

# ***HOW ARE YOU MAKING A DIFFERENCE***

## ***MEET GRACE***

Stones Corner, South Brisbane

She was diagnosed with Hydronephrosis from inside her mother's womb. At the first pre-natal scan, doctors detected fluid around Grace's kidneys, causing them to operate a few weeks later.

When Grace was born, she was continuously monitored for urological and gynaecological conditions, which together with her kidney issues, has seen Grace in and out of hospital her entire life, having had at least 30 different surgical procedures.

At four years old, Grace received a kidney from her father which she named Nancy. It's now been 17 years since her transplant, and while she has still had her health issues, the kidney is still fighting strong.

Growing up with scars all over her body, Grace has felt the brunt of societal pressure on body image and her self-esteem. It is only now at 21 years old that she has grown to embrace her scars and body and is on a mission to advocate for body positivity in other kids going through kidney disease and operations, particularly girls.

Grace is now a Kidney Health Australia Youth Champion and aims to be someone the younger kids going through kidney disease can look up to and lean on for support – something she would have loved growing up.

