

HOW ARE YOU MAKING A DIFFERENCE

MEET LUCA

Western Sydney, NSW

Luca was born with kidney disease. When he was just a few days old, Luca's nephrologist told his parents he would be on dialysis by the time he was nine – and their prediction was spot on. In 2009, Luca celebrated his ninth birthday in hospital, on kidney dialysis.

Thankfully, Luca's parents were both compatible kidney transplant donors. Luca's dad donated a kidney, and the transplant was successful.

Luca recalls his childhood with kidney disease as an isolating experience. He missed his friends when he was in hospital, and his compromised immune system meant he couldn't do a lot of activities for fear of getting sick.

During this time, Kidney Health Australia supported Luca and his family immensely. Through camps and excursions, Luca created happy childhood memories he still cherishes to this day.

"I was able to make friends with other kids going through the same journey, and create a community who I still keep in touch with," says Luca. "The Es-capers events allowed me experiences I would never have had as a child."

