

Liberal Daily

Jeans for Genes Day: Dubbo dons denim for a great cause

Jennifer Hoar



 **BEST FOOT FORWARD:** Tim Koerstz Pharmacy's Karen Howard, Hayley Adams, Candace Holland, Natalie Cummins and Minnie Peisley rocking the denim on Jeans for Genes Day. Photo: JENNIFER HOAR

People across Dubbo donned the denim on Friday to help the one in 20 Australian children born with a birth defect or genetic disease.

Now in its 25th year, Jeans for Genes Day raises funds for the Children's Medical Research Institute to find cures for diseases like metabolic disorders, cancer and autism.

Genetic diseases are one of the leading causes of death in kids under four, and the main cause of ongoing hospitalisation.

The team at Tim Koerstz Pharmacy was among many people in Dubbo to wear jeans for the cause.

“Everyone knows someone who is affected by a genetic disorder,” pharmacist Candace Holland said.

“It’s a good talking point for customers, people come in and say ‘oh! You’ve got your jeans on!’ ... it’s a good way of engaging customers.

“If you have a gold coin, or you want to purchase a pen, there’s even yoyos and headphones this year so get involved. Put your jeans on!”

Did you know?

- **genetic diseases are conditions that are caused, at least in part, by changes in our DNA**
- **there are more than 6000 different genetic diseases**
- **while often inherited, many happen out of the blue due to chance occurrences**
- **genetic diseases are not contagious; they cannot be passed from person to person like the flu**
- **most are poorly understood and have no specific treatments or cures**

For more information, or to donate, visit JeansForGenes.org.au