

# THE IMPACT OF GIVING

Sharing the stories of 2020/2021,  
thanks to you



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Front Cover: RCH patient Tyler Lee (read his story on page 84) on LEAF, a burnished bronze sculpture by Robyne Latham which was a part of RCH150 Aboriginal Art Project (read more on page 12).

Please note the photos that appear in this document were captured over a period of years. All health and safety guidelines were followed in the production of this document.



The RCH Foundation acknowledges and recognises the Wurundjeri people as the Traditional Custodians of the land in which we are located. We respect all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and honour their cultural and spiritual relationships the land and water, and their rich contribution to society.

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2020/2021

# THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

**\$55.4 million raised**

in support of the hospital

**200+**

vital projects supported

**379,693**

Ambulatory appointments



**44,787**

inpatient admissions



**15,023**

surgeries



**80,398**

Emergency Department presentations





Catherine (Sika), age six, was diagnosed with sickle cell anaemia three years ago. Since then, her condition is managed at the RCH and she continues to thrive.

# THANK YOU



Sue Hunt, Chief Executive Officer



Peter Yates AM, Chairman

**Thank you for your support of The Royal Children's Hospital (RCH). In what has been a challenging year for all, we are truly grateful for the immense generosity each and every one of you have provided for sick children and their families.**

It is our privilege to share the scale of your impact across the Melbourne Children's campus. Throughout 2020/2021, you have helped raise over \$55 million, supporting over 200 projects and initiatives.

Philanthropy has enabled patients to receive the best in personalised medicine, provided clinicians with the latest equipment, allowed researchers to invest time into vital studies, and empowered teams to undertake advanced training.

Most importantly, your support has meant that the world leading care sick children rely on never stops, even during a pandemic.

Your generosity has empowered us to prioritise funding for COVID-19 response grants, supporting patients and their families to access vital care safely, both on campus, in their communities and within their own homes.

2020 marked 150 years of the RCH, and we have proudly continued the RCH150 Anniversary celebrations into 2021, including delivering Me and UooUoo: The RCH150 Anniversary Art Trail, shining the spotlight on some of the unsung heroes

of the RCH through the Hospital Heroes Gallery exhibitions, and unveiling two new permanent artworks on campus created by First Nations artists as part of Celebrate. Create. Connect: The RCH150 Aboriginal Art Project. These two remarkable artworks signify our combined commitment to creating culturally safe spaces for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families on campus.

Great care is supported by great leaders, and we acknowledge the leadership of John Stanway, who has retired from his position as Chief Executive Officer of the RCH.

A champion for innovation and change, John has had a tremendous impact in his 15 years on campus and we're incredibly grateful for his support. It is our honour to welcome new Chief Executive Officer Bernadette McDonald, a distinguished leader with a commitment to exceptional patient care. We are looking forward to working together to support the vision of great care, everywhere.

Great care is only possible with your support, and we are committed to making an impact with the funds you generously donate. In this year's Impact of Giving, we have included additional insights into our financial management, including our asset base and investment performance, to provide you a deeper insight into how, through your donations, we're supporting the future of child and adolescent healthcare.

As we look forward, we hope to be able to come together in person once again to acknowledge your impact on campus. 2022 is a significant year for the RCH Foundation community as we mark 100 years of our vibrant Auxiliary network, and we look forward to sharing the centenary celebrations with you.

Thank you once again for your visionary support of the RCH, you're truly impacting the lives of children and their families across Victoria and beyond.

**Sue Hunt**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Peter Yates AM**  
Chairman

# A YEAR OF GREAT CARE

**I'd like to begin by introducing myself as the new Chief Executive Officer at the RCH. Although I have only been in the role for a few months, I have already had the privilege of seeing the life changing impact of your support first hand. On behalf of all the patients, families, and staff at the RCH, thank you for another year of incredible generosity and support.**

Last year, the RCH celebrated its 150th anniversary. While that gave us a wonderful opportunity to reflect on how far we have come as a hospital—and as a community—it also gave us the chance to look towards the future and plan how we can grow as world-leaders in paediatric healthcare.

Thanks to your support, the RCH this year launched the Centre for Health Analytics. The first of its kind in Australia, the Centre will enable the use of data to improve patient care, operations, education and research across the Melbourne Children's Campus. There are four initial projects already underway which will inform future initiatives around the campus, and I very much look forward to seeing where these take us in delivering patient care.

Of course, it's been another challenging year for us all, including our children—which is why I'm proud that this year with our partners we launched the Melbourne Children's Campus Mental Health Strategy. This strategy will develop an integrated program of high quality mental health support for children focussing on early identification and intervention to ensure the best possible health outcomes, as well as improve mental health literacy for carers, staff and the community.

Underpinning everything we do at the RCH is our mission of delivering great care, everywhere. This year, thanks to

your support, we have made important progress in this space by launching our Virtual Care Strategy. Over the next five years, the RCH will continue to drive new, remote ways of caring, linking patients, clinicians and the wider community together to allow patient care to be accessible at home, in the community, as well as in hospital. Ultimately, our vision is to leverage virtual care technology to enable the best care in the best place at the right time.

These are only a few examples of the way philanthropy enables us to deliver care, not just to patients inside the hospital, but into communities and homes across Victoria and Australia. It is a privilege to see how many lives we have changed thanks to the support from the RCH Foundation and their generous community of donors and supporters.

On behalf of everyone here at the RCH, thank you for helping us create one of the best children's hospitals in the world.

**Bernadette McDonald**

Chief Executive Officer,  
The Royal Children's Hospital



Bernadette McDonald, Chief Executive Officer, The RCH

# A MESSAGE FROM THE GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL



Face of the Good Friday Appeal Malu Hunt with Channel 7 news presenter Peter Mitchell, Good Friday Appeal Chairman Penny Fowler and Good Friday Appeal Executive Director Rebecca Cowan

**This year, we celebrated 90 years of the Good Friday Appeal, a significant milestone of the community generously giving to support the RCH.**

Following what had been a challenging 15 months for everyone, we would like to acknowledge and thank the entire community for their incredible support this year. Despite having to adapt, innovate and combine the tried and tested with new ways of fundraising, such as the virtual tin shake, QR codes and new digital platforms, the essence of the Good Friday Appeal remained true. The community came together to raise an extraordinary \$17,122,879.

OVER   
**\$17M**  
raised for the  
90th Good  
Friday Appeal

## Community fundraising returns

It was wonderful to see the return of in-person community fundraising this year. Those who fundraised were creative and innovative, from schools like the Elisabeth Murdoch College, sheep drives, sunflower sales, through to Alexia's magical badge making, there were countless amazing efforts from Victorian's across the state.

Our Area Managers once again provided incredible support regionally along with Uncle Bobs Club and Pied Pipers who harnessed the goodwill of many with their returned intersection collections and door knocking across the State.

We celebrated the Country Fire Authority's (CFA) 70th year of support and saw the return of the brigades rattling tins on fire trucks and standing at traffic lights across Victoria to collect an incredible \$1,028,328.

We are incredibly thankful for the \$656,933 raised by the RCH Auxiliaries throughout Victoria which is especially extraordinary given the challenges faced throughout 2020 and into 2021.

Thank you also to the many individuals for their support in creating COVID-safe fundraising events for the Appeal in our 90th year.

## Our generous partners

In the lead up to Good Friday, Herald Sun and Channel 7 told the stories that mattered. This combined with support from Ace Radio Network, Nova Entertainment and 3AW helped to inspire the community to give.

The telethon on Channel 7 returned with a new innovative broadcast format from midday that entertained viewers into the late evening. The phone room, supported by Telstra, saw thousands of people donate over the phone, continuing this special tradition.

Our corporate partners threw their support behind our 90th Appeal and continued with their fundraising this year, which was inspiring to see following so many events having to be cancelled in 2020.

Long term partners Woolworths, Telstra, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC), Cadbury, Costco, Racing Victoria and Little Athletics demonstrated enormous support along with Mazda, Majestic Caravans and Tempur who supported the raffle as well as new supporters Qatar and Trip a Deal.

**The Charity House returned to an action-packed auction with a record breaking \$903,000 sale. Thanks to the support of Henley and Villawood and all their trades and suppliers.**

Kick for the Kids returned with the North Melbourne and Western Bulldogs game, and new partner, Melbourne Storm, dedicated their match on Good Friday. Run for the Kids partner Transurban donated \$100,000 to the 2021 Appeal after a virtual event once again this year.

For the second year, we thank the Victorian Government for providing an incredible \$2.5million donation ensuring a large number of projects at the RCH can be supported by Appeal funding.

### Thank you

Over the past 90 years our wonderful community has helped raise \$399 million, playing an integral role in helping to create one of the best children's hospitals in the world. This support has impacted the lives of countless children and their families and has helped create a wonderful tradition that has found a special place in all of our hearts.

We are truly grateful for your unwavering commitment and your remarkable generosity in our 90th year.

#### **Penny Fowler**

Chairman, Good Friday Appeal

#### **Rebecca Cowan**

Executive Director, Good Friday Appeal

24   
projects supported  
at the RCH

41,000+  
donations made via  
the telethon phone  
room and  
online on  
Good Friday





UooUoonicorn by Fiona Tweddle and Janie Fearon in Federation Square

# 150 YEARS OF CARE, TRANSFORMING TOMORROW

**In 2020, the RCH marked 150 years of providing world leading care to Victoria's sickest and most vulnerable children.**

The RCH150 program, led by the RCH Foundation and its supporters, sought to honour the hospital's past and set the agenda, spirit, and vision for the future. With the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic brought new opportunities to extend the program beyond 2020, with projects that could be delivered digitally and in person when it was safe to do so.

In 2021, the RCH Foundation held Me and UooUoo: The RCH150 Anniversary Art Trail, unveiled Celebrate. Create. Connect: The RCH150 Aboriginal Art Project artworks and continued the RCH150 Hospital Heroes Gallery exhibition series.

## **Me and UooUoo: The RCH150 Anniversary Art Trail**

Me and UooUoo (pronounced you-you) combined Victoria's renowned passion for the arts and culture with a dash of outdoor adventure and encouraged communities to reconnect with their cities and be active by visiting 100 unique art sculptures.

The concept of UooUoo was created by Alexander Knox, the artist behind the iconic sculpture Creature on Main Street. 100 blank UooUoo sculptures were brought to life by emerging and established Australian artists and sponsored by Victorian businesses and fundraisers.

These strange, colourful creatures popped up in streets, laneways and parks across Melbourne and Geelong, and quickly found their way into the hearts of Victorians and those visiting the state. From January

to April 2021, the Victorian community explored the trail, with over 11,000 users downloading the Me and UooUoo app, with 226,000 sculptures unlocked and 12,500 photos shared along the way.

Me and UooUoo ended with a fantastic Farewell Event in April 2021 at the MCEC where over 3,000 people were welcomed for a final wave goodbye. The UooUoos then went under the hammer at a fundraising auction. An incredible \$867,100 was raised through sales of the UooUoos, which will ensure the RCH can continue to provide world leading care to children now and for generations to come. All 100 UooUoos are now in their forever homes around the state, country, and world.

*Me and UooUoo would not have been possible without the generous support of artists, sponsors, partners, fundraisers, host sites, councils and adventurers - both young and young at heart.*

## \$867,100

raised through the sales of UooUoos



Metruoo by Scott Stuart at Flinders Street Station



TOGETHER by Elizabeth Close and Samantha Roberts



LEAF by Robyne Latham



First Nations  
artists involved  
in The RCH150  
Aboriginal  
Art Project

## Celebrate. Create. Connect: The RCH150 Aboriginal Art Project

Acknowledging First Nations communities was an integral part of the RCH's 150th anniversary. After a nationwide callout for Indigenous artists for the project, the RCH Foundation commissioned two artworks by Yamatji artist Robyne Latham, Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara artist Elizabeth Close and Wurundjeri/Dja Dja Wurrung artist Samantha Roberts. This was made possible through the generosity of Mr Ken Harrison AM KSJ and Mrs Jill Harrison OAM DSJ, Children's Health Partnership and the Debbie Stach Memorial Fund.

On Thursday 27 May 2021, The RCH150 Aboriginal Art Project was officially launched with the unveiling of the artworks as visual recognition that the RCH and the RCH Foundation are committed to being a place where all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are welcome.

TOGETHER by Elizabeth Close and Samantha Roberts is a four-story mural on north facade of the hospital's building at 48 Flemington Road and is inspired by the connection to country, culture, community, place and space that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have, as well as the impact this has on wellness.

LEAF by Robyne Latham is a burnished-bronze sculpture residing in the Northern Court of the hospital, creating a space of cultural inclusion within the hospital gardens.

**"It is important that we acknowledge the integral roles Indigenous people have played in the history of our country and ensure that we maintain respect and inclusion across our services so that we can improve the health and wellbeing of our entire community,"** said Sue Hunt, Chief Executive Officer, the RCH Foundation.

To bring the project to life, the RCH Foundation was guided by a dedicated committee of Indigenous leaders, co-chaired by Aunty Joy Murphy AO, Senior Wurundjeri Elder, and N'arweet Dr Carolyn Briggs AM, Senior Boonwurrung Elder.

## Hospital Heroes Gallery

The Hospital Heroes Gallery exhibition series captured the unsung heroes that make the RCH one of the world's leading paediatric hospitals. The gallery featured a rotating physical exhibition located at the southern end of Main Street at the RCH, complemented with a digital experience online. Visitors had the opportunity to learn more about the pioneering medical minds, the passionate fundraisers and the incredible staff who, over the past 150 years, have all helped the RCH to become the great hospital it is today.

The first exhibition, Fundamental Foundations, showcased members of the dedicated support team who work tirelessly behind the scenes each day to ensure that the intricacies of the hospital's operations are seamless, playing an integral role in allowing the RCH to provide the best possible care to patients and families.

The online exhibition Clinical Excellence was a special collaboration with RCH Archives and Collections that uncovered extraordinary archival content of the people who helped pave the way to a brighter future for paediatric healthcare.

To coincide with the Good Friday Appeal, A Legacy of Giving celebrated 90 years of the much loved campaign, with half the gallery focusing on important individuals and groups of its past, and the other half highlighting supporters who make the Good Friday Appeal so special today.

Outreach showcased the impact of the RCH beyond its walls, celebrating those who have made a positive impact on the lives of children and their families regionally, nationally, and internationally through research, innovative programs and community services.

Raising the Bar celebrated the dedicated network of volunteers, fundraisers and charitable organisations who play a vital role in enabling the hospital to provide the very best care to sick children.

The final gallery, Impact, shone the spotlight on those at the centre of everything that is done at the RCH - the patients. This exhibition profiled some of the cheeky, vibrant, and ambitious patients who have been impacted by the incredible care, expertise and research at the RCH.

The Hospital Heroes Gallery was made possible with the generous support of BankVic.



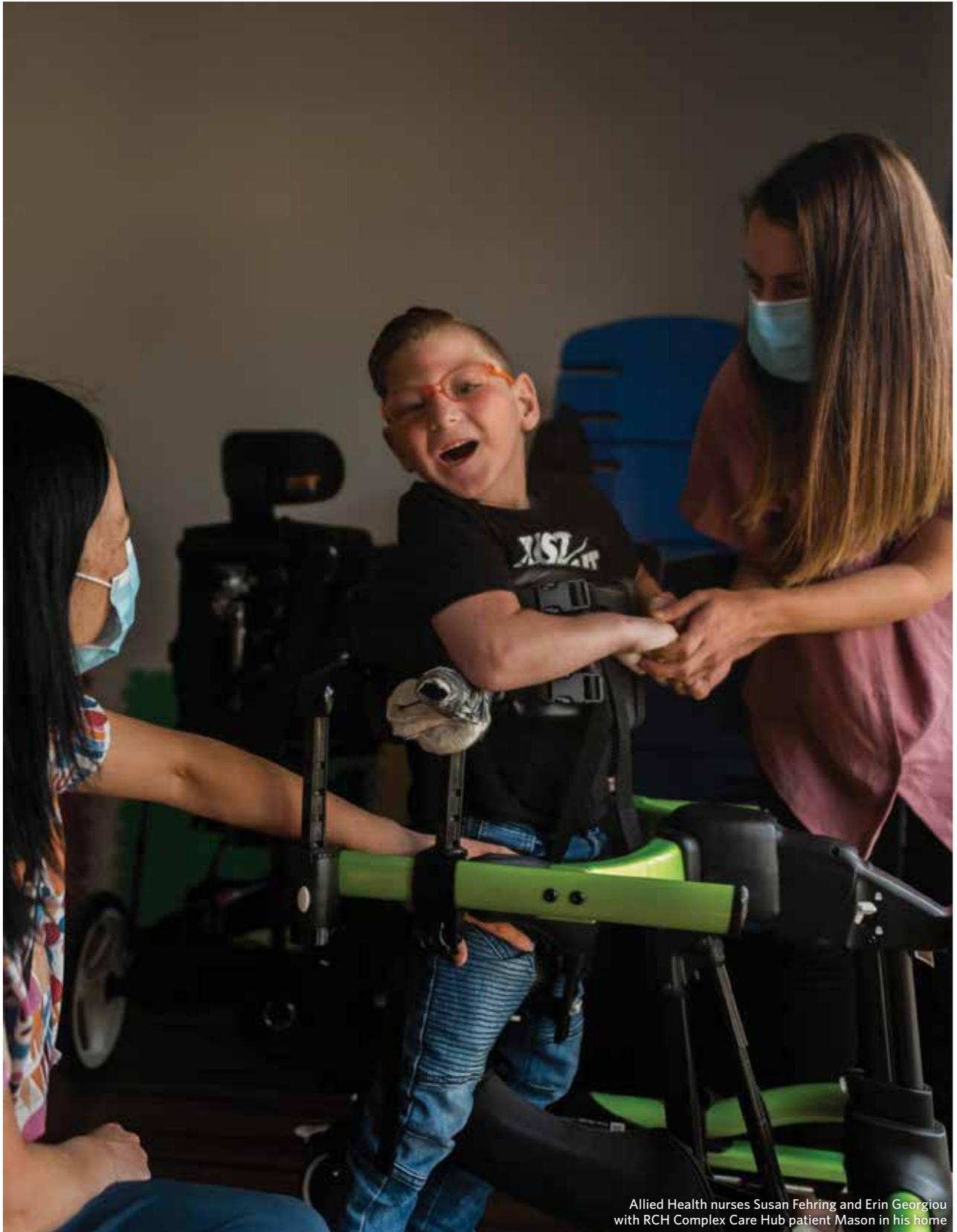
6 galleries showcased online and at the RCH



RCH patient Akeira Somphanpanya with the first Hospital Heroes Gallery, Fundamental Foundations



# LEADING THE WAY

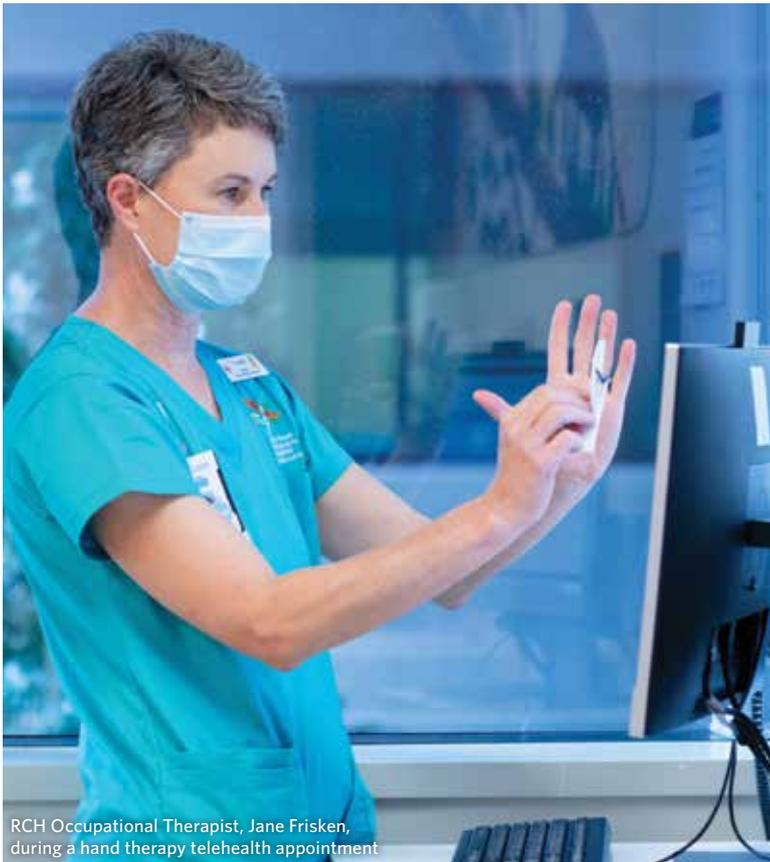


Allied Health nurses Susan Fehring and Erin Georgiou with RCH Complex Care Hub patient Mason in his home



The impact of COVID-19 response

# ADAPTING AND INNOVATING FOR PATIENT CARE



RCH Occupational Therapist, Jane Frisken, during a hand therapy telehealth appointment

their families and our staff,” said Jane Miller, Chief Operating Officer at the RCH.

It is thanks to your support that the RCH has been in the best possible position to take on this challenge. Through philanthropic funding, specialists at the RCH have developed a better understanding of the impacts of COVID-19 on patients and are working hard to ensure that teams across the hospital are able to deliver the best possible care to patients both in hospital, in their communities and closer to home.

**It has long been a vision at the RCH that the future of paediatric healthcare is beyond the four walls of the hospital and thanks to the unique situation induced by the COVID-19 pandemic, and boosted through your support, the RCH has been able to truly test that vision.**

Through your generous support, the hospital has been able to deliver the vision of great care, everywhere. From giving patients with high risk respiratory conditions access to care in the comfort of their own home via telehealth, to training hospital teams and general practitioners (GPs) across the state, and piloting an innovative virtual care approach, the RCH has remained committed to providing world leading care for patients.

## Great respiratory care everywhere in the post COVID-19 era

High risk and complex respiratory patients with conditions like cystic fibrosis and primary ciliary dyskinesia will now be able to access at home care, based on practises initiated and refined during the COVID-19 pandemic. By equipping patients with their own spirometers, and connecting them

**The COVID-19 pandemic has presented unprecedented challenges across campus. Over the past two years, the RCH has had to adapt and change the way it cares for patients and their families to ensure that world leading patient care doesn't stop.**

“COVID-19 has altered all of our lives, including the life of the RCH. Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have had to reimagine the services that we provide to children and young people across Victoria and beyond to ensure the safety of our patients,



# 70,924

consultation hours via the Healthdirect Video Call platform

with clinicians via telehealth appointments, respiratory patients can have some of their outpatient reviews done in home. A spirometer is a portable device that features a mouthpiece for patients to breathe into. It evaluates how well their lungs are working in real time. Clinicians at the RCH can use this to complete tests remotely and obtain detailed lung function data in a telehealth setting, thereby reducing the risk of infection a patient may experience by attending a busy outpatient clinic. Overall, the program will lead to better patient outcomes.

### Allied Health and Nursing Education Outreach Program

First established in 2016, the Allied Health and Nursing Education Outreach Program is an innovative education and training model that upskills hospital teams and GPs across the state. With courses covering a range of specialised paediatric care models, the program is led by RCH clinicians and supports regional and rural patients by providing access to care closer to home. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the program offered a hybrid model of face to face and online teaching, but as the pandemic progressed, the program pivoted online and now utilises a flexible approach of education including varying session lengths from 45 minutes up to a full day to maximise personal development leave for staff, as well as weekend, evening, and repeat sessions. Between March and December 2020, over 2,400 allied health staff and nursing clinicians from 250 different hospitals and clinics accessed the program, which will allow children and their families to have access to the best paediatric care as close to home as possible.

### RCH Virtual Care Strategy

Developed in response to global recognition that virtual care can improve both access to patient care and patient outcomes, the RCH Virtual Care Strategy is a multi-year program that will allow the hospital to deliver remote and integrated paediatric care beyond the four walls of the RCH, and ensure patients can access RCH quality care no matter where they are based. With telehealth already making a significant impact on improving access to care, the first stage of this program is to explore new technology, devices and innovative models of care that are conducive to the virtual care approach. This includes paediatric approved patient devices that can be used in the home, platforms to allow better shared care with other health services across the state, integrations to allow data to be fed back into the hospital's Electronic Medical Record (EMR) from outside the hospital, as well as technology to improve digital care coordination and health education. This will prepare the hospital for the next two stages of the project, which each pilot remote patient monitoring.

As the RCH continues to collaborate, innovate, and advocate for great care everywhere, it is the continued support of philanthropy that will allow them to achieve that vision.

**"Without the support of philanthropy, we would not be able to kickstart visionary, and truly ground-breaking developments across the hospital," said Professor Sarath Ranganathan, Director of Respiratory Medicine at the RCH.**



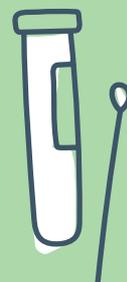
131,974

appointments were delivered via telehealth

That's almost 50% of all appointments

110,978

COVID-19 tests processed at the RCH laboratory



The impact of

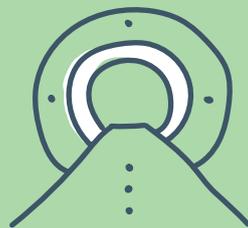
# EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY



The RCH Foundation supports the purchase of life changing equipment specifically designed for children and adolescents.

Thanks to our donors, the following initiatives were supported in 2020/2021:

Ensuring patients can continue to **access the latest technology in medical imaging** through the operation of the magnetic resonance positron emission tomography machine (MR PET)



Improving the quality of life of burns patients with **new laser technology** which can dramatically improve the appearance of scars and allow for greater range of movement

**Improving testing facilities** for the Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia Diagnostic Service which will allow newer reported forms of the condition to be identified

**Upgrading technology** to enhance the performance of Laboratory Services

Providing **community services for patients with developmental disabilities**

Implementing **new automated X-ray radiation tracking software**, which centrally monitors patients' lifetime radiation exposure at the RCH



**Upgrading technology to ensure effective multidisciplinary collaboration** to enhance the care of cancer patients at the RCH and across the state

Supporting cardiology patients in rural centres in Victoria, NSW and Tasmania with a **portable echocardiography machine**

Enhancing facilities and services on campus to increase patient access through the provision of **equipment for the medical consulting suites**

Providing new **nasendoscopes devices** for the examination of infants and children with airway and swallowing problems

Providing **educational resources that focus on respectful relationships** for vulnerable and traumatised young people

Enhancing patient care by providing **treatment chairs which allow for easy transportation** in emergency situations

Placing staff and families in closer contact with critically ill babies with **new radiant and hybrid infant warmers**

Improving accuracy and safety during cranial and spinal procedures with **advanced imaging and intraoperative equipment**

Improving the accuracy and safety of complex spinal surgeries with a **mobile 3D imaging system**

Providing **state of the art anaesthesia machines** and patient monitoring systems

Enhancing the digital process capabilities of the Anatomical Pathology Department of Laboratory Services with a **new transmission electron microscope tilting stage and digital camera**



# \$6,513,572

invested in equipment and technology in 2020/2021



# 31

grants for equipment and technology

Upgrading medical equipment used for monitoring patients' vital signs and the medication used for general anaesthesia in the magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanner

Improving medical imaging technology with the installation of highly specialised computerized tomography (CT) machines, to provide more precise information and clearly identify problems

Assisting in the strengthening and functional training for children with spinal cord injuries and acquired brain injuries with a portable stimulation device

Providing a wheelchair training ramp for wheelchair balance training



Ensuring safer and more effective treatments for patients through the intraoperative MRI system (IMRIS)

Utilising new genetic testing technology for childhood tumours to obtain faster diagnosis and to guide specific treatments



Improving outcomes for the most vulnerable patients at the RCH through the purchase of peristaltic pumps to provide safe and effective intravenous nutrition

Providing vital and cutting edge medical equipment to deliver excellent care



Investigating the exercise capacity of adult survivors of repaired congenital heart disease to find interventions for children with the disease

Upgrading the Cardiology Department's imaging reporting and archiving system to ensure ongoing capability

Assessing hearing in infants and children with specialised diagnostic equipment

Developing a new model of care for the hospital's high risk respiratory patients utilising safer and more efficient ways of assessing lung health in the home environment



Ensuring premature or underweight babies with eye disease continue to receive the best care with a new retinal camera

Ensuring the continuity of care for patients at home during COVID-19 with respiratory support machines



The impact of equipment and technology

# ADVANCING BRAIN SURGERY THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

**The brain is the most complex organ in our body, and it takes a highly trained set of medical minds, specialised tools and equipment to take care of it if anything goes wrong. Luckily for patients at the RCH, the neurosurgery team and their operation suite is one of the best in the world thanks to the support of the community through the Good Friday Appeal.**

When you walk into the neurosurgical operating theatre, the first thing you notice is the large warning signs alerting you to the presence of incredibly strong magnets, and a suite of tools, scopes, screens, and scanners adorning the walls and roof.

**This suite of advanced equipment has been made possible thanks to the generous contribution the community has made to the Good Friday Appeal across the past 10 years, which has allowed the neurosurgical team to have the latest technology available.**

In 2011, donated funds allowed the RCH to purchase an IMRIS making it the first paediatric hospital in Australia to have this advanced technology. The IMRIS is suspended from the ceiling and stored behind large doors in the theatre, and can be moved into surgery when needed. Having this technology on hand means surgeons can undertake scans before, during and after surgery, and patients don't need to be taken out of theatre. This allows for a more efficient and accurate surgical operations.

Another exciting upgrade provided by Good Friday Appeal in 2019 was the comprehensive intraoperative craniospinal navigation, an inbuilt ceiling mounted system with mobile navigation and ultrasound attachment which allows for 3D imaging of a patient's brain for precise brain mapping and operation planning.

This suite, in conjunction with skilled medical imaging scientists, neurosurgeons and their surgical teams has ensured precise and accurate brain surgery for thousands of



Alison Wray with the comprehensive intraoperative craniospinal navigation ultrasound attachment

children with complex brain disorders such as epilepsy, brain tumours or brain injuries.

Alison Wray is Director of Neurosurgery at the RCH and has a passion for helping patients and families through some of the most stressful and difficult times in their lives, which is often made easier thanks to the suite of advanced equipment she has at her fingertips.

**"I always say that no family ever really wants to meet me because when they do, they are at a time of crisis. Despite that, I try to help them through it and it's rewarding to be able to offer our clinical expertise complemented by the most advanced technology available," said Alison.**

Alison and her team aim to make a child's number of surgeries as minimal as possible through extensive surgical pre-planning.

"The neuroimaging analysis pre-surgery and its integration with our operating technology means we try, in as many cases as possible, to provide a complete solution for the child at their first and definitive operation," said Alison.

"Without the capable people behind the equipment, it would be good, not great. The role of neuroscientists who conduct advanced neuroimaging analysis make sure we fully utilise what the technology is capable of in surgery," said Alison.

Dr Joseph Yang is the Clinical Research Fellow in Paediatric Neurosurgery and the lead scientist for the Neuroscience Advanced Clinical Imaging Service (NACIS) at the RCH. For the past 10 years, Joseph has been researching the integration of MRI techniques known as "tractography" into neurosurgical procedures. Having dedicated research time and the opportunity to translate his work into the clinical space is thanks to the support of generous donors who funded his fellowship, including Di and Neville Bertalli and Evan Dwyer.

Joseph and his team at NACIS use sophisticated imaging modelling to produce a detailed map of a child's brain arteries and nerve fibre tracts which control functions like language, vision and movement. This map is uploaded into the comprehensive

intraoperative craniospinal navigation system pre-surgery so Alison and her team can precisely plan their operations.

"Using the model, we can pre-plan the surgery and see what path we can take to reach the abnormal area and remove it without disrupting any functions. The preoperative technology also allows us to view this map as a 3D model during surgery," said Alison.

When a neurosurgery patient is in theatre and under anaesthesia, the IMRIS can be brought in to scan the brain and to match the virtual model with the real brain to create what Alison describes as "a GPS navigation system" to perform precise and accurate surgery. The additional ultrasound function also allows for another view of the brain, which provides live feedback into the system and updates the map.

**Prior to this technology, if the brain abnormality could not be identified from the standard MRI, a patient would need to spend a week in hospital with electrodes on their brain for testing to find the source of the seizure.**

"Without the confidence this technology and the accurate imaging techniques it provides, we would not operate until we knew we wouldn't damage any critical functions," said Alison.

No other paediatric hospital in Australia has the complete suite of neurosurgical equipment and therefore access to the most advanced technology available.

"We are grateful for government funding of the hospital, but it doesn't allow us to take things to the next level, to integrate research into our practice so we make the most of the best technology available. This is all thanks to philanthropic support and the support of the community that allows us to perform as a team at the top tier."

On average,  
the surgical suite  
of equipment  
is used

18

times  
a month



7



neurosurgeons  
at the RCH  
(3 in training)



## The impact of equipment and technology

# MEET JOE



Joe on his last day in PICU

After being taken for an MRI scan, Naomi and Evan were told Joe needed immediate brain surgery. They waited through the afternoon and into the evening as Joe's surgery went on. Finally, at 1am Joe's neurosurgeon Dr Patrick Lo came out to see them.

"He's alive," Patrick reassured them. "But you should prepare for a long stay".

Joe had suffered a haemorrhage of an arteriovenous malformation also known as a tangle of abnormal blood vessels in his brain, and at this early stage it wasn't known if he'd have permanent damage.

Over the next week, Joe remained in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) and underwent two further surgeries where Patrick used the latest technology available to conduct delicate and accurate brain surgery, including the IMRIS and intraoperative craniospinal navigation system, generously funded by the community through the Good Friday Appeal.

"Patrick described his first operation to remove the blood vessel tangle as 'war' surgery. In the final surgery, he went in with a comprehensive map of Joe's brain to check every blood vessel, which was very successful," said Evan.

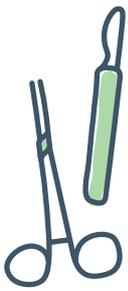
This comprehensive mapping was the work of Dr Joseph Yang, Clinical Research Fellow in Paediatric Neurosurgery and the lead scientist for the NACIS at the RCH. With generous community support, for the past 10 years, Joseph has been researching the integration of MRI techniques known as "tractography" into neurosurgical procedures. This has ensured the skilled neurosurgeons using neurosurgical equipment are guided by the latest research.

With his surgeries complete, Joe was transferred from PICU to Cockatoo, the neurological and rehabilitation ward where he stayed for a further two weeks. At this stage Joe had a left side deficit which affected his eyesight, arm and leg movement. Evan and Naomi credit Joe's extensive care team for his steady improvement.

**After suffering a serious brain injury, 11 year old Joe Dwyer's life was placed in the hands of the RCH's skilled neurosurgeons. Luckily for Joe, they were using the most advanced neurosurgical technology available.**

Joe's day started out like any other, with parents Naomi and Evan dropping him off at primary school one March morning. While playing cricket with his friends during lunch, Joe started getting a headache and took himself to sick bay. When he arrived, his condition changed rapidly. He felt disoriented and began vomiting uncontrollably. An ambulance was called and Joe was rushed to the RCH Emergency Department.

3 neurosurgeries at the RCH



“After the stay in PICU, I remember Joe saying ‘this is like camping in a really bad place with really lovely people’, which was definitely true. The neurosurgery team, the nurses, doctors, allied health staff, social work team were just phenomenal and provided minute by minute support,” said Evan.

After a further two weeks, Joe was able to go home to his family, but remains an outpatient with regular physio and occupational therapy appointments.

“After we left hospital, we thought of ways we could thank the team and the hospital for saving Joe’s life. By getting in touch with the RCH Foundation we found out that Joseph’s research needed additional funding, so we are supporting his work as the Clinical Research Fellow in Paediatric Neurosurgery,” said Evan.

Six months on from the incident, no one could pick that Joe spent a month in hospital with a serious brain injury.

“When Joe was lying in PICU we never thought we’d get to this stage, but Joe is back to his energetic self. Each day he gets stronger and stronger, both mentally and physically. Two months after the incident, Joe was back part time to school, and six months later he is now back to learning full time,” said Evan.



**7 days**  
spent in PICU



Joe back to his energetic self six months after his hospital stay

The impact of

# LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION AND TRAINING



The RCH Foundation provides funding for academic leadership, scholarship and fellowship positions, education programs and training opportunities for staff. This ensures that patients now and into the future have access to the world's best brightest medical minds.

Thanks to our donors, the following initiatives were supported in 2020/2021:

Continuing support for an Education Hub on the campus to **increase collaboration and enhance the delivery and use of technology**

Enhancing care for children with cancer through the **development of clinical and supportive care** in the Children's Cancer Centre

Continuing support for the Neurodevelopment and Disability teams to **continue training to improve the care of disabled children**

Undertaking investigations into opportunities to diversify and expand revenue streams via the **commercialisation of RCH intellectual property**

Embedding allied health research into clinical practice on the campus by **building allied health research capacity, promoting allied health research leadership and providing mentorship** to improve child health

Leading the delivery of specialised paediatric care across the state through the **Education Outreach Program for allied health and nursing professionals**



Upgrading the **Clinical Practice Guidelines app and website** to enhance the user experience and ensure content remains up to date



Developing an **organisational wide program to build a positive workplace culture**

Supporting the Children's Bioethics Centre to **provide clinical ethics services** across the RCH campus

**Integrating art as a key tool for learning** through the funding of the Art Education Program

Developing a **robust Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) program** to enhance care at a patient's bedside



Optimising medication safety and patient care for palliative patients through the **support of a dedicated pharmacist**

Creating a dynamic program of **curated outcomes featuring archival content** from the RCH over 150 years

# \$14,182,371

invested in leadership, education and training in 2020/2021



# 22

grants for leadership, education and training

Developing the **Centre for Health Analytics to support the shared vision of campus partners** to become an internationally leading paediatric centre in the use of health data to improve all aspects of care, operations and research



Supporting an **education officer to coordinate the educational activities** of the Children's Bioethics Centre

Delivering an **ongoing education and professional development program** for allied health and nursing staff



Enabling the **upskilling of staff in early childhood intervention** through access to professional development

Updating the existing medication library data to provide a **new type of safety check in intravenous drug administration**

Ongoing **support for a teacher to ensure learning continues** for patients of the Children's Cancer Centre

Promoting **excellence in patient care, safe clinical practice and education for RCH campus staff and community healthcare workers** through exposure to simulation



Delivering **leadership development programs** for senior RCH staff



# 30

staff  
involved in  
the Trans20  
study

The impact of leadership, education and training

# LEADING THE WAY IN TRANSGENDER HEALTHCARE

**As the demand for specialised healthcare continues to grow for transgender young people, Associate Professor Michelle Telfer and Associate Professor Ken Pang are leading the way with vital research to benefit patients through the Trans20 study.**

Being gender diverse, including identifying as transgender, is when a person has a gender identity that differs from the sex they were assigned at birth. Many transgender young people experience gender dysphoria, which is the medical term that describes the distress in identifying as another gender. In Australia, societal attitudes to gender diversity have become more understanding, however there remains stigma and discrimination, particularly for young people. Australian data shows 80 per cent of transgender young people self-harm and 48 per cent attempt suicide before the age of 24.

In 2003, the RCH received their first request from a transgender young person to support them and provide medical care relating to their gender identity. Since that time, demand for care has significantly increased, with 473 referrals in 2020. With the support of the RCH Foundation, the Gender Service was established in 2012, led by Associate Professor Michelle Telfer, Director of Adolescent Medicine. The Gender Service provides holistic, family centred care through a multidisciplinary team of clinicians from across the hospital.

In 2017, the Trans20 study was formed as the first comprehensive longitudinal study of transgender and gender diverse children and young people in Australia.

**“As a relatively new area of healthcare, there are important knowledge gaps to address to ensure our clinical work is as safe and effective as possible,”** said Ken, lead on the Trans20 study.



The Trans20 study team L-R: Sam Hay, Associate Professor Michelle Telfer, Katherine Murfitt, Associate Professor Ken Pang and Dr Michelle Tollit

“Between 2017 and 2020 we developed the study cohort of 630 patients and families from the Gender Service who we’ll follow up over 20 years to obtain long term data. We hope that by asking personal questions, we’re going to get significant information back to help transgender young people not just in Victoria, but across the country and internationally,” said Michelle.

Data for the Trans20 study is collected through online surveys sent to patients and families before assessment, then at regular intervals throughout their care. Questions focus on gender identity, mental health, physical health, quality of life, education, and family functioning.

Responses from the surveys are integrated into the research database, then any clinically relevant information goes into the patient’s EMR so clinicians can use it to improve care for patients.

**“The Gender Service combines our clinical expertise, research expertise as well as our work in education and advocacy to provide comprehensive care. It has been recognised internationally because of that integration and our ability to lead the way as Ken has done with the Trans20 study,” said Michelle.**

This study has been made possible through the generosity of fundraisers Friends of Transcend, and The Hugh D.T. Williamson Foundation who fund two research positions, The Hugh D.T. Williamson Foundation Trans20 Principal Research Fellow, held by Ken, and The Hugh D.T. Williamson Foundation Trans20 Research Fellow, shared by Dr Michelle Tollit and Dr Carmen Pace.

Ken has been involved in the Gender Service since 2015, having moved from immunology and genomics research to transgender healthcare research to make an impact on patient care. Being named The Hugh D.T. Williamson Foundation Trans20 Principal Research Fellow means Ken has dedicated research time to lead the Trans20 study while continuing his patient-facing work at the Gender Service.

“Receiving The Hugh D.T. Williamson Foundation Trans20 Principal Research Fellowship was crucial in allowing me

to continue my research in transgender health. By funding these positions, the RCH Foundation and its supporters play a pivotal role in translating ground-breaking research into the hospital’s excellent clinical care across campus,” said Ken.

In July 2021, research findings using the Trans20 data was released to international acclaim. The research focused on outcomes before and after the Gender Service established an innovative clinic to manage its growing waitlist, known as First Assessment Single Session Triage (FASST).

The study found the FASST clinic reduced specialist wait times by 10 months and led to improvements in rates of depression and anxiety for trans young people.

“Our research findings on the FASST clinic received extensive media interest in Australia and internationally. It is just one example of the Trans20 data coming to fruition,” said Ken.

“Many other transgender health services are facing long waitlists – in some cases several years – and these findings will hopefully provide a model of care for others to help deal with this.”

Michelle and Ken credit the RCH Foundation and generous supporters like The Hugh D.T. Williamson Foundation and fundraisers Friends of Transcend for making these research outcomes possible.

**“Without philanthropic support there wouldn’t be a Trans20 study. As an ambitious longitudinal study, getting funding can be difficult. This year we were able to leverage this support to attract further funding through the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) but that would never have happened without initial philanthropic support,” said Ken.**

“We are grateful to the RCH Foundation who have stood beside us, enabling us to do this research to build an evidence base for what we’re doing,” said Michelle.

Led by Ken, Michelle and their team, the insights and evidence gathered through Trans20 has the power to transform the experience of transgender young people and improve their long term physical and mental outcomes now and into the future.

OVER

5



other organisations contributing to the Trans20 study

630

patients and families enrolled in the Trans20 study





## The impact of leadership, education and training

# MEET MAC



Mac Zamani

**18 year old Mac Zamani has been a patient at the RCH Gender Service for the past five years. He credits their incredible care and support as the reason why he is a proud voice for transgender youth.**

In primary school, everyone knew Mac as a 'tomboy'. He loved being a part of scouts, where he'd go camping, hiking, and learn practical skills with friends. He also enjoyed going to his primary school, which promoted self-directed learning and an open environment.

"My primary school offered alternative learning to traditional primary schools, they didn't care that I wore the boy's uniform, hung out with the boys and did stereotypical guy things. Everyone called me a 'tomboy'," said Mac.

It wasn't until the end of primary school that Mac began considering gender roles and his own identity.

"When you're 12 years old, you're learning about puberty and becoming a woman and the gender expectations ramp up. To me it didn't feel right," said Mac.

"It wasn't until I started high school that I began a journey of discovery. I started thinking about why I had a disconnect with womanhood and why I didn't relate to other girls."

It was at this point that Mac identified as male. He initially told a close friend but waited a further six months before telling his parents and others.

**"I had it all planned out about how I'd tell them, but I ended up just crying non-stop. However, my parents took it really well and were very accepting," said Mac.**

"I was so scared because other examples in society of trans people coming out were negative, and I had been struggling with my mental health for a few years so this was possibly the reason for it. That was five years ago, now there's a lot more positive stories."

Mac attended a conservative Christian high school and was its first openly transgender student. His teachers were also supportive, but there were still many hoops to jump through to get recognition.

The week Mac came out, his mum Ann started researching to find more information and support services. Mac joined a local HeadSpace LBGTQIA+ support group which he credits as a big part of his life and a significant support network at the start of his journey. Ann also found out about the RCH Gender Service and got a referral for Mac when he was 13.

Due to demand, Mac waited eight months before he could be seen by a clinical nurse consultant from the FASST Clinic. The clinic had just completed its trial period, and Mac was one of the first young people to be part of the official triage process.

**“The triage appointment was incredibly helpful, going through my history, mental health, my support network, names, pronouns and gender identity. It was the first time having a conversation like that with an adult that was so normal about it, they knew more about trans related issues than me, which was cool,” said Mac.**

With support systems in place, Mac waited a further six months before he became a patient of the Gender Service with Associate Professor Ken Pang as his lead paediatrician.

Over the past five years, through the care of the Gender Service, Mac has been able to address his gender dysphoria with gender affirming care, including psychologist support, speech therapy sessions to help lower his voice, testosterone hormone therapy and finally, booking in for his upcoming top surgery.

Mac is also enrolled in the Trans20 study, the first comprehensive longitudinal study of transgender and gender diverse children and young people in Australia. Before his first Gender Service appointment, and then at regular intervals every year, Mac and his parents fill out a comprehensive survey to understand his physical, mental and social outcomes.

**“I wanted to be involved in the Trans20 study because it is important for the next generation of trans and gender diverse young people to know what their future can look like. Currently there isn’t enough information around long term outcomes which also has resulted in a lot of misconception. So it was important for me to be part of the solution,” said Mac.**

“In the survey, certain questions are asked each year and include your previous year’s response. It’s both a reflective and refreshing experience to see how things have changed and how far I’ve come each year. It is also helpful because when I’m struggling, the survey

is a non-confrontational way of starting a conversation about additional support with the team.”

Mac is nearing the end of his time with the Gender Service, and his future is looking bright. Next year he’ll finish high school and will be referred to an adult endocrinologist for any ongoing care needs. Mac has dreams of working as an occupational therapist specialising in trans youth and will continue his work in trans and disability advocacy.

**“I’m passionate about advocacy, so I’m involved in focus groups, three advisory groups and I’ve been accepted into a leadership program where I’ll help run programs for trans youth. The future holds lots of exciting opportunities,” said Mac.**

Mac also has this message to other young transgender people: “There are people out there who truly love and accept you and there is support here for you. Starting medical transition isn’t the start of being trans, you being you is enough.”



**5 years**  
with the  
Gender Service



Mac Zamani and Fel Andronicou

The impact of

# PATIENT AND FAMILY CENTRED CARE



The RCH Foundation wholly supports the hospital's philosophy of using and developing innovative models of patient and family centred care. This ensures that patients receive the very best care, and that their families are recognised as instrumental in the process and included each step of the way.

Thanks to our donors, the following initiatives were supported in 2020/2021:

Establishing the RCH as a leader in **neuromuscular care through the support of the Neuromuscular Program** within the Neurology Department

Providing a paediatrician in the **Neurofibromatosis Clinic which cares for patients with genetic disorders** that cause tumors to form on nerve tissue

**Supporting burns patients and their families**, and educating staff on specialised treatment with a dedicated burns nurse coordinator

Supporting an administration position within the Neuromuscular Clinic to help **streamline appointments for patients with muscular dystrophy**

Providing **care to children with diabetes** with a dedicated complication screening nurse

**Assisting in the bonding of new mothers** and their children through the Mother Goose Program



**Coordinating the care of complex patients with movement disorders** including dystonia with a multidisciplinary team and improving quality of life with the development of a Deep Brain Stimulation Program

**Ensuring the support and wellbeing of liver transplant patients** and their families



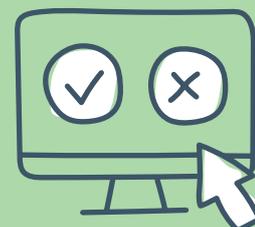
**Building resilience and support for adolescent patients** through music therapy

Enabling the **upskilling and further education for RCH Consumer Representative** volunteers

Support for an **endocrinology nurse position** who cares for patients with disorders related to hormonal dysfunction or physical development

Enhancing targeted therapies for children undergoing cancer treatment through the **appointment of a molecular oncologist** within the Children's Cancer Centre

Developing an online questionnaire and educational resources **helping parents become more knowledgeable about eczema management**



# \$12,987,244

invested in patient and family centred care in 2020/2021



# 65

grants for patient and family centred care

Helping cancer patients with **liquid tumours** access clinical trials with the liquid tumour study coordinator in the Children's Cancer Centre

Providing **creative outlets for children undergoing cancer treatment** with the Art Therapy Program in the Children's Cancer Centre

Utilising clinical psychologists in a **new model of care to support the mental wellbeing** of patients, families and staff in the PICU

Supporting positive engagement in live RCH TV programs that **empower patients to cope better during their hospital experience**

Helping more children with brain cancer to **access novel treatment through clinical trials**

Supporting the care of patients requiring anticoagulation medication with a **dedicated anticoagulation lead**

Developing comprehensive video resources that **educate laboratory technicians and families about sweat testing**

Providing ketogenic diabetic services to **support patients with intractable epilepsy**

Supporting the **National Intestinal Transplant Service**

**Measuring parental attitudes, experiences and priorities on health issues and trends** for Australian children to inform public discussion and promote RCH leadership with the RCH National Child Health Poll

Establishing Australia's first dedicated apheresis service to **support patients across the RCH including those undergoing stem cell transplants, leukaemia and assisting with the management of organ rejection** following transplantation

Coordinating a **complex care and transition program for patients with epidermolysis bullosa**, a group of rare and debilitating genetic conditions that result in blistering of the skin and mucous membranes

**Improving clinical outcomes** for children with infectious diseases

Providing **social work support for children and families** in the Children's Cancer Centre

Ensuring patients who are critically ill and require feeding via a tube receive **the best coordinated care with the Clinical Nutrition Program**

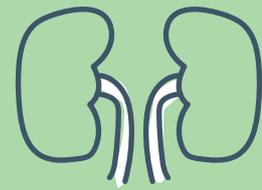


Developing IV medication procedures to **improve the safety of children in the PICU**

Studying patient, family, clinician and administration experiences around the rapid implementation of telehealth within the Neuromuscular Clinic during COVID-19

Providing a safe, welcoming space and dedicated healthcare and support for indigenous families on campus through the Wadja Aboriginal Family Place

Supporting children with kidney disease through clinical research programs in genomics, congenital and chronic kidney diseases, dialysis and renal transplantation



Creating further clinical positions within the Children's Cancer Centre to support the Comfort First Program, which aims to reduce pain and distress associated with cancer treatments

Improving outcomes for children with heart disease by increasing access to clot busting treatments and the implementation of state-wide protocols to rapidly diagnose stroke

Providing ongoing care to families who have transitioned out of Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU) with follow up sessions to track the progress of their child's mental development and identify issues for treatment

Resourcing, training and project funding for mental health programs to ensure RCH is delivering best quality and accessible mental health care for patients and families across the campus

Providing holistic care and management for children with complex colorectal conditions by coordinating services and teams across the RCH

Providing cancer patients and families with practical and emotional support during inpatient stays or visits to the Children's Cancer Centre

Improving care for children with multiple sclerosis and other demyelinating disorders with a dedicated clinic and multidisciplinary team

Providing immediate financial assistance to families experiencing significant hardship as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic

Providing positive procedural support and experiences for patients through educational child life therapy



Enhancing patient access and reducing wait times in the Emergency Department with the RAPID model of care

Engaging and empowering families in the care of their newborn in the NICU with the COCOON model of care

Enhancing and expanding the technological capabilities of the RCH to provide virtual care services to patients at the hospital and in the community

Improving care for patients requiring brain scans by providing a dedicated neuroscientist to perform advanced image processing

Ensuring children from regional areas can access services closer to home by educating and upskilling clinicians in regional centres on paediatric care

Coordinating psychosocial support and resources for children, adolescents and their families with disorders or differences of sex development

Continuing to provide therapeutic groupwork in the community to children and families who display challenging behaviours or have a history of family violence

Reducing distress and anxiety experienced by children and adolescents receiving cancer treatment with dedicated Comfort First clinicians in the Children's Cancer Centre

Supporting patient outreach with transport funding



Enhancing patient experiences with the development of the Music Therapy Program in the Children's Cancer Centre, PICU, Cardiac and Palliative Care Units

Improving clinical care in the RCH Social Work Department and **supporting patients and their families experiencing family violence**

**Converting consultation rooms into oncology treatment rooms** to optimise resources and provide appropriate care to cancer patients

Providing **additional resources for the RCH Garden Program**, which works to diminish the negative effects of hospitalisation, provide supportive garden environments that encourage a feeling of normalcy, and focus on the healthy aspects of self to improve recovery

Implementing a **standardised online mental health assessment** protocol

**Supporting access to genomic testing** for RCH patients via additional clinical and laboratory staff

Developing and piloting an **innovative new model of intake and screening for children** with developmental concerns



**Supporting the Fertility Preservation Service** to ensure patients who undergo cancer treatment have the ability to receive fertility preservation procedures in adulthood, if required

Enhancing **care for children with brain tumours** by providing a **dedicated neuropsychologist** to assess the adverse effects of treatment and identify any learning difficulties

Continued support for the **Music Therapy Program on Banksia** which uses the power of music to improve health outcomes

Encouraging the **enrolment and engagement of transgender and gender diverse patients** and their families in the Trans20 study

Improving **care for obese children and adolescents** through the RCH Weight Management Service

Supporting patients undergoing medical imaging through **play simulation**

Developing and enhancing the **peer support program for young people living with a chronic illness**

Implementing a program aimed at **improving the quality of trauma care** at the RCH



Continued **support for the Hospital After Hours Program**, which recruits highly trained senior medical and nursing clinicians for after-hours leadership roles, ensuring safe, high quality care is available to all children at all times of the day and night

**Enhancing the RCH Volunteer Service** programs to provide support across the hospital

Supporting the **care of patients with oesophageal atresia** with a dedicated research nurse

Developing a trial which aims to improve children's health and development by **bringing specialist paediatric expertise and support into the Wimmera Southern Mallee region** via digital technology

Enhancing cancer care with a **dedicated bone marrow transplant research nurse coordinator** and donor coordinator in the Children's Cancer Centre

**Building resilience and support for patients in the Neurology and Rehabilitation Departments** through music therapy



Providing **psychological and emotional support** for children with cancer and their families

Evaluating a **new nutrition service model** for children undergoing cancer treatment at the RCH

Continued **support for the POCUS Program**, which empowers clinicians to conduct ultrasounds at a patient's bedside, rather than a medical imaging specialist or sonographer



The impact of patient and family centered care

# SPECIALISED CARE PROGRAM IS PUTTING PARENTS FIRST

**Butterfly, the RCH NICU provides care for the sickest babies in Victoria. Babies admitted to the ward require specialised, intensive and high dependency care, which can be a scary experience for parents, particularly at a time where bonding with their newborn is so vital. While clinical teams treat the babies with medicines, operations, and machines such as ventilators, a new program is putting parents at the centre of their children's care.**

Thanks to generous support from the RCH Foundation Bed Sponsorship Program, the RCH have implemented a specially designed model of care called Circle of Care Optimising Outcomes for Newborns or COCOON for short. This places the baby and family at the centre of everything the NICU care team does. The key to its success is the dedicated COCOON care coordinator role, which is fully funded by the Bed Sponsorship Program.

"We know that having a baby in NICU for any length of time can be really stressful for families. Parents experience increased anxiety and depression in the short term and can suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder later on. A baby's development can be affected by both their illness and separation from their parents, and these things can affect the child well into the future," said Dr Leah Hickey, Director of Neonatal Medicine at the RCH and COCOON Project Lead.

**"We designed COCOON as an intervention to try and minimise the negative effects of a NICU admission on the babies and their families."**

COCOON is based around three pillars; staff education, parent education and the COCOON welcome pack, which have been created to empower parents to be fully involved in the care of their newborn. Parents are mentored and supported to do tasks, like changing their babies feeding tubes or their nappy, so they can feel more connected to their babies. They are also armed with resources and given additional tools that help them to care for and bond with their baby in preparation for going home when they are ready.



Dr Leah Hickey

“When we first started planning for COCOON, we worked directly with families to see how they were feeling and what they needed. Some of the feedback was that they didn’t feel like they knew their babies after their stay, or they felt overwhelmed and didn’t know if there were able to touch their baby,” said Leah.

“Family centred care is considered the gold standard in maternity hospital NICUs around the world, however most of the research and development has been focused on preterm infants and does not capture the impact of a NICU stay on other babies with complex medical and surgical problems, such as those cared for on Butterfly. We knew we needed something that was specific to the babies and families at the RCH, so we created COCOON based on their needs.”

Thanks to philanthropic support, COCOON has been able to flourish. Donors have generously funded a COCOON care coordinator position to lead the implementation of the program alongside Leah. Jenna Rhodes, an experienced NICU nurse was initially appointed to the role before recently going on maternity leave. The role is currently split across two experienced NICU nurses, Arnie Krishnan and Polly St John, who each work part-time to support families on the ward.

“The introduction of the COCOON care coordinator has allowed us to take that COCOON model a step further and give every day, face to face support to the families of NICU patients,” said Leah.

“Polly and Arnie spend a large part of their day on the ward, ‘COCOON-ing’, as staff call it. They meet the new families, give them our new COCOON welcome packs, and make sure they feel supported from the get-go. They also help to educate, mentor and support other NICU staff.”

“The initial introduction happens in the first 48 to 72 hours and from there the COCOON care coordinator becomes one of the main supports for the parents. They wear so many hats – medical, nursing, social work, infant mental health, and a general support person.”

The COCOON care coordinators also facilitate things like their COCOON Huddle, where the parents and care team discuss the baby’s development and celebrate what they can do, such as turn to voices or settle themselves when they get a bit upset and talk about getting ready to go home. In addition, they run the ward parent education program, covering topics such as baby resuscitation and how to give medicines. These sessions currently have a 97 per cent parent satisfaction rating.

“The nurses and COCOON care coordinators support parents who cannot be on the ward at the time to engage with their babies using a video-calling platform called COCOON BabyChat. It allows parents to see and hear their babies, chat to them, and get an update from the staff at the same time. This helps them feel connected to their babies,” said Leah.

“We have been collecting data since the launch of COCOON and hope to show that by engaging families in the care of their babies right from the start, COCOON improves important outcomes such as family experience at RCH and mental health for both the babies and their families.”

“Without the incredible support of the Bed Sponsors, we could never have gotten COCOON to where it is. When you read the feedback from the families, it is clear how much of a difference it makes to their lives, which is just priceless,” she added.



OVER  
200

patients impacted  
by the COCOON  
care coordinators  
in 2021

95%

of staff have  
completed the staff  
education program





The impact of patient and family centered care

# MEET LACEY AND HOLLY



Holly with mum, Alex

defect where babies are born with a small lower jaw, and often a cleft of the palate, making it difficult to breath and feed.

*"As a first time parent, you're already terrified. So, when you are told your child has a rare condition and needs to be admitted to NICU, that fear is given a whole new meaning. However, the staff on Butterfly were incredible. They were so supportive and understanding," said Alex.*

*"The first thing they told us to do when we arrived was to download the RCH Portal App, where we could access the COCOON resources, which covered off things like feeding and how to bond with the baby even when you can't pick them up."*

*"I remember finding the resources really helpful, particularly as a first-time parent. It helped take some of the unknown out of the situation and allowed us to focus on Lacey at an incredibly overwhelming time."*

After three months on the ward, Lacey went home and grew into a strong and cheeky little girl. As Lacey grew, so did COCOON. Thanks to the generous support of the RCH Foundation's Bed Sponsorship Program, the RCH appointed the very first COCOON care coordinator, Jenna Rhodes, to help support the roll out of the program on Butterfly. This role was taken over by nurses Arnie Krishnan and Polly St John when Jenna went on maternity leave in early 2021.

When Alex and James fell pregnant with their second daughter, Holly, they knew that there was a chance she too would have PRS, which was confirmed at their 20-week scan.

Holly was born in September 2021, and Alex and James found themselves on Butterfly for the second time in two years. This time, as well as the COCOON resources, they had the support of the COCOON care coordinators.

**No parent ever expects to spend time in the NICU, let alone twice. For parents, Alex and James, this became a reality after both of their newborn daughters - Lacey and Holly - experienced lengthy stays on Butterfly.**

In what can be a terrifying time for any parent, a specially designed family centred care program at the RCH called COCOON made Alex and James felt completely involved in the care of their daughters.

When their first daughter, Lacey, was born, she was diagnosed with Pierre Robin Sequence (PRS), a rare congenital birth



OVER

100

days spent  
on Butterfly

“Arnie and Polly are so active on the ward. They have allowed me to feel supported and confident while caring for Holly,” said Alex.

“In NICU, you feel so hesitant just going in and picking up your baby. Holly was hooked up to more cords than an electrical store, however the COCOON care coordinators really encourage you and give you the confidence to interact with your baby, which makes me more relaxed, and as a result Holly is much more relaxed. You don’t feel like you have to walk around on eggshells, which means your baby can’t feed on your anxious energy because there is none.”

“The feeling you get from both Arnie and Polly is that they genuinely care about you and your baby. It is like having your own little cheer squad around all the time. Especially for me, not having family and friends in Melbourne to drop by and visit, it has been so beneficial to have an additional layer of support.”

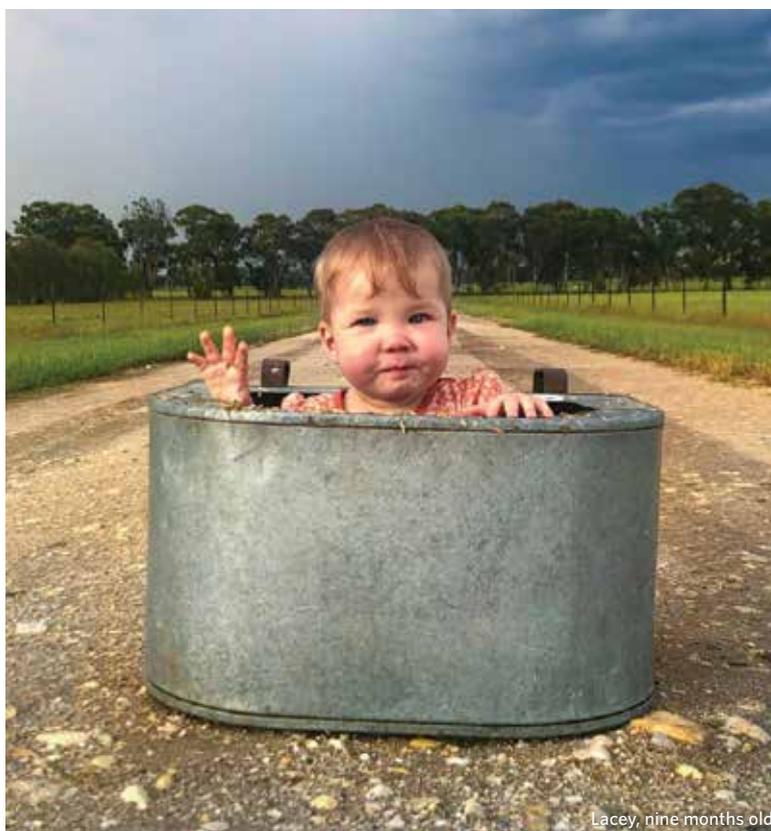
In addition to the support received from the COCOON care coordinators, Alex has also found the COCOON welcome pack incredibly meaningful.

“When you arrive to Butterfly, you’re given a welcome pack that contains orientation brochures, as well as books for your baby, a communication board, a felt heart scent cloth and other resources.”

“While it may seem so small and insignificant, it means a lot, particularly if you’ve come to the ward without any of your own things. That book becomes your baby’s first book. The blanket that you are given, that becomes the blanket they leave hospital in. Everything adds to their story,” said Alex.

“My favourite part is the beautiful felt heart that also comes in the pack. I keep it on me during the day, then at night when I leave, I pop it next to Holly. It is comforting knowing that she has her little heart next to her and can smell me at night - it makes me feel I am there with her. She feels happy, I feel happy, and it makes me feel like I am doing something for her.”

“Thank you to everyone who has helped support COCOON. Having access to something that makes parents feel empowered, supported and seen is so incredible, so thank you.”



Lacey, nine months old

The impact of

# RESEARCH



The RCH Foundation works closely with the RCH and campus partners Murdoch Children's Research Institute (MCRI) and the University of Melbourne Department of Paediatrics to find new diagnoses, treatments and cures for childhood illnesses and diseases.

Thanks to our donors, the following initiatives were supported in 2020/2021:

Supporting **high level peer reviewed research** that narrowly miss out on national competitive funding

Providing **seed research funding to MCRI**, which is then used to leverage further government funding

Fostering **cooperation and research excellence across the RCH campus** with support of researchers with scholarships and career grants



Advancing treatment for patients with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia and lymphoma through **access to an international study**

Creating an **age specific blood database** to aid critical clinical decisions for children with complex blood conditions

Increasing the **accessibility, quality and efficiency of clinical trials** through cross campus collaboration

Ongoing support for a **register to improve cardiac patient care and quality of life** after Fontan heart surgery



Providing **mental health support for at risk adolescents** following Fontan heart surgeries

Developing **precision medicine for children with kidney disease**

Expanding the **Juvenile Arthritis Biobank** to enable new research into treatment and diagnoses

Developing **tools to assist clinicians in making informed decisions** based on real-time visualisation of complex medical imaging data, particularly imagery of the brain

Improving **treatment for patients with Prader-Willi syndrome** with long term research into the incidence, morbidity and mortality of the condition

Developing an **integrated program across campus to investigate the genetic causes of childhood heart disease** and develop novel regenerative therapies for heart failure in children

Building a **national registry of paediatric cancer survivors** to enable clinical, genetic and cellular studies into the cardiovascular outcomes of patients treated with cardiotoxic chemotherapy

Examining the **impact of COVID-19 in RCH families**, including investigating transmission, results, testing and support

Improving the **mental health outcomes of patients** with a history of self-harm and a high risk of suicide



Developing an **Indigenous Health Research Program** as a national leader in Aboriginal child and adolescent health research

# \$16,737,942

invested in research  
in 2020/2021



# 51

grants for  
research

Developing **materials designed to provide students, families and schools** with strategies to navigate the transition from primary to secondary school



**Streamlining research and clinical trials on brain cancers** to ensure that every child has access to timely and accurate treatment, improved drug access and novel therapies

Improving **care for children with cerebral palsy and their families with the Victorian Cerebral Palsy Register** which provides information to guide treatment

Promoting cross-disciplinary collaboration to address child health priorities by **developing and supporting research with the LifeCourse Solution Hub**

**Supporting the Children's Cancer Centre Tissue Bank** to collect and distribute samples for research and clinical trials

Supporting hearing impaired children by **utilising the Victorian Childhood Hearing Impairment Longitudinal Databank** for research purposes



Providing **paediatric training pathways to lead research** which will allow the development of a strategic program to improve the international position of the campus research as a whole

Supporting research to **improve outcomes for transgender youth**



**Establishing the Victorian Inherited Cardiac Disorders Family Initiative** which will deliver improved family centred care to children and their families with inherited cardiac disorders

Ensuring **best practice transition of young people from paediatric to adult care** with a globally significant study in partnership with hospitals in Finland

Improving outcomes for critically ill babies with a **dedicated neonatal research nurse**

**Investigating the optimal approach to managing hip displacement** in children with cerebral palsy

Transforming **care for children with speech apraxia** through genetic sequencing and analysis

**Investigating children who are slow to recover from concussion** to provide better outcomes and accelerate recovery

Establishing a **dedicated research laboratory to deliver high quality paediatric cancer care**, exploring the origins of childhood cancer and identifying cancer biomarkers through national and international collaboration



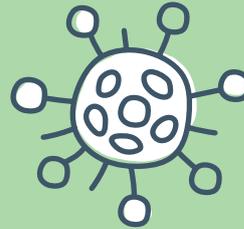
**Investigating the best ways to use antibiotics** to reduce harm in children

Improving outcomes for children with cerebral palsy in two important areas with a focus on dyskinesia and scoliosis surgery

Developing a new cord blood cell therapy for children with deficient heart function and children at risk of death from heart failure

Investigating the effect of COVID-19 on blood clotting in children, with the aim of identifying potential treatments

Supporting a study which aims to develop a preclinical model to test novel medical and surgical treatment for two major inherited heart conditions



Investigating the delivery of care in the home for patients with urinary tract infections

Improving patient flow and strengthening community care

Supporting patients with brain cancer by increasing access to clinical trials

Staffing support for the Australian Hand Difference Register, a project which aims to improve the quality of care for children born with hand or arm differences

Increasing the capability for population research using a digital platform to measure and evaluate large amounts of data to address children's health problems

Establishing new and innovative treatments for type one diabetes by combining clinical expertise in stem cells and immune disorders

Delivering genomic diagnoses and personalised care for children with rare disease through global alliances with other paediatric hospitals

Supporting research which aims to identify risk factors for children who become critically ill following a Medical Emergency Team (MET) call



Helping clinicians understand the patient population of those prescribed a peptide based formula for gastrointestinal impairment

Investigating whether the BCG vaccination, traditionally used for tuberculosis, will also prevent COVID-19 disease and illness severity in healthcare workers

Developing and evaluating an integrated clinical and laboratory program for ultra-rapid genomic sequencing in acutely unwell patients admitted to RCH with suspected genetic conditions

Supporting a study which aims to expand existing knowledge of non-binary gender identities, improve clinical practice, and enhance the health and wellbeing of young people who identify as non-binary



Bronwyn Christiansen, Principal Scientist, Anatomical Pathology with nanoString technology that supports the rapid identification and diagnosis of cancers



**700**  
patients  
enrolled into  
the Melbourne  
Children's  
Heart Tissue  
Bank

The impact of research

# BRIGHTER FUTURES FOR HEART DISEASE PATIENTS

**From creating pulsing heart cells in petri dishes to developing bioengineered heart patches made from stem cells, discover the incredible ways that researchers at the RCH and MCRI are using tissue samples to change health outcomes for childhood heart disease (CHD).**

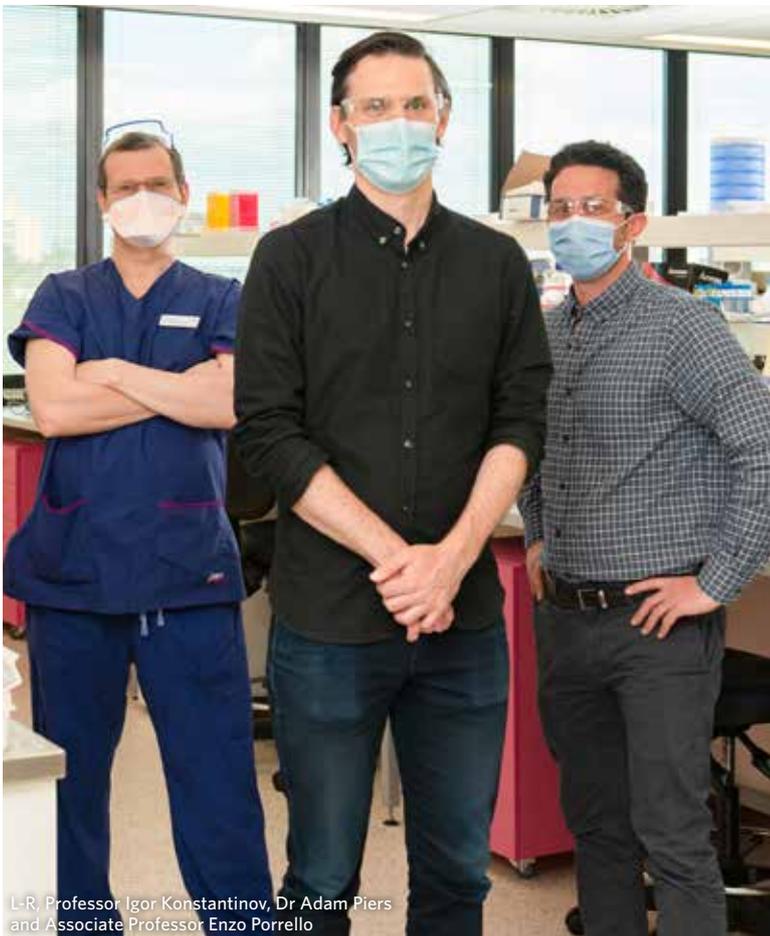
Each year, one in every 100 children born are impacted by CHD. As CHD continues to be the leading cause of death and disability in children across Australia, cardiology patients at the RCH aren't just receiving the best care, they're also helping to shape breakthroughs for future generations.

Thanks to generous support from Shine On Foundation and the Loti and Victor Smorgon Family Foundation, the Melbourne Centre for Cardiovascular Genomic and Regenerative Medicine (CardioRegen) research program is using genomics and stem cell medicine to help deliver better outcomes for children diagnosed with CHD.

Despite the many incredible medical advancements across the past 20 years which have helped to dramatically increase the survival rate of CHD conditions, the number of children being diagnosed with each year continues to rise.

"As the National Centre for Paediatric Heart Failure and Heart Transplantation, the RCH is seeing a sharp rise in the number of children with CHD hospitalised due to heart failure, a condition whereby the heart is unable to pump enough blood to meet the needs of the body. There are only a few ways to treat heart failure. In mild cases, you can look at drugs or put the child on a ventricular assist device (VAD) which is a machine that breathes and pumps blood for them. However, a large majority of cases require a heart transplant," said Dr Adam Piers, Program Manager of CardioRegen.

"Sadly, the gap between the number of donors and the number of children with heart failure requiring transplantation is growing. Even if a child does get a



L-R, Professor Igor Konstantinov, Dr Adam Piers and Associate Professor Enzo Porrello

transplant, only 50 per cent of them are alive five years after it, so the transplant is in no way a cure. That's why CardioRegen is working to come up with therapies that will hopefully stop children needing a transplant, but if they do, will improve their outcomes."

Led by Professor Igor Konstantinov and Associate Professor Enzo Porrello, CardioRegen brings together a dedicated team of clinicians and researchers from across the hospital and the MCRI to understand the causes of CHD and to help discover new treatments.

The first phase of the CardioRegen project was to establish the Melbourne Children's Heart Tissue Bank, also referred to as the biobank, which is a repository of heart tissue and blood samples which the team have collected from consenting RCH patients who have received treatment for CHD over the past three years.

"Using biobank samples, we've been able to model CHD in a dish and use genomic diagnosis and stem cell modelling to come up with three new future therapies for CHD, which all have the opportunity to improve the clinical outcomes for children with diagnosed with heart conditions", said Adam.

**"The first therapy we're looking at is developing a bioengineered heart tissue patch. Made of millions of heart cells, which are derived from biobank stem cells, the patch will be attached to the exterior wall of the heart and grow with the patient. The end goal is to improve the function of the heart, potentially removing the need for a heart transplant. If the child does need a transplant, the patch may buy them much needed time."**

"The second therapy is centred around drug development. Again, we will use the stem cells from the biobank to create heart cells. From there we will be able to look for pre-existing medications or drug compounds that can promote better outcomes for children. This might be heart regeneration for certain conditions, or the identification of specific drugs to treat cardiomyopathies for other patients."

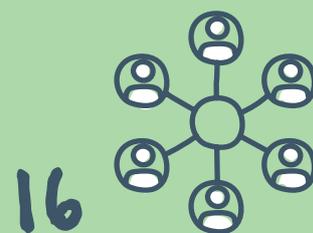
"The final therapy involves creating a new diagnostic screening tool for heart transplant rejection, which is something Igor is incredibly passionate about. Currently, when a child has a heart transplant, they are required to have frequent diagnostic tests to ensure the heart isn't rejecting. This requires them to come to the hospital every month for the first six months, and then every few months for two years after that for a biopsy. Not only is it expensive, but it is awful for the child. Plus, for families who live interstate, it often means relocating to Melbourne for a period of time after the transplant."

"Through the biobank, we've been taking blood samples from patients at each biopsy and looking at the immune cells in the blood. We have then been able to link back to their rejection score to see if there are patterns that emerge. While we're only in the research stage, we are seeing some promising patterns, and ideally, down the track we will be able to replace the biopsy with a blood sample that would be taken at their local pathology centre. While it isn't stopping the heart rejecting, we hope that it will improve their quality of life as they won't need to have invasive surgeries or even relocate."

Thanks to philanthropic funding, the CardioRegen team is well positioned for phase two of the project, which will see an expansion of pre-clinical testing for the patch. They will also enter pre-clinical work for the drug therapy and diagnostic testing projects, again with the aim of entering clinical trials in the next five to 10 years.

**"The support that we have received from both Shine On Foundation and the Loti and Victor Smorgon Family Foundation have been integral to the project. Not only did this funding allow us to establish the Melbourne Children's Heart Tissue Bank, but we have also been able to leverage it to secure other project grants," said Adam.**

"We hope that within the next five to 10 years, we will be well on the way to delivering cardiac regenerative medicine on campus."



16 different teams working across the project

OVER 500

journal articles published





The impact of research

# MEET IRIS



Iris at the RCH after her VAD insertion surgery

When the clinician came to Iris's bed, he took one look at her and immediately sent her to a resuscitation bay, an area of the Emergency Department reserved for seriously ill patients. Shortly after, Iris went into cardiac arrest. The teams worked quickly to resuscitate her little body and immediately after she was transferred to Rosella, the PICU.

*"The staff were incredible. While we were terrified, we knew Iris was in the best hands. The staff weren't 100 per cent sure what was going on, but they were pretty confident it was an issue with her heart," said Sam.*

After a sleepless night, the RCH Cardiology Team diagnosed Iris with dilated cardiomyopathy, which meant her heart muscles were stretched and unable to properly pump blood around her little body.

"They tried managing her condition with heart failure medication, but it didn't work. Everything came to a head when they took her to surgery to put in a central line that would manage her medication and bloods. She didn't really bounce back after that," said Sam.

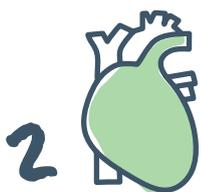
Kate and Sam had a conversation with Iris's clinicians. Together they decided the only option was for her to go on a Berlin Heart Machine, a type of VAD that would take over the function of Iris's heart and give it more time to heal and recover. If it didn't recover on its own, the machine would allow her more time until she would need a transplant.

"Before the surgery to insert the VAD, Iris's surgeon Professor Igor Konstantinov explained that they would need to take a small amount of heart tissue to insert a cannula into the ventricle. He asked if we would like to donate the tissue to the Melbourne Children's Heart Tissue Bank," said Sam.

The Melbourne Children's Heart Tissue Bank, or biobank, is a component the CardioRegen project, a research program supported by the Shine On Foundation and the Loti and Victor Smorgon Family Foundation. The biobank collects heart tissue samples from patients

**When three year old Iris looks down at her chest and sees her scars, she doesn't quite understand what they mean. However, for parents Kate and Sam, they are an everyday reminder of the incredible battle she has been through - and won.**

One night, when Iris was seven months old, Kate and Sam noticed something wasn't quite right with her. They rushed her to the RCH Emergency Department with what they thought was a bad case of gastro. Nurses tried to rehydrate her, but were unsuccessful. It was in this moment that Kate and Sam knew it was something more serious than gastro. What they didn't know was that Iris was in acute heart failure.



open heart surgeries

who have come in for treatments for either congenital or acquired heart defects. The tissue samples collected by the biobank, including Iris's, enable the CardioRegen team to undertake a range of world leading research projects.

"It was never a question for us. We didn't know if the VAD would help, or if Iris might need a transplant in the future, so having the knowledge that this small amount of tissue could potentially be used to help Iris or other children like her, gave us hope," said Sam.

"It was comforting to know that there was research happening that would mean that if Iris needed a transplant or if she needed ongoing care and medication, that there may be a point where they would use the tissue to grow a small patch of cardiac tissue to help her function, or in the far future even grow her a new heart."

Thankfully for Iris, after five months with the Berlin Heart Machine, her heart was strong enough that clinicians no longer needed to consider a transplant. Now more than two years on, her heart has fully recovered, and Iris is a happy and healthy little child, with no need for further treatments. Her last echocardiogram was entirely normal, and she is off all medications. The only reminder for her is the scars.

"For Kate and me, it's quite sobering knowing we've been a part of such a big picture project like this. When your baby is sick, you're so focused on your own corner of the world. In that moment, it feels like you're facing the worst day of your life on repeat. You become numb to everything else going on and just focus on what you need to do to get through the day," said Sam.

**"To be able to take that step back and see what the CardioRegen team were doing and how we were supporting that, it put a positive spin on the horrible experience we were going through. It was also an important part of the coping process for us, to know that no matter how things turn out for your child, that you've been a part of something so lifechanging."**

Sam and Kate know that without the support of organisations like the Shine On Foundation and the Loti and Victor Smorgon Family Foundation, there is no way that research like CardioRegen would be funded.

**"Their contribution is so important, and we're incredibly grateful that they have given the children like Iris better outcomes in the future,"** said Sam.

**5**  
**months**



on the Berlin  
Heart Machine



Iris and mum Kate celebrating Iris's first birthday in hospital

The impact of supporting medical minds

# PHILANTHROPICALLY FUNDED POSITIONS

## Leadership positions and Chairs

Academic Burns Surgeon  
Dr Monique Bertinetti

Academic Paediatric Plastic Surgeon,  
Mr Daniel Wilks

Academic Paediatric Surgeon and Head of Trauma Services,  
Associate Professor Warwick Teague

Professorial Sessions for the Financial Markets Foundation  
Chair in Developmental Mental Health,  
Professor David Coghill

Chair in Genomic Medicine,  
Professor John Christodoulou AM

Chair in Child Health Informatics,  
Professor Jim BATTERY

Professor of Paediatric Emergency Medicine,  
Professor Franz Babl

Director of Medical Education,  
Dr Amy Gray

The Apex Australia Foundation Chair in  
Developmental Medicine,  
Professor Christine Imms

The Donald Ratcliffe and Phyllis MacLeod Director  
of Nursing Research,  
Professor Fiona Newall

The Geoff and Helen Handbury Chair in Adolescent Health,  
Professor Susan Sawyer

The Jigsaw Foundation Chair in Plastic and  
Maxillofacial Surgery,  
Professor Tony Penington

Orthopaedic Oncology, Limb Reconstruction Surgeon,  
Mr Stewart Morrison

Professorial Sessions for the Lorenzo and Pamela  
Galli Chair of Developmental Medicine,  
Professor David Amor

The Victor and Loti Smorgon Chair in Paediatrics,  
Professor Julie Bines

Translational Research Academic Paediatric Surgeon,  
Associate Professor Sebastian King

## Fellowships

After Hours Fellowship

Cardiac Research Senior  
Research Fellowship

Children's Cancer Centre Fellowship

Clinical, Educational and Research Fellowship  
in Paediatric Rheumatology

Clinical Education Fellowships

Clinical Practice Guidelines Fellow

Clinical Research Fellowships in Respiratory Medicine  
(Cystic Fibrosis)

Clinician Scientist Fellowships

Concussion Physiotherapy Fellow

Concussion Psychology Fellow

Emergency POCUS Fellow

Gastroenterology Fellowship

Global Health Advanced Trainee

Health Informatics Research Clinical Fellowship

Indigenous Early Career and Senior Research Fellowships

Infectious Diseases Fellowships

Kidney Flagship Fellow

LifeCourse Research Fellowships

Neurodevelopment and Disability Postdoctoral  
Research Fellowship

Neurology Clinical Research Fellowship

Neuromuscular Fellowship

Paediatric Neurosurgery Clinical Research Fellowship

PICU POCUS Fellow

RDNOW Bioinformatics Fellowship

Senior Research Fellow Cardiac Surgery

Simulation Allied Health Fellowship

Simulation Medical Fellowship

Simulation Nursing Fellowship

The Aitken Fellowship  
(Endocrinology and Diabetes)

The Rats of Tobruk  
Neuroscience Fellowship

Uncle Bobs Club Clinical  
Neurology Fellowship

Vascular Access Fellow

Victorian Burns Fellowship

### Scholarships

Allied Health and Nursing Education,  
Development and Leadership Program

Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing  
Development Scholarship

Elizabeth Fearon Travelling Scholarship

Professor Frank Billson  
Research Scholarship

The Rosen Family, Lily's Gift Travelling  
Scholarship for General Registered Nurses

Jeannie H Poolman Travelling Scholarship

Jeff Crouch Memorial  
Travelling Scholarship

The Karmien Chan Memorial  
Travelling Scholarship

Ophthalmology Travelling Scholarship

The Pied Pipers Travelling Scholarship

RCH Paediatric Handbook  
Travelling Scholarship

Rosemary Derham Travelling Scholarship

Uncle Bobs Club Travelling Scholarship

The Volunteers Nursing  
Travelling Scholarship



Jenny O'Neill, the 2021 recipient of the Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing Development Scholarship

OVER  
**60**  
funded positions



**THANK  
YOU**

The impact of our donors

# DONOR RIGHTS

**To ensure the RCH Foundation has the respect, trust and confidence of our supporters and friends, we declare all donors have the following rights:**

- To be informed of the RCH's mission and vision, and the way in which their gift will fulfill this mission and vision while meeting the supporter's philanthropic intentions
  - To be advised of the membership of the various boards and committees that govern the RCH Foundation and to expect the Board will exercise prudent judgment in its stewardship responsibilities
  - To have access to the RCH Foundation's most recent financial statements and investment policies
  - To be assured that their gift is used effectively for the purposes specified by the supporter, or where such purposes are no longer practicable or appropriate, that the RCH Foundation and hospital promises to remain as true as possible to the supporter's original intentions and stipulations
  - To receive appropriate acknowledgement and recognition for their generosity
  - To expect that their request for anonymity is strictly observed
  - To expect that all information about their support or intended support is handled with professionalism, respect and confidentiality and in a manner equal and above that required by law
  - To be provided with prompt, truthful and forthright answers about any aspect of their gift
- To be informed whether those seeking donations are volunteers or employees of the RCH Foundation
  - To have the opportunity to update their communication preferences and unsubscribe from mailing lists
  - To be assured we value their privacy and information.  
To read our privacy policy, please visit [www.rchfoundation.org.au/privacy](http://www.rchfoundation.org.au/privacy)



Music therapist Lauren Khalil-Salib with patient Dashiell Gurung



## The impact of our donors

# INDIVIDUAL GIVING

**The RCH Foundation is delighted to acknowledge the individuals who believe that through major philanthropic support, they can make a difference to children's health.**

### A

Adam, Luke, Frank and  
Beverley Agosta  
Tabish Akhtar  
J Anderson  
Michael Arain  
Silvia Arifin  
Australian Institute For  
Digital Marketing

### B

George Bakoulas  
Jenny Batters  
Beige Technologies  
Rohan Bentley  
Huseyin Bilge  
Maxine Bowness  
James Broadbent  
Brotherhood of Papaflessa  
Messinias (Kontogoni  
Association)  
Paul Burns

### C

Xiaoye Cai  
David Callerame  
An Cao  
John and Patricia Cerini  
Kevin Chambers  
Johnny Chang  
Parvartak and Guneetkaur  
Chhatwal  
Dave and Mary Choy  
Nerina and Mario Ciach  
John Clitheroe  
Clowes Family

Neville Coyne  
Gregory Crew  
Sally and Peter Crinis  
Lucia Crinis Legacy Fund  
Nicole Crossley  
Adrian Cuff

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Will Deague - Deague  
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Royce DeSousa  
Ruofan Dong  
Evan Dwyer  
George and Maureen Dyer

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Sally Edwards  
Equity Trustees

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Muriel Frazer

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Peter and Jan Gilbertson  
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in memory of Noah  
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South Melbourne and  
Albert Park  
Sol and Edith Greiman

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AM KSJ and Jillian Joan  
Harrison OAM DSJ  
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Jane Hu  
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Dennis and Pam King  
Shelley Kline

Chris G Kontis

The Kumar Family  
Endowment

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Pat LaManna OAM and  
Helen LaManna Cancer/  
Stroke Research Legacy

Barry and Barbara Landau  
and Family

Elizabeth Lewis

Philip and Susan Lewis and  
Family – Olivia's Gift

Lifestyle Communities

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Amir and Mariam Mina

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Freany Vohra

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and Mr Tibor Weisz

Aaron and Sarah  
Whitehead

Cassandra Whitmarsh

Christine Wigg

Leslie Williamson

Merilyn and Ian  
Woodhouse

Victoria Woods

## Y

Hani Yakoop

Peter Yates AM and  
Susan Yates

Yuk Lum Yeung

Mohamad Yunus Haqiqzai



## The impact of individual giving

# THANK YOU EVAN AND NAOMI



The Dwyer family

**Evan and Naomi Dwyer are the parents of four boys. They are long-time supporters of the hospital, both personally and through the family business in collaboration with the Good Friday Appeal.**

Like many families, they've had to take their sons to the RCH Emergency Department for sports injuries, rather than for a serious illness. However, that all changed when their youngest son urgently needed the hospital's care, right in time for Good Friday.

Professionally, Evan is the founder and managing director of RedZed Lending Solutions. As a major sponsor of the National Rugby League team the Melbourne Storm, RedZed had committed to matching the Storm's fundraising efforts for the 2021 Good Friday Appeal.

In March 2021, out of the blue, Evan's youngest son Joe suffered from a haemorrhagic stroke while he was at school. He was rushed to the RCH for brain surgery, followed by a month long stay in the wards for follow up surgeries and extensive rehabilitation.

*"Nothing quite beats the experience of having a child in a serious condition in hospital. I wouldn't recommend anyone experiencing it the way we had to, but it opened my eyes to the incredible work that the RCH does," said Evan.*

"Joe had many people supporting him, from the neurosurgery team led by Dr Patrick Lo, to the nurses, physiotherapists, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, social workers - the list goes on. Naomi and I wanted to find a way to thank them for the incredible care they'd provided," said Evan.

Evan knew the Director of General Medicine, Dr Sarah McNab, who recommended he speak to the RCH Foundation about where they could make a difference. An opportunity was available to support Dr Joseph Yang, whose research had assisted in Joe's brain surgeries.

Joseph was two years into his Clinical Research Fellowship in Paediatric Neurosurgery, which had given him protected research time to develop cutting edge MRI techniques to map the brain nerve fibre tracts. This advanced technology was helping surgeons to conduct precise and delicate brain surgery, but Joseph needed funding for his final year of research.

"What resonated with me was that research is like a start up or small business, you try to get funding support but it's difficult until someone believes in you, then others want to support too. Joseph is making a clinical difference on a daily basis but isn't at a stage yet where he can get appropriate Government funding - there's a gap there where we and others from RedZed could jump in and help," said Evan.

Not only are the Dwyer family now supporting Joseph's position with significant funding for his research, RedZed also matched the Storm's \$50,000 donation to the Good Friday Appeal, handing over \$100,000 to support patient care at the hospital.

"I hope this support can make a meaningful difference to other children and parents who need expert care like Joe did. We as a community need to support talented individuals like Joseph to keep Australia at the cutting edge of neurological research," said Evan.

OVER  
**\$100K**  
donated in  
support to fund  
the Clinical  
Research  
Fellowship in  
Paediatric  
Neurosurgery



The impact of corporate donations

# THANK YOU BANKVIC

**BankVic, a member owned bank that serves police, health and emergency services, as well as their family and friends, have been a proud corporate supporter of the RCH since 2017.**

Across this time, BankVic have supported the hospital in many different ways, including sponsoring projects like the Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing Development Scholarship (DEMNDs), the RCH150 Hospital Heroes Gallery, volunteering for the Good Friday Appeal and most recently via their Workplace Giving program called BVgive.

*"At BankVic, we exist to go further for our members so that they can go further in their lives. We do this by providing great value banking services and outstanding personal service, but we also do it by supporting the career development of our members through our investments in programs like the scholarship," said Anthony De Fazio, Chief Executive Officer at BankVic.*

This year, BankVic were the Principal Sponsor of DEMNDs, a prestigious scholarship that supports the advancement of nurses at the RCH. The partnership with DEMNDs first began in 2017, and over the past four years it has flourished, showcasing BankVic's commitment to the RCH community.

The generous support of BankVic means that nurses like Jenny O'Neill, the 2021 DEMNDs recipient, can develop her leadership in clinical ethics and pilot a program that aims to empower nurses across the hospital through education in same area. This program will not only help individual nurses, it will also allow the hospital to continue providing world leading patient care.

As well as supporting DEMNDs, BankVic were a proud supporter of the RCH150 Hospital Heroes Gallery, a series of

exhibitions throughout 2020 and 2021 celebrating the 'unsung heroes' of the RCH who make the hospital the world leading institution it is today. Before moving online due to COVID-19 restrictions, the gallery was housed outside the BankVic branch on campus.

BankVic staff members have also contributed directly to the hospital through the newly launched Workplace Giving Program, BVgive, which will help the RCH create a brighter future for sick children now and into the future.

"All staff at the RCH make a huge difference to the lives of sick children and the greater community, so our support of the hospital through projects like the DEMNDs, the Hospital Heroes Gallery and through our BVgive program, are part of our commitment to giving back to our community. Our support also extends to having a dedicated BankVic branch on campus that allows staff to access our services at their convenience," said Anthony.



*We'd like to thank BankVic, and everyone else who have generously supported DEMNDs and make this significant scholarship possible.*



Anthony De Fazio, Chief Executive Officer at BankVic



The impact of our donors

# CORPORATE DONATIONS

We are grateful to our corporate donors who have supported us through monetary and in-kind donations.

## A

AA Holdings Pty Ltd  
Arch Insurance  
Australian Dairy Park  
Austunnel Pty Ltd  
Auto Recyclers  
Association of Australia

## B

BankVic  
Beige Technologies  
Bendigo and Adelaide  
Bank  
Bowery Capital  
Brave Goose Vineyard  
Bunnings

## C

CAF America  
Central Equity  
Chair Solutions VIC  
Pty Ltd  
Clever Clothing Pty Ltd  
Comtex Pty Ltd

## D

Donkenzie Investment  
Dovecote Design

## E

Elco Food Co  
Equity Trustees

## F

Fahd Group Pty Ltd  
Five Squared Property  
Group Pty Ltd

## H

Hickory Group  
HWL Ebsworth Lawyers

## I

The IN Group

## K

Kmart Group  
KS Environmental

## L

Lowe Lippmann Pty Ltd

## M

M andS Transport  
Minimax  
Mumificent PPL  
Myer Community Fund

## N

Nelson Alexander  
Charitable Foundation  
Norwood Industries  
Pty Ltd  
Nutricia Australia

## O

Oraderm Pharmaceuticals  
Ord Minnett Limited  
Oz Farm

## R

RedZed Lending Solutions  
Pty Ltd  
Riverlee  
Roadstar Tyres

## S

South Food Group

## T

Teska Carson

The impact of our donors

# CORPORATE FUNDRAISING

**Thank you to all of the generous businesses that held fundraisers in support of the hospital throughout the year.**

## A

AA Holdings Pty Ltd  
Alessi Mazda  
Amazon Australia  
ANL Container Line

## C

Cardtronics  
Coles - Essendon Fields  
Commonwealth Bank -  
Essendon Fields

## D

Dan Murphy's  
Epping  
Essendon Fields  
Hogan's Corner

## E

Era Polymers Pty Ltd

## F

Foxtel Melbourne

## G

Greythorn Amcal  
Balwyn North

## H

Hunter Leisure Pty Ltd

## I

IGA Community Chest

## J

John Sculli's IGA Express

## K

K and S Corporation  
Kmart - Camberwell

## L

The Larwill Studio  
Lazy Moe's Restaurants  
Bendigo  
Caroline Springs  
Tullamarine

Linkt

## M

Moonee Valley  
City Council  
Munro Footwear Group

## N

Nelson Alexander Real  
Estate  
Normanby Pharmacy

## O

Officeworks  
One Tomorrow  
Charitable Fund

## P

Paypal Giving Fund

## R

R and J Batteries Ballarat  
Reece Group

## S

Specsavers  
Storage King -  
Geelong East

## T

Torquay Pharmacy

## W

Woodhouse Grove  
Healthcare Pharmacy

THANK YOU



The impact of corporate fundraising

# THANK YOU K AND S CORPORATION



Kate Dear, Niki Kafle, Skye Rechter, Paul Sarant, Lauren Daly and Kevin Glennon

“Our company has always valued the relationships we form and maintain with our people and our communities. We believe in taking care of each other and it can be seen in our company culture with individuals, groups and branches giving back in their own way regularly,” said Paul.

“The main reason we have chosen to support the RCH is because many of us in the company have kids and at one point or another, we have all experienced the crucial support our sick children have needed. The RCH have provided impeccable services not only to our employees’ children but many others throughout the state. It pleases us to be able to support the RCH Foundation in any way possible,” he added.

Using a hybrid fundraising approach, K and S Corporation have been able to successfully engage their community to take part in the fundraising event year on year.

“Suppliers have a few different options to get involved. They can purchase a team package, or buy a sponsorship package, which allows them to add their company signage to one of the holes on the course. Suppliers also have the opportunity to be the sponsor of the breakfast or lunch on the day and even donate items to the raffle,” said Paul.

“Each and every person involved leaves the event feeling fulfilled, knowing that the money they are giving goes back to such a worthy place,” he added.

Thanks to K and S Corporation, the RCH Foundation is able to continue making a difference to the lives of sick children and say yes to cutting edge projects that need support at the hospital.

## 29

golf teams  
participated  
in the 2021  
Annual  
Golf Day



**K and S Corporation, a Victorian based freight company, have been corporate supporters of the RCH Foundation since 2018. Since then, they have raised over \$60,000 via their annual charity golf day, known as The Michael Griffiths Memorial Cup.**

In April 2021, 29 teams participated in the event and as a result, they had their biggest year yet with K and S Corporation and their generous supporters raising \$30,642.60 for the RCH. This money will help to change the lives of sick children and young people.

Managing Director of K and S Corporation, Paul Sarant said that being able to support the RCH through their annual golf day helps to bring their team, as well as their suppliers and customers, together in a meaningful and impactful way.

The impact of corporate fundraising

# THANK YOU OFFICEWORKS

**Officeworks is a household name, particularly for young children and parents across the state. Through their commitment to the community, Officeworks has given patients at the RCH the opportunity to stay connected to their education despite being in hospital, thanks to their support of the RCH Education Institute.**

A hospital can cause many disruptions to a child or young person's life, including missing out on school. For patients at the RCH, the RCH Education Institute team play an essential part in bridging the gap between hospital, home and their education setting, a role that was especially important throughout continued COVID-19 restrictions and school closures.

The RCH Education Institute team, consisting of teachers, education consultants and additional learning support staff, cater for all learning abilities and levels from kindergarten through to secondary school. The team work closely with a patient's enrolled school to make sure they can continue their learning and are able to transition back smoothly once they have been discharged from hospital.

Thanks to the generous support from Officeworks and their community during the 2020 Round Up to Make a Difference campaign, an incredible \$63,820 was raised to support teachers at the Education Institute. Throughout July 2020, the Round Up to Make a Difference campaign allowed customers across a number of Melbourne stores to round up the cost of their purchase and donate the difference to the RCH.

"Our annual Round Up to Make a Difference campaign forms part of our ongoing commitment to make a positive difference and create meaningful connections in the communities where our team live and work," said Alex Staley, Acting Executive General Manager People and Corporate Affairs.

"Team members from across Officeworks select an organisation that matters most to them from within their local communities to support through the campaign. This year, due to the significant impact of COVID-19, the focus was on two very important areas: health and education."

"Being able to support both education and health through the RCH Education Institute means a lot to our team as they know the direct impact that it will have on sick children and young people," Alex added.

Naomi McBride, Director of the Education Institute said she and the team were so grateful for the support, particularly when face to face teaching and learning were put on hold time and time again to maintain patient and teacher safety.

**"We're so grateful to Officeworks, their customers and the RCH Foundation for their ongoing support. Being able to keep our students engaged with their learning during this stressful time makes a huge difference to their overall happiness and is vital for their ongoing education," Naomi said.**

Officeworks were also a proud supporter of Me and UooUoo: The RCH150 Anniversary Art Trail project, sponsoring The Caravan of Being UooUoo, painted by Jeremy Blincoe.

OVER  
**\$63,000**  
raised throughout  
the month-long  
campaign



Lisa Townsend, Area Sales manager at Officeworks, Sophie Behnke, Officeworks staff member and Kate Dear, Corporate Engagement Manager at the RCH Foundation



## The impact of our donors

# WORKPLACE GIVING

**Thank you to employees from companies who choose to make regular donations to the RCH Foundation through their pre-tax pay. Many business partners enhance the collective impact of their Workplace Giving program through donation matching, fundraising, volunteering, skill sharing and in-kind support.**

### A

A and L Windows and Doors  
AA Gaskets  
Accenture  
Achievers  
ADP  
AECOM  
AGL Energy Limited  
Aimia Proprietary Loyalty Australia  
AMP Financial Services  
Apple  
Atura Hotels  
Australia Industry Group  
Australia Post  
Australian Communities Foundation

### B

Bain and Co  
Bank Australia  
Bank of Queensland  
BCC Queensland  
Bendigo Bank  
Benojo  
BlackRock Investment Management  
Bluescope LYSAGHT  
Bluescope Steel Limited  
Boeing Aerostructures Australia  
BP Australia

Bupa Australia Group

### C

CAF America  
Campari Australia  
Citi Australia  
Coca-Cola Amatil (Aust)  
Computershare  
Country Road Group  
CSL GivingForGood

### D

DocuSign

### E

EQUINIX  
Ernst and Young  
Esplanade Hotel Fremantle by Rydges  
Estee Lauder Companies

### F

Findex  
Flight Centre Foundation

### G

Good Company  
Google Australia  
Greater Union  
GTA Consultants  
Guo Joint

### I

IAG  
IFM Investors  
The Illumina Foundation

Insurance Australia Group

### J

JBS Australia

### K

Kosciusko Thredbo Resort

### L

Louis Vuitton Australia

### M

Macarthurdist  
Macquarie Group  
Melbourne Water  
Microsoft Australia

### N

National Australia Bank  
National Tax and Accountants' Association

### O

Okta  
Optus - Corporate Office  
Oracle Corporation  
Origin Energy

### P

Palo Alto Networks  
Pinnacle Investment Management  
Powercor Australia  
PWC Services Trust

**Q**

Qantas Airways  
QT Hotels and Resorts

**R**

REA Group  
Reece Group  
Ryco Group Pty Ltd  
Rydges Esplanade  
Rydges Kalgoorlie  
Rydges Melbourne  
Rydges Swanston  
Rydges Sydney Airport

**S**

Salesforce Australia  
Pty Ltd  
SAP Australia  
Schneider-Electric  
Slumbercare Bedding  
(Aust) Pty Ltd  
Smartsalary  
South East Water Limited  
Sugar Australia  
Suncorp Group  
SuperChoice

**T**

Toyota Finance Australia  
Limited  
Toyota Motor Corporation  
Australia  
Transdev Melbourne  
Twilio

**U**

Unisuper

**V**

Viasat  
The Victoria Hotel  
VIVA Energy Australia

**W**

Waypoint Reit  
Westpac Group  
Wilmar Foods

**Z**

Zoos Victoria



## The impact of our donors

# TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

**Thank you to the charitable trusts and foundations that donate to support the important work of the hospital.**

### **\$500,000+**

Gandel Philanthropy  
The Shine On Foundation

### **\$200,000+**

Children's Cancer Foundation  
Jigsaw Foundation  
Muscular Dystrophy Australia  
My Room  
Donald Ratcliffe and Phyllis Macleod Trust  
Loti and Victor Smorgon Family Foundation

### **\$100,000+**

Rae Burnett Farmer Collins Bequest  
Pat LaManna OAM and Helen LaManna Cancer/Stroke Research Legacy  
The Hugh D.T. Williamson Foundation  
HT Pamphilon  
MacKenzie Family Foundation  
The Pratt Foundation  
The Samuel Nissen Charitable Foundation  
Sporting Chance Cancer Foundation

### **\$50,000+**

The Beddison Foundation  
Robert Connor Dawes Foundation  
DEBRA Australia

Jakob Frenkiel Charitable Trust  
Rae and Peter Gunn Family Foundation

Live Life Foundation  
The Orloff Family Charitable Trust  
The Smith Family  
Zoe's Fight

### **\$20,000+**

Altitude Children's Foundation  
Robert C Bulley Charitable Fund  
Camp Quality  
Collier Charitable Fund  
Brian M Davis Charitable Foundation  
Hislop Family Foundation  
The Stuart Leslie Foundation  
Helen Macpherson Smith Trust  
Peter and Susan Yates Foundation

### **\$10,000+**

Children's Tumour Foundation  
Child's Play  
Daly Family Foundation Pty Ltd  
Kaplan Foundation  
The Calvert-Jones Foundation  
The Humanity Foundation  
TK and MN Lu Trust

### **\$5,000+**

Blue Ribbon Foundation  
Rhys Jones Charitable Endowment  
Rigg Memorial Trust  
Peter and Sylvia Stach - The Debbie Stach Memorial Gift Fund  
Victorian Community Foundation  
Syd and Ann Wellard Perpetual Trust

### **\$2,000+**

C and T Park Endowment CEF Management Account  
The Alfred and Jean Dickson Foundation  
Hanlon Foundation  
The Peter Isaacson Foundation  
Georgina Menzies MacOnachie Charitable Trust

The impact of trusts and foundations

# THANK YOU LIVE LIFE FOUNDATION

**The RCH cares for thousands of sick children and young people each year, including those diagnosed with neurological movement disorders. These life-limiting and progressive disorders cause muscle weakness, uncontrollable violent movements, twisting postures or spasms that profoundly impact on their quality of life. Thanks to the generosity of the Live Life Foundation, children and young people with these disorders can receive the most advanced and specialised care through the RCH Neurology Department.**

With a passion for philanthropy and community, successful businessman Perry Sambor established The Live Life Foundation in 2013 to support the care of children with disabilities.

In 2014, Perry was introduced to Professor Andrew Kornberg, a leading clinician in the RCH Neurology Department. The meeting was the beginning of a great friendship and incredible ongoing support by the Live Life Foundation. Since that time, the Live Life Foundation has raised funds exclusively for Neurology in support of projects that assist children diagnosed with disorders of the brain, nerves and muscles.

*“Through the Live Life Foundation, we aim to positively impact the future of children’s health and give these special patients a chance to live their lives to the fullest. We are proud to support the RCH Neurology Department and its incredible staff,”* said Perry.

The Live Life Foundation holds a golf day to raise funds, with Perry using his extensive business networks to advocate for the cause. To date, the Live Life Foundation

has contributed over \$300,000 towards several projects. These include sponsoring a bed on Cockatoo, which benefits children requiring ongoing surgical or neurological care, as well as providing funding for the Stroke, Epilepsy and Complex Movement Disorders Programs and the Neuromuscular Clinic which streamlines appointments and care across multiple departments. Significantly, they have also provided funds for Neurology Clinical Research Fellowship position.

*“We’re very grateful to the Live Life Foundation for its support of the Neurology Clinical Research Fellowship. With this generous funding, we can guarantee that the next generation of paediatric neurologists at the RCH will have every opportunity to gain world class research experience and clinical exposure while completing their training within the hospital,”* said Professor Monique Ryan, Director of Neurology.

Through the Live Life Foundation, Perry and his supporters continue to enhance the expertise of Neurology and make an impact on the lives of children with neurological movement disorders.

  
7 years  
of giving



Live Life Foundation cheque presentation in 2019



## The impact of our donors

# BEQUESTS

Leaving a gift in your Will is a deeply touching way to support generations to come.

In 2020/2021 the following people generously remembered the hospital in their Will and we sincerely thank them. In their memory we recognise and honour their legacy.

### A

Margery and Keith Aitken  
Foundation

### B

Eva Balogh  
Eileen Beale  
Peter John Billing  
Ernest Burns

### C

Isabella Campo  
June Coggan  
Stewart Crawford-Merrett  
Mary Crowther

### D

Patricia Dowell  
Victor Leslie Dunn

### E

Anthony Edwards

### F

David William Ford  
Geraldine Lillian French

### G

Pamela Gange

### H

Ivan Hammond  
Archieleen Hanger  
Stanley John Stephen  
Harrison  
Jennifer Harte  
William Himmelmann  
Brian Lawrence Howard

### J

Ellen Margaret Jones

### K

Lillian Kirchhubel

### L

Joshua Langdon  
Allen Lehmann  
Noreen Lehmann  
Gorgon Lloyd  
Allan George Lorraine

### M

John Madden  
Gwendoline Marian  
Joyce Vera Maslen  
Mavis McArthur  
Shirley McCosh  
Norma Verna Rebecca  
McLeish

### O

Patrick Olley

### P

Maxwell Parkinson  
E J Pawley  
Mavis Pope, in memory  
of Ann Maree Pope

### R

Alan Reicher  
Theresa Roberts

### S

Olga Sameluk  
Clarice Shalders  
Vivienne Simpson  
Jacqueline Stephens  
Colin Stephenson

### T

Mayoh Thomson  
Margaret Titulaer

### U

Fred and Jean Upton

The impact of bequests

# THANK YOU MARGERY AND KEITH

**Since their passing in 1995, Margery and Keith Aitken's legacy has lived on through the Margery and Keith Aitken Foundation, benefitting sick children at the RCH now and long into the future.**

The couple, who had no children of their own, specified that after they passed, a charitable foundation would be created in their name to support sick children at the RCH. Trustees Barry Fry, the Aitken's lawyer and Richard Bull, a chartered accountant, have ensured that the funds were invested appropriately to ensure its continuation and growth over 26 years.

"Since its establishment, the Margery and Keith Aitken Foundation has distributed multi-million dollar gifts exclusively to the RCH to assist children with movement disorders and those requiring organ transplants, as requested in their Wills," said Barry.

**Margery and Keith's funds have supported the Complex Movement Disorders Program and the Intestinal Transplantation Program at the RCH, ensuring these services provide world leading care.**

The Complex Movement Disorders Program features a multidisciplinary team that provides specialised care for children and young people with conditions affecting their movement, including cerebral palsy and neurodegenerative diseases. The program provides innovative and intensive therapies to decrease pain and increase motor function, such as deep brain stimulation surgical treatment.

The National Intestinal Transplant Service provides specialised care for children around Australia. Intestinal transplantation is challenging because the gut is a highly complex organ that plays an important role in the body's immune response. The service involves highly trained clinicians across multiple teams to offer patients a new lease on life.

In 2021, Barry and Richard entrusted the funds to the RCH Foundation to establish the Margery and Keith Aitken Endowment. By establishing the endowment fund at the RCH Foundation, an expert Investment Committee strategically manage and invest the funds to generate the best possible returns. Through the dedicated management, the yearly income generated directly supports the lifesaving work of the RCH, creating an enduring commitment to children's health.

**"We had been acting as trustees for many years, and as the RCH was the only beneficiary listed, we agreed the RCH Foundation would benefit from managing the fund itself, and using it in the best way possible," said Barry.**

"We are honoured that Barry and Richard have trusted the RCH Foundation to manage the Margery and Keith Aitken Endowment. With careful financial investment and governance, the RCH Foundation will ensure the endowment continues in perpetuity, so the legacy of Margery and Keith's generosity lives on and supports children with movement disorders and those requiring organ transplants well into the future," said Ally Pekin, Manager of Individual Giving.

26  
years  
of giving 



The impact of our donors

# THE 1870 SOCIETY

**We gratefully acknowledge supporters who have planned to leave a gift to the hospital in their Will.**

**Your commitment inspires us, and will give hope to children and families for generations to come.**

## **A**

Elizabeth Ahles  
Brenda Aisbett  
Robyn and Stewart  
Anderson  
Donna Aranyi

## **B**

Margaret Baker  
Margaret Barnett,  
in memory of Stephen  
James Minns  
Craig Baxter  
Kerrie and Ross  
Beaglehall  
Jeremy Bein  
Ryan Brown

## **C**

Christine Callow,  
in loving memory of her  
son Evan Callow  
Kevin Chambers  
Ange and Trent Cutler

## **D**

Baljinder Singh Dhaliwal  
Lucia Di Maio

## **F**

Denise and Peter Ferguson  
Family Gift

## **G**

Christos and Maria Gabriel

## **H**

Hayden Hickey  
Stuart Hodges  
Sue Hunt

## **J**

Leanne James

## **K**

Barry and Katrina Knight

## **L**

Nabil Labbad  
Barbara and Graeme Love

## **M**

Lois Mathieson,  
in memory of Alexander  
Macleod Mathieson  
Rosemary Mangiamele  
Fiona and Ashley Murrie

## **N**

Michael Neill  
In memory of Tina Nelson  
Barry Novy OAM

## **P**

Paul David Pacey  
Steve Portway

## **R**

In memory of R, B and B  
Julie Rees  
Tom Reisner  
Gloria Riddell  
Helene and Clarrie  
Rowdon  
The Runyan-Tait Family

## **S**

The Seaman Family  
Denis Shaw  
Nicholas Scott

## **T**

In honour of Mabel Barrett  
Lee Tan  
In memory of Wayne and  
Peter Thompson  
Michael Togias and  
Christine Politis  
Jason Tomlin

## **V**

Veronika Vala

## **W**

Carol Wigney  
Richard Winchester  
Merilyn and Ian  
Woodhouse

## **Y**

Peter Yates AM  
Jane Yescovitch

The impact of the 1870 society

# THANK YOU ANGE AND TRENT

**Ange and Trent Cutler's connection with the RCH began in 2016, when their youngest child Airlie received incredible life changing care from teams across the hospital.**

Airlie was born with a rare and complex medical condition that requires specialist care. Shortly after Airlie's diagnosis, Ange and Trent started researching surgeons who had experience with her condition. Ange ended up reaching out to a hospital in the United States of America for help. One of the surgeons forwarded their email to Associate Professor Sebastian King, a paediatric surgeon at the RCH who had experience with conditions like Airlie's.

The Cutlers travelled from their home in New South Wales to see Sebastian, and as soon as they met, Ange and Trent knew he was the person who could help Airlie.

At six months old, Airlie had several extensive surgeries at the RCH that involved doctors from many disciplines, including colorectal, gynaecology and urology.

"The care we received at the RCH was second to none - it is such an extraordinary place filled with extraordinary people, and we knew we had to do something to give back to them," said Ange.

After reflecting on their time at the RCH and the care received by Sebastian and his team, the Cutler's made the decision to leave a gift in Will to the hospital, joining the 1870 Society. They also worked with Sebastian to advocate for government funding to establish a dedicated Colorectal and Pelvic Reconstruction Clinic at the RCH.

"While we were in the hospital with Airlie, we recognised the importance of having a dedicated clinic where children like Airlie could go and be seen by different specialists, from different disciplines, under one roof."

"The RCH might just be a building, but the people inside that building are making great things happen every single day. By leaving a gift in our Wills, we know that we're supporting those people. We're allowing their ideas and innovations to come to fruition, which will help to improve the health outcomes of generations to come," said Ange.

"While we know the money we leave won't impact Airlie directly, we wanted to support the hospital, the clinicians and everyone in the Colorectal and Pelvic Reconstruction Service who had given us so much. We also wanted to ensure that other children who were born with conditions like Airlie's could access great care now and into the future."

"It was important to us to make a difference and we feel like we owe it to the hospital to do that. We had people invest in our daughter and our family, so we want to pass that feeling onto another family - even if that is after our time," said Ange.



Ange and Trent with their daughter, Airlie



## The impact of our donors

# ENDOWMENTS

**Endowments are established by donors to provide long term support. Their gift is invested and the income earned is paid to the RCH Foundation on a regular basis to support the hospital.**

### A

Grace Adams  
Margery and Keith Aitken  
Foundation  
John Anderson

### B

Thomas Henry and  
Marjorie Betty Barnard  
Donation  
Arthur Edwin and Anne  
Edith Barry  
Amy Bastings Trust  
E C Blackwood Charitable  
Trust  
Arthur Lyndhurst Blannin  
Ernest L Brown Charitable  
Trust

### C

Jessie Carnegie Burnett  
Silas Clark Charitable Trust  
Kevin Stewart Cowell  
Thomas and Louisa Cowell  
Memorial Fund  
Margaret Elizabeth Croft  
Alfred Noel Curphey  
in memory of  
Edith Curphey

### D

Amanda Joy Dickson  
Dunn Family Perpetual  
Trust

### F

William Fletcher  
John William and  
Anna Maria Ford  
Memorial Fund

### G

George Lawrence  
Godfree Bequest  
Keith Goods Memorial  
Trust  
The Grant Bequest  
Alice Marion Grimwade

### H

Helen Hadi  
Herbert William Hampton  
Colin Hausler  
Marjorie Hayes and Olivia  
Cock Memorial  
Joyce Adelaide Healey  
Charitable Trust Fund  
Margaret Henderson  
Louisa Henty  
Frank Hincks Bateman  
Frank Hayley and Doris  
Verna Hodgson Trust  
Elsa Holmes Charitable  
Trust  
The Arthur and Sheilah  
Horne Charitable Trust

### I

William and Mary Ievers

### J

Jadeybird Ophthalmology  
Travel Scholarship  
The Doris and Rupert  
Joseph Charitable Trust

### K

Denis Aloysius King  
Joseph Kronheimer  
Charitable Fund

### L

Fred and Vi Lean  
Charitable Trust  
Joseph and Kate Levi  
Charitable Trust  
Lillian Little Trust  
Martha Miranda  
Livingston

### M

William Macrow Estate  
Charlotte Marshall  
William Marshall  
J R G and E McKenzie  
Bequest  
Edith McTaggart  
Charitable Trust  
Horatio R McWilliams  
Margaret Lillian Merrifield  
Memorial Fund  
David Mathais Morgan  
John Murdoch  
Dame Elisabeth Murdoch  
Nursing Development  
Scholarship Endowment  
Fund

### N

Katharine St Clair Nanson  
Jenifer Nicholas Bequest  
The Emma Nowak Fund

### O

Eugene and Janet  
O'Sullivan Trust

**P**

Isabella Agnes Pritchard  
Peter James Provelson  
Trust Fund

**R**

Kitty and Harry Ramondt  
Charitable Trust  
Ethelwyn Elsbeth  
Richardson Trust  
Rigg Memorial Trust  
E J and M Roberts Trust  
Edith and Don Robinson  
Charitable Trust  
George Roche  
Simon Rothberg Charitable  
Trust  
William Hall Russell  
Trust Fund

**S**

Andrew James Schreuder  
Foundation  
Archibald Shannon Trust  
Frederick B Shepherd Trust  
William Arthur Shipperlee  
Heather Sybil Smith  
Henry Brough Smith  
Charitable Trust  
Dorothy Isabel Stirling  
Charitable Trust  
John Henry James Symon  
Charitable Trust  
Mary Symon Charitable  
Trust

**T**

Ruth and Harry Taafe  
Augusta Bessie Tadgell  
Alice Letitia D'Esterre  
Taylor  
Flora Louisa Thompson  
Charitable Trust  
Gary Thomson  
Harry Tootal and  
Eva Broadhurst  
Memorial Trust  
Joseph Thornton Tweddle

**W**

Jane H Walker  
Eliza Wallis Charitable  
Trust  
William and Aileen  
Walsh Trust  
Francis, Thomas and  
Jeanette Warren Trust  
Norman, Mavis and  
Graeme Waters Trust  
Ernest and Letitia Wears  
Memorial Trust Fund  
Syd and Ann Wellard  
Perpetual Trust  
Arthur Wells Trust  
George Wesleck and  
Violet Morewood  
Trust Fund  
Judith Myrtle and David  
Edward Williams  
Emily Vera Winder  
John Frederick Wright  
Charles Wright Trust



The impact of our donors

# RCH FOUNDATION MANAGED ENDOWMENTS

**The RCH Foundation is proud to hold and manage a number of endowment funds on behalf of our donors. Thanks to our generous supporters, these funds will continue to have a long term impact on the care the hospital provides to sick children and their families.**

The Aitken Fellowship Bequest

Margery and Keith Aitken Foundation

Apex Foundation Chair in Developmental Medicine

The RCH Auxiliaries Legacy Fund

Professor Frank Billson Research Scholarship

Betty Cosgrove Endowment Fund

Lillian Frank Special Events International Fellowship

Geoff and Helen Handbury Chair in Adolescent Health

Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Nursing Development Scholarship Endowment Fund

Helen Novy Volunteer Service Memorial Fund

Rats of Tobruk Neurology Fellowship

The Rosen Family, Lily's Gift Travelling Scholarship for General Registered Nurses

Run for the Kids Burns Coordinator Fund

The impact of our donors

# IN CELEBRATION

**Giving in celebration is a simple and personal way to mark any special occasion. Over the course of the year, many generous supporters forward gifts to support the hospital in celebration of birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, bar mitzvahs, bat mitzvahs and other special occasions.**

## A

Lara Abou-Haila's  
Wedding  
Adheesha's seventh  
Birthday  
Alice's fifth Birthday  
Archer's first Birthday  
Audrey's first Birthday

## B

Beonta's Birthday

## D

Declan's third Birthday

## F

Frankie and Archer's  
third Birthday

## G

Greener Boys Birthday  
Simon Gurevich's 70th  
Birthday

## H

Hannah's 10th Birthday  
Harry Pack's Bar Mitzvah

## J

Jacque's Bat Mitzvah  
Jessica and Aria's  
eighth Birthday

## L

Ashton Lee's first Birthday  
Helen Lew's Bat Mitzvah

## M

Mia's Birthday Gift  
Mila's first Birthday

## N

Nicholas' first Birthday

## O

Ozlem and Mehmet  
Oguzhan's Wedding  
Oliver's Birthday

## P

Poppy Heart Cohen

## R

Ryka's 10th Birthday

## S

Saul's 50th Birthday

## T

Theo's sixth Birthday

## V

Vera's fifth Birthday

## W

Lucy Wendler's  
third Birthday



## The impact of our donors

# IN MEMORY

**Giving in memory is a meaningful way to pay tribute to a loved one who has passed away.**

**During the last financial year, many families created a lasting legacy by requesting donations to the RCH Foundation. We acknowledge these loved ones below.**

### A

Mia Angeloni  
June Atkinson

### B

Talia Barbaro  
Maria Barbayannis  
Cheydan Tori Barr  
Angelina Barresi  
Abby Liora Binstock  
Dr Antun Bogovic

### C

Pamela Gayle Campbel  
Edwina Chambers  
Henry Coates  
Brooke Coskun  
Lucia Crinis Legacy Fund

### D

Charlie DiCerbo  
Montana Dubignon

### F

Noah Felmy-Glas  
Peter Felstead  
Alexandria Lily Filippetto  
Billy Burns Fotheringham

### G

Patricia Glazner  
Groves family  
Bruno Gugel

### H

John Brash Holmquest  
Molly Hucker  
Bayley Hunter

### I

Runya Ibraheim

### J

Jadeybird Ophthalmology  
Travel Scholarship  
Mitchell Jek-Krznar

### K

Mrs Zografia Koroneos  
Arthur Koutsougeras

### L

Romy Scarlett Land

### M

Poppy Mackenzie  
Sofia Pastrana Martinez  
Callum McLoughlin  
Margaret McPherson  
Sarah Molloy

### N

Mabel Lo Nealy  
Samuel Thomas Nye

### P

Abigail Haven Palm  
Memorial Fund  
Stephen Plumb  
Hayden Michael Potts  
Elliott Preston  
Theodore Proimos

### R

Matthew Riordan

### S

Vance Salzone  
The Tate Scarce Fund  
The Kyle Sheldon  
Memorial Fund  
Justin Stickels  
Sharyn Swindon

### T

Anna Maria Tassoni  
Abbie Taylor  
Van Kim Tran

### V

Joseph Vella

### Y

Olivia Chloe Yang

The impact of our donors

# BED SPONSORSHIP

**By generously sponsoring a bed in a hospital ward of their choosing, our donors make a difference to an area of the hospital they feel passionate about or have a personal connection with.**

## A

Access Mercantile Agency  
Amazon Australia  
Ano Kalliniki Social Club  
Arch Insurance (UK)

## B

Bowery Capital

## C

Cancer Crusaders  
Auxiliary  
John and Trish Cerini  
Ashwini and Sonia  
Chandra for Veena  
Chandra  
Club 27 Inc  
Cultural Centre  
of Florinians

## D

Rachel Dillon  
DISHA - Direction to Hope  
Riley Docker and Family

## F

Famiglia Pugliese  
D'Australia  
Five Squared Property  
Group  
Jakob Frenkiel Charitable  
Trust  
Fruci Family  
Cathleen and Wesley Fry

## G

Rinku, Vanya and  
Gupta Family

## H

Holckner Family  
Hug for Humanity -  
Vong Tay Yeu Thuong,  
Vietnamese Australians

## I

IDP Lawyers  
Islamic Council Victoria

## J

Tyler Joseph and Team  
Koala - 42km MCG  
to Whittlesea

## K

K and S Corporation

## L

Warren Larson and Family  
Phil and Sue Lewis  
And Family  
Michael and Jennifer  
Lovick for Cameron  
Lower Plenty Senior  
Citizens Centre

## M

Mamic Family for Noah  
Match Alliance  
Melbourne Architectural  
Constructions  
Melton Country Club  
Mind Blowing Films  
Luca Miraglia Foundation  
Zara Murkies  
Myer Community Fund

## N

Neonate Mates Auxiliary  
New Zealand Australian  
Punjabi Cultural  
Association  
Brendan and Julia Norris  
Northern Melbourne  
Harley Owners Group

## O

Nora Eibhlin O'Dwyer  
OneSchool Global

## P

Pannipitiya Family  
Anthony Pasquariello

## Q

Qenos Contractor  
Workforce

## R

Riverlee Foundation  
Rotary Club of Carlton  
Rotary Club of Sunbury

## S

Perry Sambor  
Wendy Sammells for Eva  
Seamless SMSF  
The Shah Family  
for Vrushika  
Spring Gully Animal  
Hospital  
St Kilda Auxiliary  
Franca Strano  
Strathmore Community  
Services Bendigo Bank

## T

Mabel Barrett Lee Tan  
S. T. Tan  
That's Amore Cheese

## V

Veer Charitable  
Association

## W

Charlie Woodford -  
Marathon for Malu

## Y

Yarrabank Group  
Yi and Li Family



The impact of bed sponsorship

# THANK YOU VICINITY CENTRES



Nora with her twin sister, Clodagh

**While Nora O'Dwyer's life may have been short, she has left a lasting impact on those around her, especially her parents Samantha and Richard. Now thanks to Vicinity Centres, where Richard has worked since 2017, Nora's legacy will live on. After she passed away, the company generously made a commitment to sponsor a bed on Butterfly in Nora's name.**

Early on in Samantha's pregnancy with twins Clodagh and Nora, she and husband Richard were told that something wasn't quite right with Nora. By the 26-week scan, they learned that not only did Nora have CHD, but she was also showing signs of a stomach issue.

"At 26 weeks and five days I was rushed into hospital with preterm labour, where we discovered that Nora had a vasa previa meaning her main blood supply was dangerously positioned across my cervix, putting her at significant risk of bleeding out. We were told to prepare for the worst, but Nora held on," said Samantha.

Clodagh and Nora were born in June 2019 at just 28 weeks. Nora was rushed straight to the RCH and diagnosed with several congenital conditions impacting her trachea, oesophagus, and heart.

**"Nora was a fighter from day one. During her short life, she had six surgeries, including one on the very first night she was born. However, we kept coming up against issues," said Samantha.**

"It felt like anything that came through the doors of the hospital, Nora contracted it. Eventually, it got to a point where Nora's lungs were getting so bad, they were collapsing every other day. Her trachea was also getting very fragile and started to collapse as well so we made the decision to insert a trach tube which would help improve her time in hospital."

"In the weeks following the surgery, Nora changed. She was awake more often and she was happy. We were able to do so many things with her that we'd wanted to do for so long like giving her baths and playing with her. We were hopeful that she was turning the corner," said Samantha.

Three weeks before Christmas, Nora was scheduled for her final surgery which would connect her oesophagus and stomach and have her on the home stretch of her hospital stay. The morning of, Nora came down with a temperature and a few days later was in sepsis. It was then that Samantha and Richard knew the time was

coming to say goodbye. On December 19 2019, Nora's 198th day in the NICU, Nora enjoyed one last day with her family.

**"Her last day was really beautiful. We sang to her, took hand and footprints, and read her favourite book, Monkey Puzzle, over and over. We had a private Christmas concert with the Starlight Captains and then took her on our first family walk in the garden where we had professional photos taken. It felt so normal."**

"Then, surrounded by her loved ones, nurses and clinicians - Nora took her last breaths - all on her own, no more ventilator - and peacefully passed away in our arms. It was a really special time, and I am so grateful we had that moment with her," said Samantha.

For Samantha and Richard, the support received from Vicinity Centres in the past two years has been above and beyond.

"From the moment the twins were born we felt so supported by Vicinity Centres. While we were in hospital with Nora, Rich was able to work from the hospital and there were no questions asked if he needed to take time off."

Shortly after Nora passed away, Richard's bosses approached him and asked if they were able to sponsor a bed in Nora's name on Butterfly.

"We were honoured. For them to stand up and acknowledge our loss in that way, it was incredible."

"When you lose a child, one of the things that you worry about is that people will forget about them. To have Nora's name up in the hospital and knowing the doctors and nurses who looked after her will see her name each day is really special. It is a good example of how other businesses and

organisations can support families after a loss because often, people don't know what to do or how to help."

"Nora spent every day of her life in hospital, and in the end the RCH was Nora's only home, which is why it is so special to us to know she is being remembered there. We will forever be grateful that Vicinity Centres gave us this gift," said Samantha.



Samantha and Richard with Clodagh and Nora



## The impact of our donors

# RCH CHAMPIONS

**RCH Champions are supported by generous people from across Victoria. Thank you to the inspiring people who run these fundraising initiatives and the thousands of people who support them.**

### A

Acacia Head Shave for a Change  
Tara Albert - 30 Books in 30 Days  
All 4 The Kidz Christmas Lights  
All for the Kids Market  
Altona Sports Club  
Ashby Primary School

### B

Sean Balchin - Santa Home Visits for the Kids  
Tim Brayshaw - Moondreamz  
Brooke's Online Fundraising Page  
Harvey and Miles Brown - Run for Fun  
Brunetti  
BSX Ultra  
Kyra Byrne  
Max Byron Making Waves

### C

Alisa Camplin-Warner AM and Oliver Camplin-Warner - Finnan's Gift  
Aaron Carter - Bendigo Christmas Lights  
Casey-Cardinia Rotaract Club  
Chloe's Cafe  
The Chloe Clash  
Bob and Marlyn Clark - Bob's Christmas Shave  
Sara and Heath Crawford - The Pip.ilepsy Foundation  
Crazy ISO Fun

### D

Dandallo Drive Christmas Lights  
Melina Dieni - Run4Raffi  
DISHA - Direction to Hope

### E

East Loddon Merino Stud for Beyond Sight

### F

Finnan's Gift  
Demak Timber Pty Ltd  
James Brown  
Jessica Trend  
Rebecca Steffen  
MacKenzie Family Foundation

### G

Goodstart North Melbourne  
Gruppo Pensionati Italiani Keilor Inc

### H

Caitlyn Hanlon  
Kristen Hill - Easter Raffle  
Johnny Hobbs - Cycle 42 4 Cancer  
Theodore Hommelhoff  
Hug for Humanity - Vong Tay Yeu Thuong, Vietnamese Australians

### I

Isaac and Zoe Fundraising for CRMO Awareness

### J

Jadeybird Ophthalmology Travel Scholarship  
Matt Jarrott - Beard Shave  
Tiago Jesus

Emma and Nathan Jones - Noah's Gift

Matthew Jones - Targa for Kids

Tyler Joseph and Team Koala - 42km MCG to Whittlesea

### K

K and S Corporation - Annual Charity Golf Day  
Koala Kids Foundation  
Kobi Cafe  
James and Ainsley Kyder-Gould

### L

Larsen Family Christmas Lights  
Lifestyle Communities Chelsea Heights  
Evie's Loom Bands for the RCH

### M

Macedonian Youth Initiative  
Maroona Primary School  
DJ Glen McBride - Twitch Stream  
Miracle Baby Conner  
Mooloolaba Triathlon for RCH  
Moondreamz  
Cameron Harker  
Drew Harry  
Emma Moore - Albie's Allies  
Sebastiano Motta's Art Auction

## Mullets for the Kids

Adam Clemente  
 Anthony Pearce  
 Brad Heys  
 Ethan Jenkins  
 Henry Gallop  
 Jack Packer  
 Jake Strmota  
 Jakob Geerdink  
 Jared Findley  
 Jaythan Poulson  
 Jhye Burton  
 Liam Worthington  
 Malachy Lynch  
 Nathan Hinton  
 Noah Bennett  
 Sebastian Frazzetto  
 Simon Maguire

Spencer Muto

**N**

Jack Neal - 4 X 4 X 48  
 Challenge

New Zealand Australian  
 Punjabi Cultural  
 Association

Noah's Gift

Damien Noonan

Brendan and Julia Norris

Northern Melbourne  
 Harley Owners Group

**O**

Olivia, Chloe and  
 Bobby-Jane

OneSchool Global  
 Bairnsdale  
 Bendigo  
 Berwick  
 Hamilton  
 Melton  
 Nathalia  
 Swan Hill

**P**

Elan Pamensky - 100 Day  
 Running Challenge

Ella Paneth - Cookie  
 Fundraiser

Pied Pipers

Planet E and E

Jim Poussard - Marathon  
 Challenge

**R**

Ray White Estate Pty Ltd -  
 Finnan's Gift  
 Bayswater  
 Commercial  
 Ferntree Gully  
 Forest Hill  
 Loan Market  
 Wantirna

Rene Hartnett Staff for  
 Cancer Research

Leah Rodewald - Run to  
 Raise, 2020km in 2020

Jack Rogerson's Support  
 to the RCH

Kon Romios - Little Kid  
 Big Hope

**S**

The Tate Scarce Fund

Settlers Run Limited

Carly Shaw - RCH  
 Breakfast

Siege of Tobruk 80th  
 Anniversary Appeal

St Mary's Catholic Primary  
 School Ascot Vale

St Nicholas Philanthropic  
 Society of Protý

Jack Stobie - Run, Swim,  
 Bike Event for the Kids

**T**

Taps Will Go Blonde

Taylors Lakes Secondary  
 College

TBS (Aust) Pty Ltd

Team Kilo India Delta  
 Sierra (KIDS)

The Big Roast for  
 Cystic Fibrosis  
 Bobby Norris  
 Gao Family  
 Jacqui Clark  
 Jo Brimelow  
 Katie Williams  
 Kirsty and Stephen  
 Bowness  
 Rob Dolan Wines  
 Samantha Kelly  
 Sarah Koel

Totts 2 Teens

Trazzera-Waters

**U**

Uncle Bobs Club

**V**

Veer Charitable  
 Association

Vic Civil RCH Fund

Victoria Law Foundation

Jake Villella

**W**

Lucas Walsh

Warwick Wesson

Brad Whyoon - Hoon's  
 Haircut

Zack Williams - Snipping  
 the Dreads

Charlie Woodford -  
 Marathon for Malu

Victoria Woods

**Y**

Yallourn Power Crew

Yarra Glen Christmas  
 Lights

Yarra River Dragons  
 36hr Boat Race



The impact of RCH champions

# THANK YOU TATE SCARCE FUND



Tate Scarce

In 2013, nine year old Tate developed tonsillitis. Despite weeks of rest and antibiotics, it wasn't getting better. When Tate started complaining of pains in his stomach as well, Jo took him straight back to the doctor.

*"Our GP felt around his stomach and there was something that shouldn't be there. He referred us to get an ultrasound the next morning. After the scan, they told us we needed to go straight to the RCH. It all happened so quickly, we didn't know what was going on," said Jo.*

Tate was admitted to the RCH over the weekend so the clinicians could conduct further tests, but it wasn't until Monday that oncologists came to give Jo and Dean the devastating news. Tate was diagnosed with an incredibly rare cancer called desmoplastic small cell round tumours (DSCRT), meaning tumours were growing in the tissue of his abdomen and pelvic area. It had never been seen before at the RCH, and Tate was only the fifth child in Australia to ever be diagnosed with this form of cancer.

*"I remember talking to Tate's oncologist Dr Jordan Hansford, and he explained that there was a very low survival percentage for this kind of cancer, but it wasn't zero. I said, 'why can't my son be that surviving percentage?' With that in mind we tried to stay as positive as possible throughout his treatment. We didn't tell anyone Tate's prognosis was bad because we didn't want people treating him like he was dying before he'd even started his battle," said Jo.*

As Tate's cancer was so uncommon and there was no proven way of fighting it, the RCH teams utilised the latest in cancer treatment to help support him, including enrolling him in specialised clinical trials

## 15

kilometres  
walked for  
the March  
for Tate  
fundraiser



**Although Tate's life was cut short by a rare and aggressive cancer, his legacy lives on through the Tate Scarce Fund. Established by his parents Jo and Dean Scarce and their sons Riley and Cadyn, the aim is to raise funds for research into rare childhood cancers.**

*"Tate was the youngest of our three boys. He was a very easy going child who was caring and very social. Although he wasn't the competitive type, he enjoyed being involved in footy, basketball and swimming. He also loved being at our family's holiday cabin in Echuca, where he'd go knee boarding out on the river," reflected his mum Jo.*

combined with a variety of treatments, including chemotherapy and radiation. He even had a new type of chemotherapy surgery, the first of its kind performed at the hospital, which helped to clear spots of cancer on the lining of his abdomen.

"Once Tate recovered from the operation, he was in a good place for 12 months, which meant we were able to take him out of hospital more. We took the opportunity to go traveling as a family and do things he'd always wanted to do. We got the opportunity to go to Central Australia, New Zealand to see the snow, and to visit Disneyland and see his favourite basketball team play in America. We felt so lucky to have those memories with him, especially as so many sick children can't leave hospital," said Jo.

Despite these extensive treatments, the tumours continued to grow back throughout his body. After a brave fight, Tate sadly passed away in January 2016 at 12 years old.

After four years of processing this immense heartbreak, the Scarce family began considering how they could create a legacy for Tate and give back to the hospital who had done everything in their power to save him. After reaching out to the RCH Foundation, the Scarce's created the Tate Scarce Fund, with the aim to raise awareness and funds for research of DSCRT and all rare childhood cancers.

With Dean's passion for cars, their first fundraiser was a four-day rally drive in Tasmania with friends. Looking for other ways to support the RCH, Me and UooUoo: The RCH150 Anniversary Art Trail in 2021 provided a unique fundraising opportunity. The Scarce family aimed to raise \$25,000 to sponsor and purchase the UooUoo 'One sees well only with the heart' by Vanessa Bong.

"We chose this UooUoo because it's pink, which was Tate's favourite colour, and the artist had included a quote from the book *The Little Prince*. It resonated so much with me and reminded me of Tate," said Jo.

With this fundraising goal in mind, the March for Tate was established. In March 2021, 100 passionate family and friends came together walk 15km from Southbank where the UooUoo sculpture was located

to Moonee Ponds. The group raised over \$57,000 which went to the Tate Scarce Fund and allowed them to purchase the sculpture as a memorial to Tate.

"The UooUoo will be installed at the holiday cabin in Echuca, looking over the river which he loved to play in," said Jo.

As the Tate Scarce Fund continues to grow, so does Tate's legacy. The Scarce family are looking forward to organising more car rallies, walking events and other fundraisers in the future.

"We can't thank the hospital enough for what they did for our family. We're so lucky to have one of the greatest children's hospitals in the world at our doorstep, and they need our support to continue being great. We hope that the Tate Scarce Fund can advance research at the RCH and make a big difference to the treatment of children with rare childhood cancers."



Jo and Dean Scarce with their sons Riley and Cayden with their sponsored UooUoo, 'One sees well only with the heart' by Vanessa Bong



The impact of The Children's Tree

# THANK YOU CHRISTOPHER



Christopher's grandson Henri-Felix with his dog Lizzie

"My own children had only needed the RCH for broken bones, but when my youngest grandson Henri suffered from a stroke, I realised how important it was," said Christopher.

Henri lost movement in his right side, meaning he couldn't sit, turn over, walk, eat, or talk, and relied heavily on the expert care of staff at the RCH.

"It was a scary time for him, and also a scary time for our whole family, not knowing if he'd recover," said Christopher.

After five weeks as an inpatient, Henri was able to go home, and Christopher signed up to be a regular giver as a small way of thanking the hospital.

"Two years on, Henri still requires lots of therapy to help with movement and speech, but he'll start school next year and he wouldn't be in this position without the RCH," said Christopher.

As someone running his own charitable organisation, Christopher understands how small gifts add up to make a difference.

"As retirees, my wife and I give what we can. The hospital works every day, 24/7 to provide the best care to kids like Henri. Having worked in Cambodia, I've seen what it's like to have no medical support," said Christopher.

"Since I've become a regular giver, I've learnt that the RCH is the leading hospital for stroke amongst children in Australia. It is great to be giving to an organisation that is benefitting so many children not just in Victoria, but across the country," said Christopher.

"There is joy in giving. A small gift is better than no gift."

**Christopher Carolane has always been a charitable man. It's part of his faith and profession as a retired Anglican chaplain. But his regular gift to the RCH comes from a very personal place, in thanks for the care his grandson received after he suffered from a debilitating stroke.**

Christopher lives by the words 'it's better to give than receive'. While working as a school chaplain, Christopher became heavily involved in providing aid to Cambodia, raising funds for food, medical care and education support for those in poverty. This passion led to his own charitable organisation, Australian Collaboration Cambodia to continue this work. However, it wasn't until his four year old grandson Henri-Felix was critically ill in 2019 that he turned his attention to support a cause much closer to home.



**2 years**  
of monthly  
giving

The impact of our donors

# RCH AUXILIARIES

**The Auxiliaries have proudly supported the RCH since their establishment in 1922. Today, over 50 Auxiliary groups across the state are actively fundraising for the hospital.**

**Their dedication and goodwill raised over \$650,000 for the 2021 Good Friday Appeal.**

## A

Absent Friends Auxiliary  
American Women's  
Association  
aRCHers Auxiliary

## B

BEADS Auxiliary  
Beyond Sight Auxiliary  
Bright Starts Auxiliary  
Brimbank ToRCH Auxiliary  
Broadmeadows Auxiliary

## C

Cancer Crusaders  
Auxiliary  
Cancer In Kids Australia  
(CIKA) Auxiliary  
Caring Friends of Cystic  
Fibrosis Auxiliary  
Caroline Auxiliary  
CasKids Auxiliary  
Caulfield Auxiliary  
Charli's Angels Auxiliary  
Children's Brain Tumour  
Association Auxiliary  
Children's Flyer Fund  
Auxiliary  
ChIPsXiliary  
Courage 4 Kids Auxiliary  
CPR Auxiliary  
Cystic Fibrosis Research  
Trust Auxiliary

## D

Dirty Hands Happy  
Hearts Auxiliary

## E

Ezy Breathing Auxiliary

## F

Footscray and Yarraville  
Juniors Auxiliary  
Friends of the CBC  
Auxiliary  
Friends of Transcend  
Auxiliary

## G

Geelong Auxiliary

## H

HAUX Auxiliary  
Hawthorn Auxiliary  
Heart Throb Auxiliary  
Heart to Heart Auxiliary

## I

Inverloch Diabetic  
Unit Auxiliary

## K

KidsCan Auxiliary  
Knox-Sherbrooke Auxiliary  
Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club  
Auxiliary

## L

LARCH Auxiliary  
League of Former Trainees  
(LOFT) Auxiliary  
Let The Children Play  
Auxiliary

## M

The Melbourne Sinfonia  
Auxiliary  
Mish Mish Women's  
Auxiliary

## N

Neonate Mates Auxiliary

## O

Oesophageal Atresia  
Research Auxiliary

## P

Pankina Auxiliary  
Parkville Auxiliary  
PremBubs Auxiliary  
President's Fundraising  
Network

## R

RCH Volunteers Auxiliary  
Roxburgh Park Auxiliary

## S

Save my Platelets Auxiliary  
Smiley Auxiliary  
Southern Rainbows  
Auxiliary  
South Western Auxiliary  
St Kilda Auxiliary  
StroKidz Auxiliary

## T

Templestowe Auxiliary  
Trailblazers Auxiliary

## V

Victorian Quilters Very  
Snuggly Quilts Auxiliary  
VivaRCH Auxiliary

## W

Wangaratta Auxiliary  
Waverley Auxiliary  
Werribee Ladies for Kids  
Auxiliary

## Y

Yellow Ribbon Kids  
Auxiliary



The impact of RCH Auxiliaries

# THANK YOU ST KILDA AUXILIARY



L-R: Dorothy (Dot) Cridge, Nanette Gahan and Ellen Bryant, St Kilda Auxiliary Members with Hon Linda Dessau AC at Government House for the RCH150 Governor's Garden Reception, February 2020

**In 1922, almost 100 years ago, the RCH Auxiliaries were first established with the mission to support sick children. Formed by Miss Mary Guthrie, there were 10 original Auxiliary groups, tasked with the job of fundraising and providing supplies to the hospital. Just one of the original 10 still operate to this day - the St Kilda Auxiliary.**

Current President, Dorothy (Dot) Cridge, first joined the Auxiliary over 25 years ago.

"When I was a young child, I spent some time in the RCH as most children did back then. My eldest brother was also a long-term patient for some time due to a polio diagnosis. Thankfully he survived and later became a doctor," said Dot.

"I always held the RCH in very good light, and many years later I was encouraged to join the Auxiliary by one of my friends, as I had some more free time. I distinctly remember attending my first meeting at the St Kilda Town Hall where it was standing room only, and I instantly felt like part of a group."

"While membership numbers have declined over recent years, mostly due to age, we are lucky to have current members who are so passionate about fundraising, including our Secretary/Treasurer Johanna Kane, who has served for over 40 years, Ellen Bryant who has been involved for over 30 years, Nanette Gahan, Norma Webber, Teresa Warren and Imelda Labonne."

"A number of members, both past and present, have received recognition awards, including Long Service Awards and Living Treasure Awards and our former President and Treasurer Mavis Pope OAM received a Madge Tate Award in 1999," said Dot.

The first official meeting of the St Kilda Auxiliary was 18 July 1922 at the home of Mrs J C Syme in Tennyson Street, St Kilda. In the first year of operation, the St Kilda Auxiliary, combined with the other nine groups, saved the hospital more than £1,914.

Over the past 99 years, the St Kilda Auxiliary has had an enormous impact within the four walls of the RCH. From the early days of making nighties for the patients, St Kilda Auxiliary have more recently sponsored beds on Butterfly and Rosella, and contributed to grants that aim to improve treatment and monitoring of patients on home respiratory support during the COVID-19 pandemic. Members have stayed committed to supporting the hospital and the sick children within it through a diverse range of fundraising initiatives.

"In the early years, the ladies of the Auxiliary formed a 'cutting and sewing' committee. They made pillowcases, sheets, towels, children's nighties for the hospital, and white gowns for the doctors. While the official sewing and knitting committee has long since disbanded, across the many years, Auxiliary members have continued their crafting efforts, sewing and knitting goods to sell at community stalls and RCH Market Days, which is our main form of fundraising now," said Dot.

"When the canteen was opened in 1923, St Kilda members worked every Monday for more than 40 years. They also prepared green vegetables at the hospital during and just after World War II when labour could not cope with the work. Across the years, members have also worked in the Auxiliary Shop, the Opportunity Shop and the Kiosk, which was the original Gift Shop at the Carlton Hospital."

"Another fundraising initiative that was picked up by St Kilda Auxiliary was the opportunity to fold Christmas cards as a fundraiser. This was first undertaken in around 25 years ago by a husband and wife team, Jack and Eileen Neaves. In that first year, over 20,000 cards were folded. This initiative continued until 2010. In the final year, an incredible 450,000 cards were folded."

Dot has many precious memories in the time that she has been a member of the St Kilda Auxiliary. She has also developed many friendships, enjoyed a multitude of social activities, and was even awarded a Living Treasure for her dedication to the Auxiliaries.

"I will always fondly remember the Annual General Meetings, and as with all Auxiliary members, loved the tote bags and enjoyed selling them to family and friends. I also loved volunteering at the Auxiliaries Gift Shop and more recently on the Gift Shop

Cart outside the RCH Gratitude Hub. Ellen and I enjoyed a chat with the customers as they inspected our goods for sale."

As the Auxiliaries prepare to celebrate 100 years, Dot said she is looking forward to seeing what the future of the St Kilda Auxiliary holds.

"Since being involved in the Auxiliaries, I have been able to have quite a lot of contact with patients, their families and hospital staff, and across the years, I have developed such an admiration of them all. It is this admiration that drives me to continue fundraising," said Dot.

"While there are only a few of us left in the Auxiliary, we hope to have many more years of fundraising for the hospital and seeing the continued impact the Auxiliaries have on sick children."

99   
years  
of supporting  
the RCH



St Kilda Auxiliary members Ellen Bryant and Dorothy (Dot) Cridge at a market stall in 2019



## The impact of our donors

# RCH150

**The RCH Foundation thanks the generous supporters of the RCH150 program, honouring the rich 150 year history of the hospital while advancing the future of children's healthcare.**

### A

Adventure Park Geelong  
AIA Australia  
Amber Infrastructure Limited  
Professor James Angus AO  
Nancy Arduca  
Art Series Hotels - The Larwill  
Australian Consolidated Milk  
Avalon Airport

### B

The Baby Emma Foundation  
Marcia Bacon and Ewan Baird  
BankVic  
The Beddison Foundation  
The Big Roast for Cystic Fibrosis  
Biggin and Scott Land  
Blackrock Investments  
Lois and Stephen Boyd - Nick's Wish  
Jocelyn Bradley  
Tim Brayshaw - Moondreamz  
Broadsheet Melbourne  
Racquel Buchanan

### C

The Calvert-Jones Foundation  
Duncan Campbell  
Sally Capp and Andrew Sutherland  
Central Equity

The Chloe Clash  
City in the Community  
City of Moonee Valley and Flemington Chamber of Commerce  
City of Moonee Valley and Moonee Ponds Traders Association  
City of Moonee Valley and Union Road Traders Association

Helen Clark  
Associate Professor Tom Connell  
Corrs Westgarth  
The Late Frank Costa AO  
Dr Rowena and Mr John Coutts  
Adam Coyle  
Crown Melbourne  
Dr Christine Cunningham  
The Cupcake Queens  
Cygnett

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Richard Doherty  
Ms Petrina Dorrington  
David Doyle  
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Equity Trustees  
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Frontier SI  
Tiffany Fuller

### G

Gandel Philanthropy  
Geelong Roofing  
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Gillespie Family Foundation  
Pam Godden  
The Gordon TAFE  
Louise Gourlay AM  
Gross Waddell ICR

### H

Mr Leonard and Mrs Tanya Hamersfeld  
Hamilton Group  
Kenneth James Harrison AM KSJ and Jillian Joan Harrison OAM DSJ  
Health Professionals Bank  
Michael Heine  
The Herald and Weekly Times Limited  
Hickory Group

Laine Hogarty  
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 Holberton  
 Ms Deb Holder  
 Gillian Howard  
 Eleanor Hughes  
 Sue Hunt and  
 Rob Robertson

**J**

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 Emma and Nathan Jones -  
 Noah's Gift  
 Jones Engineering

**K**

K2LD Architects  
 Wotton Kearney  
 Lynda Kelly  
 Dr Pallavi Khanna  
 Killara Quest Pty Ltd  
 Christine Kilpatrick  
 Shelley Kline  
 Kmart  
 Hon Robert Knowles AO  
 Kogan Australia  
 KS Environmental  
 Sameer Kumar  
 The Kumar Family

**L**

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 Patrick and Lynda  
 LaManna  
 Tam Lasky  
 Clement Lee OAM  
 Adeline Lemaitre  
 Emma Lincoln  
 Linfox Australia Pty Ltd  
 Derek Lipka  
 Live Life Foundation  
 Loren Livingston

Janet Locke  
 Nicky Long  
 Lovelight  
 Luna Park

**M**

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 Darren Mann  
 Lev Margolin  
 MaxCap Group  
 Maxwell and Williams  
 Isar Mazer  
 Sally-anne McCormack  
 McDonalds  
 Sarah McGeehan  
 Melbourne Football Club  
 Metro Tunnel Creative  
 Program  
 Giovanna Milana  
 Moonee Valley Racing  
 Club  
 Emma Moore -  
 Albie's Allies  
 Multiplex Constructions  
 Pty Ltd  
 Murdoch Children's  
 Research Institute  
 Myer Community Fund

**N**

Campbell Neal  
 Nelson Alexander  
 Charitable Foundation  
 Nelson Alexander Pty  
 Ltd Fitzroy  
 New Zealand Australian  
 Punjabi Cultural  
 Association  
 North Melbourne  
 Football Club  
 Barry Novy OAM and  
 Sue Selwyn

**O**

Associate Professor  
 Ed Oakley  
 Richard Leder OAM BEcon,  
 LLB and Elizabeth Leeton  
 Officeworks  
 Outside The Box Education  
 Ozfarm Royal

**P**

Jim Poussard - Marathon  
 Challenge

**R**

Mr Andrew and Mrs  
 Amanda Rettig  
 Mr Glenn Riedel and  
 Anne Runhardt  
 Riverlee  
 Riverlee Northwharf  
 Unit Trust  
 Henry and Janette Rubin  
 Ms Dianne Rule

**S**

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 Perry Sambor - Live Life  
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 Scanlon Foundation  
 The Tate Scarce Fund  
 Schiavello Property Group  
 Seamless SMFS  
 Terry Sefton - Mullets for  
 the Kids  
 Seven Network  
 (Operations) Limited  
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 Phillip Simone  
 Slattery  
 Dr Linden Smibert  
 Loti and Victor Smorgon  
 Family Foundation  
 Gillian and Wayne Sparkes

Spotless Group  
 Spotlight Foundation

**T**

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 Teska Carson  
 The Royal Children's  
 Hospital  
 Faculty of Melbourne  
 Fine Arts and Music,  
 University of Melbourne  
 Rebecca Thomas  
 Stirling Thorley  
 Treasury Wines  
 Estate Limited  
 Alexandra Tyrrell-Graham

**U**

Harry Unglik

**V**

Sam Verco  
 Vesparum

**W**

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 Sumin Wang  
 Kristin Wark  
 Edwina and Brian Watson  
 Michael Watts  
 Wealth Built Right  
 Dr Miriam Weisz OAM  
 and Mr Tibor Weisz  
 Whitford Property  
 David Windsor  
 Prue Winter  
 Worksafe

**Y**

Peter Yates AM and  
 Susan Yates  
 Peter and Susan Yates  
 Foundation



The impact of RCH150

# THANK YOU RIVERLEE



Tyler Lee

In June 2020, Tyler suddenly came down with a persistent fever which did not respond to any pharmacy medication. Red spots began developing around his eyes and neck and a small cut would not stop bleeding.

**“The tipping point was when Tyler said he could not breathe. I listened to his chest and his airways were not blocked – this was when we knew something was not right and we needed to take him to the hospital,”** said Kevin.

At their local hospital’s Emergency Department, doctors ran blood tests which revealed Tyler’s condition was highly complex and needed specialist paediatric care urgently. An ambulance rushed them to the RCH.

From there, things moved quickly as Tyler was admitted to the PICU where clinicians ran further tests as his condition deteriorated. Anxiously waiting for answers, Kevin and May finally heard four heart breaking words: “your child has cancer”. Tyler was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (type B), a type of blood cancer which severely weakens the body’s immune response.

“The next 48 hours were the toughest and absolute lowest point of our lives as we came to terms with Tyler’s diagnosis and what it all meant. They told us Tyler’s body was only functioning on 15 per cent normal blood cells when admitted and 85 per cent were leukaemia ‘junk’ cells. Luckily this form of cancer is very treatable and has a high success rate but we’re not out of the woods yet,” said Kevin.

Before starting chemotherapy, Tyler first had to beat an infection and spent a week in the PICU with doses of antibiotics and blood support. Once his condition stabilised, Tyler moved to Kookaburra, the cancer care ward, and began his first cycle of a six cycle treatment program.



UooUoos  
purchased



**Property group Riverlee have been long term supporters of the RCH, but never in their wildest dreams did they expect their philanthropy to become so deeply personal. Kevin Lee, second generation owner of the Riverlee family business is forever grateful to the RCH for treating his six year old son, Tyler, after a shock cancer diagnosis in June 2020. This experience inspired the family's support and involvement with the RCH150 program to honour 150 years of the hospital.**

Kevin is still emotional as he recalls watching little Tyler fight for life in the RCH PICU. Prior to the heartbreaking cancer diagnosis, Tyler was a happy go lucky boy running around and playing with his siblings Collin and Mandy.

This would form the beginning of a two and a half year treatment plan.

“We had so many touch points with different teams who enhanced our experience; our nurses, music therapists, clown doctors and Tyler’s entire medical team. May and I must express our immense gratitude to our amazing consultant oncologist Dr David Hughes, clinical nurse consultant Alie Barlow and the team of nurses who were our rock and continue to support us on this journey,” said Kevin.

During Tyler’s stay, Kevin met other families from a range of backgrounds, some who had travelled from interstate and regional areas to receive world leading treatment for their child.

“No matter who you are or where you come from, every child and their family receive the greatest care and support from a passionate and dedicated team in a world class hospital,” said Kevin.

Results are so far encouraging for Tyler, who is now in the lower dose maintenance phase of his treatment, coming into hospital every four weeks.

Kevin, along with his three siblings, run the established and highly successful property group Riverlee which specialises in development and asset ownership. Through the company’s charity Riverlee Foundation, the family support causes close to their hearts with a focus on health, medical research and education.

In 2021, Riverlee proudly supported Me and UooUoo, which saw 100 uniquely designed UooUoo sculptures dotted throughout streets, laneways and public spaces of Melbourne and Geelong, forming a spectacular public art trail to honour 150 years of the RCH. To help raise funds for the future of paediatric healthcare, Riverlee were event sponsors for the Me and UooUoo Charity Auction, hosting it at one of their venues in the city. Additionally,

they generously purchased eight unique UooUoo sculptures, which will be featured as public art throughout their development projects, including the Seafarer’s Rest public park on the banks of the Yarra River. The Lee family also committed to a three year sponsorship of beds in Kookaburra and will be supporting the upcoming RCH150 Anniversary Dinner being held in 2022.

“This experience with Tyler was a real eye opener and is the main reason I will ensure our organisation and family give back and will continue our support of the RCH well into the future,” said Kevin.



Kevin and May Lee at the Me and UooUoo Charity Auction



NICU patient Dotti with her mum Melissa

The impact of RCH1000

# THANK YOU SARA

**As one of the original members of RCH1000, Sara Gold has spent 20 years supporting world leading research at the RCH. Created in 2001, RCH1000 is a donor group where members commit to giving at least \$1,000 a year to support research at the hospital and its campus partners.**

Sara was encouraged to join by friends Efreem Goldhammer OAM, founder of RCH1000, Barry Novy OAM, current Chairman and his wife Helen. Since she has been a member, two of her 18 grandchildren have needed serious care at the hospital, strengthening her connection and desire to give.

"I decided to become a member of RCH1000 because the hospital is wonderful. It's an outstanding organisation. Supporting research for children's health is especially important as there are many diseases and conditions we need to know more about and find cures for. The worst thing to see is a child who is really ill and there's nothing you can do for them," said Sara.

Across the past 20 years, RCH1000 has supported research projects in cardiology, neurology, and haematology. Reflecting on these research projects, what stuck with Sara was a RCH1000 event she attended led by the Cardiology Department which focused on childhood strokes and their prevalence.

"Learning about that really resonated with me, not knowing anyone who'd had one, but the mere fact that I had never considered children could have strokes. Hearing about the research into it, how the hospital treated it and how children recovered was incredible," said Sara.

Sara has also been on RCH1000 committee since 2016 and has enjoyed the sense of purpose knowing that their support has helped achieve significant research outcomes for sick children.

"It is a great committee to be on. It is very well led by Barry and its results driven which is important. I look forward to see how RCH1000 grows and the impact it will have into the future."

20   
years  
involved in  
RCH1000



Sara Gold



# ABOUT US



Nurse Matthew Van De Velde holding a video laryngoscope



# FINANCIALS

## Every dollar counts

We are proud to share the 2020/2021 results as well as the total asset base, our forward granting commitments and how we invest funds for the future. Whether it's supporting our four funding areas, helping us save for multi-year projects or allowing us to raise more funds for the RCH's future, every cent we receive is helping to give seriously ill children the chance of a better future.

## 2020/2021 Revenue snapshot

The total revenue for 2020/2021 was \$82.5 million. Revenue is reported by principal funding source. Finance and Investment income includes \$25.5 million in unrealised market movements for the financial year ended 30 June 2021. In a challenging year, Bequest and Estate revenue was supported by two generous gifts. General donations from major gifts, and regular givers increased compared to the prior year.

## Grants and distributions

During the year, 46 new grants were approved, totalling over \$37.8 million. Total distributions to the RCH of \$50.4 million were made in support of excellence in clinical care and equipment, research and leadership and training. Many of the grants extend over several years and this is reflected in the difference between granting decisions made and total distributions.

## Administration and fundraising costs

Total administration and fundraising expenses were \$8.1 million. This is a result of the cost associated with fundraising, managing the grants process and ensuring that appropriate controls and governance procedures are maintained and strengthened.

## Corpus and investments

The RCH Foundation aims to provide long term sustainable support for the hospital. Some of our biggest grants require funding over many years. The RCH Foundation has forward commitments of over \$108.2 million over the next five years and is always planning for how future commitments will be supported.

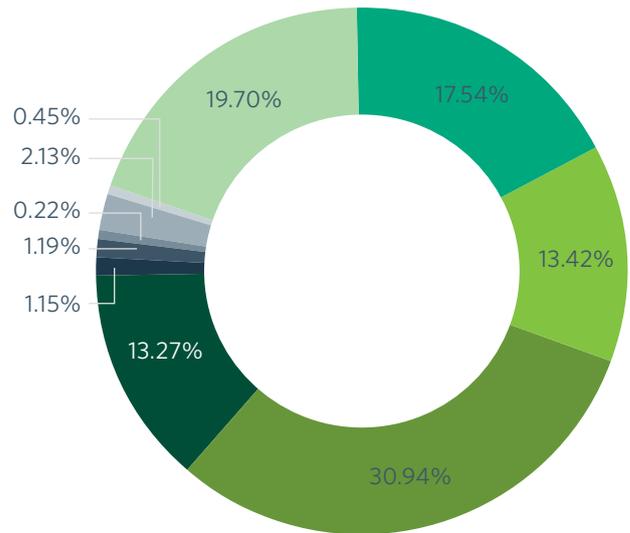
The RCH Foundation's financial corpus provides an important base to support future funding commitments for generations of families to come.

The RCH Foundation is committed to the highest standards of accountability and transparency. The RCH Foundation reports annually to the ACNC, ASIC and full Annual Financial Statements are available through the RCH Foundation office.

# How the funds were raised

## Sources of revenue

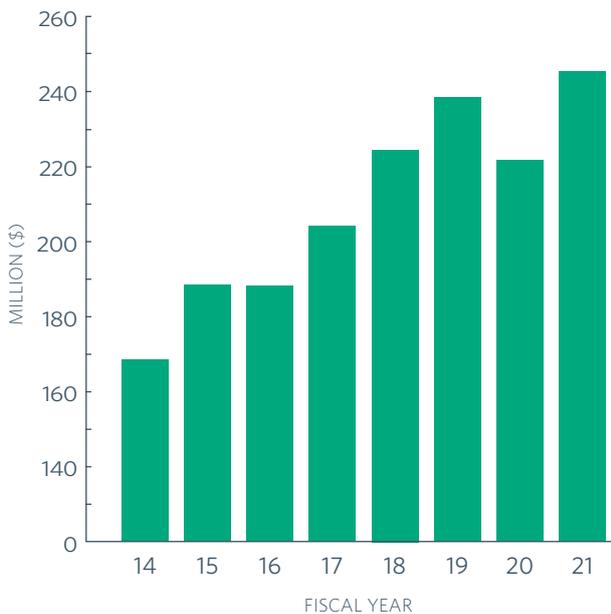
	(\$)
RCH Good Friday Appeal*	16,263,594
Bequest and Estate income	14,478,190
Finance Investment income	11,073,176
Unrealised market movements	25,535,087
General donations	10,953,314
Trusts and Foundations	948,071
Rental income	982,901
Auxiliaries**	183,660
Major event income	1,754,356
Other	370,846
<b>Total</b>	<b>82,543,195</b>



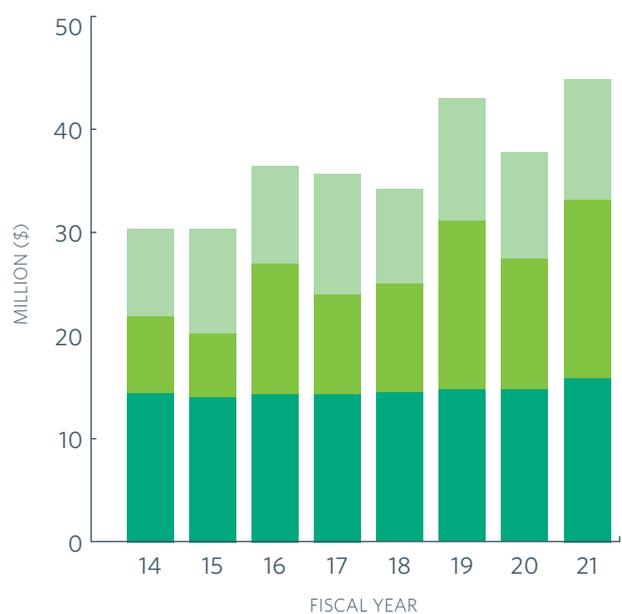
\* Good Friday Appeal revenue is net of costs incurred in conducting the Appeal. Total funds raised was \$17,122,879.

\*\* From 1 March 2020 to 28 February 2021, the RCH Auxiliaries raised \$656,933 which was included in the RCH Good Friday Appeal total. The balance represents amounts that will contribute to the 2022 Appeal.

## Net assets



## Fundraising revenue

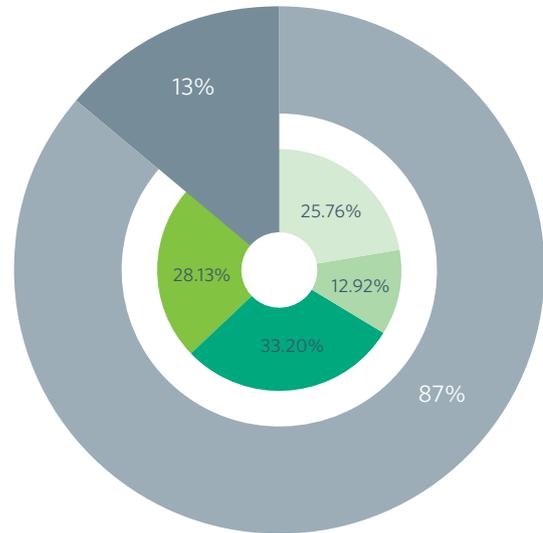


■ Good Friday Appeal Income  
■ Gifts in Wills and Endowments  
■ Other Fundraising

# Where your money goes

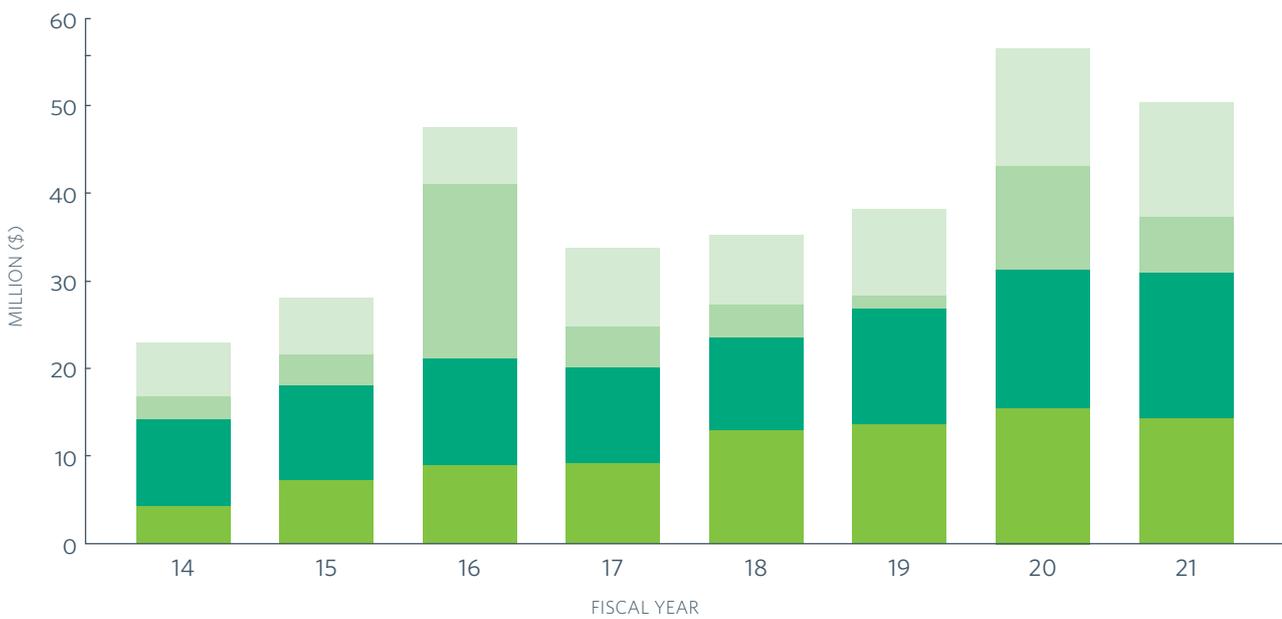
## Distribution to the RCH (\$)

■ Distributions	50,421,129
■ Patient and family centred care	12,987,244
■ Equipment and technology	6,513,572
■ Research	16,737,942
■ Leadership, education and training	14,182,371
■ Administration and fundraising costs	8,123,869
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,544,998</b>



All donations to the RCH Foundation support four key areas at the hospital, enabling access to lifesaving equipment and technology, supporting ground breaking research, developing medical minds through leadership, education and training, and supporting the best in patient and family centred care.

## Growth in distributions to RCH



- Patient and family centred care
- Research
- Equipment and technology
- Leadership, education and training

### Investment management and philosophy

The RCH Foundation Investment Committee manages the RCH Foundation's corpus. The RCH Foundation's corpus includes general funds which are available for immediate distribution; endowment funds which donors have specified to be invested and income only distributed; funds which have been given for special purposes and retained earnings.

The RCH Foundation's Investment Strategy is underpinned by a philosophy of diversification across both growth and defensive assets. The Investment Committee utilises extensive benchmarking and research in assessing performance and risk parameters and balances liquidity requirements with longer term investments to enable grant funding to the hospital for both its short term and long term granting requirements.

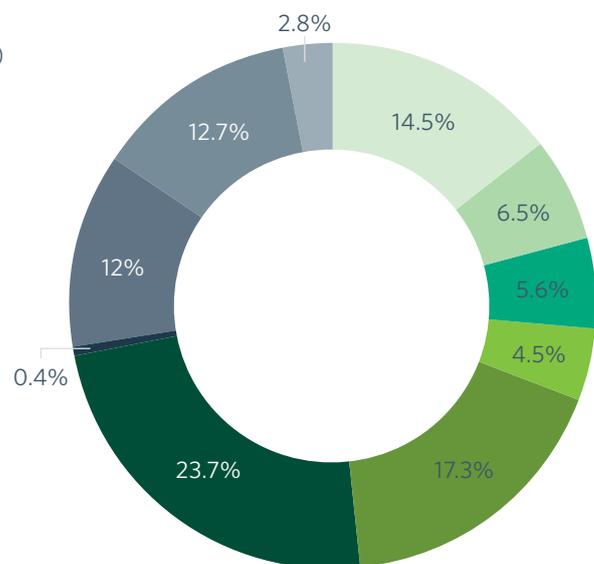
The RCH Foundation has a track record of exceeding its performance objective of a consumer price index (CPI) of greater than four per cent over the long term. The financial year ending 30 June 2021 generated a 17.91 per cent return after fees. During the year the RCH Foundation took advantage of its Growth Asset Allocation and performance generated from its Australian equity and global equity asset allocations. Fixed interest and bond holdings assisted in stabilising the portfolio when markets were volatile. The Investment Committee also sought opportunities to realise profits during the year and over \$7.45 million was generated in realised gains.

### Investment performance

	1 YEAR	2 YEARS PA	3 YEARS PA	4 YEARS PA	5 YEARS PA
Total portfolio return (including Franking Credits)	17.9%	10.3%	9.6%	9.94%	10.3%

### Investment asset mix - Actual Asset Allocation (AAA)

- Cash and term deposits
- International equities
- Specialist credit
- Infrastructure - Defensive
- Fixed income
- Infrastructure - Growth
- Australian listed hybrids
- Private equity
- Australian equities
- Property





# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## **Peter Yates AM FTSE FAICD BCOM (Melb), Master of Science (MGT) (Stanford), Doctorate of the University (Murdoch)**

Peter Yates AM is Chairman of AIA Australia Limited, a Director of Linfox Australia Pty Ltd and Mutual Trust Pty Ltd. He is Chairman of the Royal Institution of Australia, the Australian Science Media Centre, the Faculty of Business and Economics at Melbourne University, the RCH Foundation, the Shared Value Project and the NHMRC Centre for Personalised Immunology at ANU and the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Quantum Computation and Communication Technology at UNSW.

From 2004-2007 Peter was Managing Director of Oceania Capital Partners and held the position of Chief Executive Officer of Publishing and Broadcasting Limited from 2001-2004. Until 2001, he worked in the Investment Banking industry including 15 years with Macquarie Bank. He holds a Doctorate of the University from Murdoch University, a Masters degree from Stanford University Graduate School of Business and a Commerce degree from University of Melbourne. He speaks Japanese, having studied at Keio University in Tokyo.

Until May 2021, Peter was Chairman of Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society Limited. He has been Deputy Chairman of The Myer Family Investments Ltd, a Director of the RCH Foundation, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Asialink, Publishing and Broadcasting, Crown Ltd, Foxtel Ltd, The Nine Network, Ninemsn, Ticketek, Veda Ltd, Oceania Capital Partners Ltd, the National Portrait Gallery, The Melbourne International Arts Festival, Centre for Independent Studies, MOKO.mobi and the Australia-Japan Foundation.

In the June 2011 Queen's Birthday Honours, Peter was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia for service to education, to the financial services industry and to a range of

arts, science and charitable organisations and in 2017 he was made a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering (ATSE). He has been awarded the Australian Academy of Science Medal for 2019.

RCH Foundation Director since 2001 and Chairman since 2012.

## **Richard Leder OAM - Deputy Chairman**

Richard Leder OAM is a partner of the national law firm Corrs Chambers Westgarth (Corrs). He specialises in commercial litigation and media law. He represents a range of media institutions including Channel 7 Melbourne and acted for the actress Rebel Wilson. He also advises the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne and represents corporate and professional organisations and community welfare groups. He holds the position of Deputy Chair of the RCH Foundation and serves on the Executive and Finance, Investment, Remuneration and Grants Committees of the Board. He also sits on the RCH1000 committee.

Richard is the Deputy Chair of the Mt Buller and Mt Stirling Alpine Resort Management Board and serves on the boards of Australian Friends of Asha, The Conversation Media Group and the Melbourne Press Club. In June 2019 he was awarded a medal in the Order of Australia for his contribution to the community, recognising in particular his long contribution to the RCH Foundation.

RCH Foundation Director since 1998.

## **Professor James Angus AO**

Professor James Angus AO is an Honorary Professorial Fellow and Professor Emeritus in the Department of Biochemistry and Pharmacology in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences (MDHS), University of Melbourne. In July 2013 he completed a 10 year term as Dean of the Faculty of MDHS at the University of Melbourne. Before becoming Dean, he was Professor and Head of the Department of Pharmacology and Deputy Dean of the

Faculty of MDHS. At the University of Melbourne, James has been President of the Academic Board (2000-2001), Pro Vice-Chancellor (1999-2001) and member of University Council (1999-2001). James was awarded the Gottschalk Medal of the Australian Academy of Science (1984), is a Fellow of the Academy (FAA) and has been a member of its Council. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences. In 2003 he was awarded Australia's Centenary Medal for contribution to Pharmacology and the Community. James was a First Vice-President of the International Union of Pharmacology (IUPHAR) and was President of the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists. From 2009-2011 he was President of Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand. His current roles include: Lieutenant Governor of Victoria from November 2021, Director, National Stem Cell Australia Foundation; Director, Jack Brockhoff Foundation, Director, RCH Foundation; Chair, Campus Council at RCH; Chair, Australian Advisory Council on the Medicinal Use of Cannabis; Director, Science Australia Gender Equity Ltd; and member Melbourne University Publishing Advisory Board. He was appointed an officer to The Order of Australia in 2010 for distinguished service to biomedical research, particularly in the fields of pharmacology and cardiovascular disease, as a leading academic and medical educator, and as a contributor to a range of advisory boards and professional organisations both nationally and internationally.

RCH Foundation Director since 2020.

### **Peter Blunden**

Peter Blunden is the National Executive Editor of News Corp Australia. In a career spanning more than 45 years with the company, Peter has held senior editorial positions with several of Australia's biggest newspapers, including The Australian, the Herald Sun and the Adelaide Advertiser. Peter has served as editor, editor in chief and managing director of the Herald and Weekly Times in Melbourne, which has been his home for the past 25 years. Peter was Victorian Managing Director for eight years with responsibility for all News Corp print and digital mastheads in Victoria including the Herald Sun, Sunday Herald Sun, the Weekly Times, Leader Community Newspapers and the Geelong Advertiser Group, before which he served five years as Managing Director of the Herald and Weekly Times and eleven years as editor and editor in chief of the Herald Sun.

Peter edited the Adelaide Advertiser for more than five years, held various senior positions with The Australian, and was founding editor of The Australian's colour magazine in 1988. His career with News Corp Australia has taken him from Sydney to Canberra, Adelaide and Melbourne. Peter was inducted into the Victorian Media Hall of Fame in 2014, and was awarded a Centenary Medal for services to the media industry in 2001. Peter is a Director of the Herald and Weekly Times, the RCH Foundation, the Good Friday Appeal, and a committee member of the Moonee Valley Racing Club.

RCH Foundation Director since 2012.

### **Alisa Camplin-Warner AM**

Alisa Camplin-Warner AM won Australia's first ever Winter Olympic Gold Medal in Freestyle Aerial Skiing, and is a respected leader in Australian business, sports administration and corporate governance. She spent 16 years as a global executive with IBM from 1996-2012, leading teams across sales, delivery and strategy/transformation. Today, Alisa is a highly experienced non-executive company director, an in-demand keynote speaker and corporate consultant assisting organisations to achieve repeatable sustainable success through a focus on resilience, mindset and improved human performance.

Alisa is currently a Director of the Olympic Winter Institute of Australia, Sport Australia Hall of Fame and the RCH Foundation. She is the Deputy Chef de Mission for the Australian 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic team, the 'THINK Well' Ambassador for AIA Insurance's Vitality Program, the Collingwood Football Club's Patron of Women's Sport, and Co-founder of the charity project Finnan's Gift.

Alisa has previously held the roles of Chair: Australian Sport Foundation 2010-2013, Deputy Chair/Director: Sport Australia (Australian Sports Commission) 2007-2018, Director: Collingwood Football Club 2009-2018, and was the Performance Manager for Australia's 2018 Winter Olympic Team and Chef de Mission for Australian's 2012 Youth Winter Olympic Team. Alisa holds a Bachelor of Information Technology, a Doctorate honoris causa from Edith Cowan University and is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Alisa currently lives and works in Hong Kong with her young family.

RCH Foundation Director since 2013.



### **Tiffany Fuller**

Tiffany Fuller is an experienced independent, non-executive director with over 10 years experience in public, private and philanthropic board roles. Tiffany's prior executive roles spanned careers in chartered accounting, corporate finance, funds management and investment banking with Arthur Andersen and Rothschild, both in Australia and globally, where she developed extensive skills across corporate and strategic advisory, management consulting, private equity and mergers and acquisitions. Tiffany currently sits on the boards of Computershare Limited and Australian Venue Co Limited where she also chairs the Risk and Audit Committee, and a board member of Washington Soul Pattinson and Company Limited and a member of the Audit, Risk and Remuneration Committees. Tiffany has held multiple philanthropic roles including at the Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund and the Snowdome Foundation. Tiffany holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Melbourne and is a qualified Chartered Accountant and a Graduate of the Institute of Company Directors.

RCH Foundation Director since 2020.

### **Stephen Gillin**

Stephen Gillin is currently the Commercial Manager for Production and Programming at the Seven Network. Stephen has been with the network for more than 10 years, playing a leadership role in organisational projects and is a member of the Melbourne executive team. Stephen brings a wealth of business acumen and experience to the Board, with more than 20 years' experience in both finance and human resources, having worked in various roles across State Government, civil infrastructure and media industries.

RCH Foundation Director since 2019.

### **Hon Rob Knowles AO**

Hon Rob Knowles AO was Victorian Minister for Health from 1996 until 1999 and MLC for Ballarat from 1976-1999. He has also served as Chairman of Food Standards Australia and New Zealand; as a member of the National Health and Hospital Reform Commission; is a former Aged Care Complaints Commissioner and former Commissioner with the National Mental Health Commission. In addition to serving on the Boards of the RCH Foundation and the MCRI, Rob is currently a Director of: BeyondBlue Ltd; Drinkwise Australia Ltd; Global Health Ltd; Great

Ocean Road Health, IPG Ltd and the Silverchain Group of Companies and has been Chairman of the RCH since November 2012.

RCH Foundation Director since 2012.

### **Sameer Kumar BBUS FCA**

Sammy Kumar is the Co-Founder of Sayers Group and CEO of Sayers Advisory and Investments. He has over 30 years' experience across strategy, deals, digital, financial effectiveness and operations. Sammy served on the Board of the RCH from July 2012 to July 2015 and was reappointed in July 2018.

RCH Foundation Director since 2015 and Chair of the RCH Foundation's Audit Committee since 2016.

### **Karl Kutner BPD**

Karl Kutner is an Executive Director of Central Equity. Karl is responsible for all acquisitions and town planning matters along with overseeing the sales and marketing departments, and has been an integral member of the Central Equity Group since its growth years on Southbank in the early 1990's. Karl holds a Bachelor Degree in Planning and Design from the University of Melbourne along with a Certificate IV in Business from RMIT.

RCH Foundation Director since 2016.

### **Professor Fiona Newall PHD, MN, BSC, RN**

Professor Fiona Newall completed her undergraduate nursing training at Curtin University in Western Australia. In 1998, Fiona moved to Victoria and commenced working in the field of paediatric thrombosis and anticoagulation. Fiona completed her PhD (2009) and Master of Nursing (Research, 2005) at the University of Melbourne, both research projects exploring questions identified from her clinical practice. Fiona has published extensively within her field of clinical and research practice, and is internationally recognised as a clinical researcher. In addition to her positions as Director of Nursing Research and Director of Nursing Education at the RCH, Fiona has honorary appointments with the Departments of Nursing and Paediatrics at The University of Melbourne and Haematology Research within MCRI.

RCH Foundation Director since 2019.

### **Andrew Shelton BA MA Cambridge FACID**

Andrew Shelton was formerly the President and CEO of JP Morgan Canada, following a period with JP Morgan in New York. Andrew is a company director, and was an independent corporate finance advisor and consultant. He is the Principal and Director of Andrew Shelton and Co Pty Ltd, and the Founder and Director of Ice Sports Australia Pty Ltd, a company that together with ING Real Estate, and the support of the Olympic Winter Institute of Australia, developed the National Ice Sports Centre in Melbourne Docklands as a commercial venture. He chairs the Pembroke College, Cambridge Australian Scholarship Fund. Other activities include Treasurer of the Australian Real Tennis Association, the governing body of real tennis in Australia. He is Chairman of the Investment Committee and a member of the Audit Committee.

RCH Foundation Director since 2013.

### **Dr Gillian Sparkes AM**

Dr Gillian Sparkes AM has a career that spans the private, public and not-for-profit sectors having worked three decades in industries that interface with the environment and community, before becoming a senior public servant. Gillian has held senior roles with both the Australian and Victorian Government including Deputy Secretary Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment and Chair of Sustainability Victoria. Gillian is currently Victoria's Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability, an independent statutory role that reports and advises government and the community on the environment. Other board roles include Chair of FrontierSI (the former CRC for Spatial Information), and board member of the Country Fire Authority and Industry Capability Network, Victoria. Gillian holds a PhD in Applied Science, a Masters of Business Administration and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, a National and Victorian Fellow of the Institute of Public Administration Australia and a member the Monash Sustainable Development Institute Advisory Council. Gillian was awarded a Member (AM) in the General Division of the Queen's Birthday 2021 Honours for significant services to environmental sustainability, and to public administration.

RCH Foundation Director since 2015.

### **John Stanway BEC, GRAD DIP IR, FAICD**

John Stanway was appointed to the role of Chief Executive Officer at the RCH in April 2017. Prior to commencing in this role, John was the Chief Operating Officer at the RCH for more than 10 years, overseeing clinical operations. From 2012, John also held the position of Deputy CEO. Before joining the RCH, John managed Monash Medical Centre, was Chief Executive of the Transport Accident Commission and held various senior management roles at General Motors Holden. John has a double major in Economics and a Graduate Diploma in Industrial Relations, and he is Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. John is the President of Children's Healthcare Australasia and a Board Director for the RCH Foundation, Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre Ltd and MCRI. John was also previously the President of the Victorian Hospitals Industrial Association.

RCH Foundation Director since 2017.

### **Dr Miriam Weisz OAM DBA MBA BEC (HONS)**

Dr Miriam Weisz OAM has a Doctor of Business Administration specialising in Strategic Management in Education. She was an Associate Professor in Teaching and Learning at RMIT and was the Director of the University's quality improvement processes. After retirement from full-time employment, Miriam was appointed to the Victorian Board of the Australian Medical Board from 2011-2020, was a member of the Australian Medical Council from 2012-2017 and a Director of the Australian Joint Distribution Committee from 2014- 2017. She was also appointed to the Regional Board of the Psychology Board of Australia in 2017, the Victorian Board of the Nursing and Midwifery Board in 2021 and is a Board Director of the Victorian Nursing and Midwifery Trust. Miriam served as the Chair of the Development Board of the Centre for Adolescent Health at the RCH for 10 years from 2006 and she is currently President of RCH Auxiliaries.

RCH Foundation Director since 2016.



# COMMITTEES

## Executive and Finance

Peter Yates AM – Chair

Richard Leder OAM

John Stanway

Professor James Angus AO

Dr Gillian Sparkes AM

Sue Hunt

## Audit and Corporate Risk

Sameer Kumar – Chair

Alisa Camplin-Warner AM

Andrew Shelton

## Investment

Andrew Shelton – Chair

Richard Leder OAM

Peter Yates AM

Tiffany Fuller

Wendy Norris

Sue Hunt

Darren McConnell

JB Were (external advisors)

## Grants

Peter Yates AM – Chair

Richard Leder OAM

Peter Blunden

Professor Sarath Ranganathan

Professor Kathryn North AC

John Stanway

Sue Hunt

## Remuneration

Peter Yates AM – Chair

Richard Leder OAM

Sue Hunt

## Nominations

Peter Yates AM – Chair

Richard Leder OAM

Peter Blunden

Sue Hunt

## Auxiliaries Executive

Louise Gourlay AM – Patron

Dr Miriam Weisz OAM – President

Barbara Nicoll – Vice President

Tiffany Lucas – Secretary

Jan Gilbertson

Robyn Anderson OAM

Dr David Kolieb

Shelley Kline

Sue Hunt

Darren McConnell – Treasurer ex-officio

# THE RCH FOUNDATION STAFF

## Executive Office

### Sue Hunt

Chief Executive Officer

### Jassie-Bree Salmond

Executive Assistant to Chief  
Executive Officer

### April Kelly

People and Culture Advisor

## Fundraising

### Ryan Brown

Director, Fundraising

### Laura Buck

Manager, Auxiliaries and Fundraising

### Lauren Daly

Corporate and Community Coordinator

### Lucia Di Maio

Auxiliaries Administration Officer

### Ari Brown

Gratitude Hub Coordinator

### Kate Dear

Manager, Corporate Engagement

### Erin Davidson

RCH150 Anniversary Dinner Sponsorship  
and Community Fundraising Coordinator  
(maternity leave)

### Lauren McKellar

RCH150 Anniversary Dinner Sponsorship  
and Community Fundraising Coordinator

### Ally Pekin

Manager, Individual Giving

### Adelaide Kraina

Individual Giving Coordinator

### Donna Aranyi

Philanthropy Executive, Major Gifts

### Philippa O'Brien

Philanthropy Coordinator

### Fiona Greco

Planned Giving Coordinator

### Ben O'Connell

Manager, Supporter Relations

### Michelle Petruilis

Marketing Coordinator

### Catherine Donaldson

Supporter Relations Officer

### Amanda McCosker

Supporter Relations Officer

## Grants

### Tabitha White

Director, Grants

### Jessica Freaan

Manager, Grants

### Anne Young

Grants Officer

## Business and Finance

### Darren McConnell

Chief Financial Officer

### Martin Lobb

Director, Strategic Projects

### Christine Pickering

Management Accountant

### Natalie Ng

Senior Accountant

## Communications

### Shakira Silvestri

Director, Communications and  
Stakeholder Relations (maternity leave)

### Laura Sullivan

Director, Communications

### Alexandra Cooper

Communications Coordinator

### Madeline Riddle

Communications Coordinator

### Caitlin White

Graphic Designer

### Rose James

Project Manager



Become a regular giver to  
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essential role in providing hope for  
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Your generosity is enabling research into new treatments and cures, access to the latest equipment and technology, education and advancement for nurses, clinicians and researchers, and ensures the hospital can provide world class care to patients, parents, carers and siblings.

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TREE**  
Growing impact through  
regular giving

# CONTACT US

## The Royal Children's Hospital Foundation

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 [rch.foundation](https://instagram.com/rch.foundation)

 [The Royal Children's Hospital Foundation Melbourne](https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-royal-childrens-hospital-foundation-melbourne)

ABN 15 007 143 142

## The Royal Children's Hospital Auxiliaries

The Auxiliaries are community groups established across Victoria that raise funds for the hospital.

+61 3 9345 5037  
auxiliaries.office@rch.org.au  
rchfoundation.org.au/auxiliaries

## The Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal

PO Box 14744  
Melbourne, VIC Australia 3001

+61 3 9292 1166  
goodfridayappeal@heraldsun.com.au  
goodfridayappeal.com.au



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