

4 February 2019

## The Bottle Kids donate to Emergency Department

Four kind-hearted siblings visited Liverpool Hospital Emergency Department to say a big ‘thank you’ to staff after multiple hospitalisations over the last six years.

The \$50 donation the primary school-aged siblings from Prestons handed over was raised through the collection of recyclable cans and bottles.

Youngest sibling Romario, 6, was born in the Emergency Department and has had two visits since for his medical needs.

Other ED visits have included Valentina, 7, who was hospitalised with pneumonia when Romario was born and needed care following a trolley incident, resulting in a partial finger amputation.

Eldest child Isabella, 10, presented at Liverpool Hospital and was diagnosed with epilepsy after suffering seizures while Giovanni, 9, visited the Emergency Department with a head injury.

The Silva siblings, who have embraced *The Barefoot Investor* approach of spending, saving and donating, said it made sense to give back to the hospital after so many visits.

Mum Colette Silva said although it was not a huge amount compared to what others donated, the children had worked hard to reach that milestone.

“They had to collect 500 bottles to make \$50. It’s a big deal if you ask me,” she said.

The recyclable items have been collected from their home, their neighbours’ homes and local businesses that have jumped on board the recycling revolution.

The family visits the Return and Earn container deposit centre fortnightly armed with hundreds of bottles and cans. Their fortnightly highest record is 730 bottles collected.

“All of my children have received care at Liverpool Hospital, on multiple occasions. It made sense for us to give back to the very place that has helped so much,” Mrs Silva said.

Liverpool Hospital General Manager Karen McMenamin said it was wonderful to see residents returning to the Emergency Department.

“Having people come back to say thank you for the care they have received is heart-warming,” she said.