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New financial relief for cancer patients

THE expenses associated with cancer treatment can be astronomical and any help can be huge for patients, which is why a new deal between Can Assist Tamworth and greenslips.com.au could have a major impact.

Green slips normally cost hundreds of dollars and put a fair dent in the wallet, and unfortunately for many cancer patients its not a cost they can avoid paying with easy access to transport an absolute must-have.

Thankfully for some people who use Can Assist Tamworth, that will no longer be a worry for them after greenslips.com.au agreed to cover the entire cost of the insurance.

Can Assist CEO Emma Phillips said the assistance can have a big impact on people financially, but the emotional help can be immeasurable. "It's much more than the dollar value, it's the emotional support that it provides," she said.

"The first person that this came along to, when he was told the owner of this company was going to pay his green slip, he pulled over on the side of the road and cried."

Can Assist Tamworth secretary Pam Whitney, who is herself a cancer survivor, said the help will be welcomed with open arms by locals.

"You can't live here without a car. If you live on the outskirts of town, there's no way of getting around," she said.

"And it's tough for those who live in towns like Manilla, Barraba or Bingara."

More than 50 people use Can Assist Tamworth, and while they will not all be eligible to have the expense paid, many people will benefit.

- CODY TSAOUSIS