palsy community, together with our 2500+ employees and 150,000+ donors, fundraisers and entrepreneurs, are contributing to solving the next set of impossibilities.