



The Children's Cancer Foundation

2020 Year in Review

**Funding Excellence
and Love since 1994**

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Our Purpose

Why we do what we do



The challenge of children's cancer is real, and we won't rest until it's gone



We know better, kinder treatment is possible and we're making it happen



Children's cancer – it shouldn't happen



We stand united with researchers, doctors and families, committed to being the change-makers



Together we are stronger; together we look to the day when childhood cancer is gone

Our Values and Behaviours



Curious – we always want to find a better way for every childhood cancer challenge



Collaborative – we know we cannot do this alone, so we seek to partner with the many who can help



Accountable – we strive for the most efficient ways to achieve our ambitions and always provide full disclosure



Advocate – we are the voice for those needing a cure, and are focused on their access to the best support possible today and the promise of complete solutions tomorrow



Belief – We steadfastly believe that we are making a vital contribution to beat childhood cancer for good and the horizon for success is viable

A Message from our Chairman

Despite the challenges of 2020, we look to the future with confidence and optimism.

There is no doubt that the cancellation of The Million Dollar Lunch due to Covid-19 was a body blow. It was one of many unavoidable consequences of the contagion, which included the Foundation's team vacating its beautiful home at Tennis Australia and working remotely.

However, the work of the Foundation has continued regardless, the most vivid example being our hastily organised Giving Day, which raised \$580,000. It was a brilliant result achieved during the darkest days of lockdown.

On the topic of brilliance, I must acknowledge the recent retirement of Tony McGinn as a director of the Foundation. It has been an honour and privilege to serve on the board of the Foundation with Tony. He has been an outstanding director and a fearless advocate for patients and their families. He retires as a giant of the childhood cancer cause in this country.

We are delighted that two new directors have accepted the invitation to join the board of the Foundation. Peter Crinis has been a pivotal member of The Million Dollar Lunch committee since the event returned to Crown in 2015 and Tracey Danaher has made a significant contribution to our cause as a parent advocate in recent years. Both are eminently qualified and immensely committed.

We have continued to partner with all manner of like-minded organisations. My Room, Steven Walter Children's Cancer Foundation, Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation, Portland House Foundation, and the Pratt Foundation made substantial contributions to various of our projects in 2019/2020.

Of course, we would like to thank all of our donors and contributors, particularly those who rallied to support the Giving Day including Arrowtex Pharmaceuticals, PFD Food Services, Jayco Australia, Tasty Chips, Shirley Hseish, Brooke Starbuck and Will Deague to name just a few.

We remain indebted to those who have remembered the Foundation in their Wills. This year we received bequests in excess of \$300,000 from individuals largely associated with the Foundation. We thank these inspiring individuals who have left an enduring legacy for children with cancer.

Profound thanks also to the newly appointed members of our Scientific Advisory Committee. In January 2020, Professor Doug Hilton, Director of the Walter, and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, accepted our invitation to chair the committee, which will supply strategic advice and guidance to the board over the coming years.

Finally, an acknowledgment of our executive director Jeff Darmanin and his outstanding team made up of Kate Cadet, Yen Ee Yeoh, Carmen Chesson and Jean Qui. They have continued to produce outstanding results in a most difficult environment. On behalf of the directors of the Foundation, my most sincere thanks.

Regards,



Jeremy Smith
Chairman



We say goodbye to Tony McGinn

After twenty years successfully championing the progress of paediatric oncology in Victoria, Tony McGinn OAM retired from his position as Director and Deputy Chairman of the Foundation in June. In honour of his outstanding legacy of work, the following collection of tributes from friends and family past and present, remember Tony's significant achievements.

"It is difficult to do justice to the enormity of Tony McGinn's contribution to the childhood cancer cause. It will endure for decades to come."

- Jeremy Smith, Chairman

"Tony founded KOALA Foundation, which ultimately set the bar for advocacy in the Paediatric Oncology sphere." - Andrea Diprose,
Former Director

"Tony was our guiding light in the early days and we have every reason to thank him for helping us establish Koala Kids to become the force that it is today." - Mandie Mandy, Koala Kids



Tony McGinn
Deputy Chairman and Director (2012 - 2020)

Welcome to Peter Crinis & Tracey Danaher

In early 2020, we welcomed two new Directors to the Foundation board - Peter Crinis and Tracey Danaher.



Peter Crinis
COO Crown Hotels, Retail
and Food & Beverage

Peter Crinis

Experience: Senior tourism industry executive with over 25 years' experience, Peter oversees the seven hotels in the Crown Resorts group, as well as the Food & Beverage and Retail offering at Crown Melbourne and Sydney. He is a board member of Tourism Accommodation Australia, Visit Victoria and the Chairman of the Melbourne Convention Bureau.

Special Responsibility: The Million Dollar Lunch Committee



Tracey Danaher
Professor Marketing, Monash University

Tracey Danaher, Mother of Zac

Qualifications: PhD, DipMRes, BBus(Hon)

Experience: Professor and Academic Director of the Australian Centre for Retail Studies. Specialising in market research, media and advertising, service science, and healthcare marketing. Parent of a child who passed away from cancer.

Special Responsibility: Project Funding and Marketing



Jeremy Smith, Father of Linus

Qualifications: BA, LLB

Experience: Barrister specialising in commercial, property, employment and estate litigation. Parent of a child treated for cancer.

Special Responsibility: Chairman



Jeffrey Darmanin, Father of Will

Qualifications: BEcon, FCA, A Fin

Experience: Management consultant with a background in manufacturing and finance. Parent of a child who passed away from cancer.

Special Responsibility: Executive Director



Nat Lippiatt

Qualifications: BA Design (Hons)

Experience: Founder and Director of Three's a Crowd, a strategic brand and digital agency.

Special Responsibility: Branding and Communications



Maurizio Marcocci

Qualifications: BA/BCom, MEcon/IntTrade, GAICD

Experience: Chairman of My Room. Treated for cancer as a child.

Special Responsibility: My Room Liaison



Kevin Martin

Qualifications: BCom, CA

Experience: Chartered accountant with experience in the professional and commercial sector. Chief Financial Officer of a major Australian listed company for many years, a Director of numerous subsidiaries in Australia and overseas. Currently Chairman of Bombora Advice Pty Ltd, Director of Agrocet Industries Private Limited, and a Director of Australasian Steel Products Pty Ltd.

Special Responsibility: Finance and Audit; Secretary



Mary McGowan

Qualifications: RN, GradDipAdv Nurs (Onc/Pall Care)

Experience: Over 40 years' experience in paediatric oncology nursing and community fundraising. Founding and current My Room board member. Served 21 years as a director of Ronald McDonald House Parkville.

Special Responsibility: Community Fundraising



James Roche

Qualifications: MAcc, MBA, BBus(Bkg&Fin)

Experience: Executive director of Roche Holdings Pty Ltd and Cygnett Pty Ltd. Formerly co-founder and owner of HealthCare of Australia Holdings Pty Ltd and an analyst with Merrill Lynch investment banking group. Former Chairman and current board member of My Room.

Special Responsibility: The Million Dollar Lunch Committee

Scientific Advisory Committee



Prof. Doug Hilton, AO

Title: Director, Walter & Eliza Hall Institute

Short Bio: Prof. Doug Hilton is best known for his discoveries in the area of cytokine signalling and, his advocacy for health & medical research and gender equity in science. His lab aims to understand which of the 30,000 genes are important in the production and function of blood cells, and how this information can be used to better prevent, diagnose, and treat blood cell diseases such as leukaemia, arthritis, and asthma. Prof. Hilton has been awarded numerous prizes for his research into how blood cells communicate and has led major collaborations with industry to translate his discoveries from bench to bedside.



Prof. David M. Ashley

Title: Director, The Preston Robert Tisch Brain Tumor Center at Duke

Short Bio: Prof. Ashley is a professor in the Departments of Neurosurgery, Paediatrics, Medicine, and Pathology at Duke University. His career in cancer research dates more than two decades, with his primary research focus on the immunology, epigenetics, and genetics of brain tumours. His achievements in research have led to change in practice in the care of both children and adults with brain tumours. Prof. Ashley is highly regarded for his work, as evidenced by numerous awards and invitations to plenary sessions and symposia of international standing.



Prof. Stephen Jane

Title: Dean, Sub faculty of Translational Medicine and Public Health, Monash University

Short Bio: Prof. Jane is Foundation Dean, Sub-Faculty of Translational Medicine and Public Health. He was Head of Central Clinical School (2011-2019), Monash University and is Director of Research for Alfred Hospital. He is also a member of the Clinical Haematology Service. Professor Jane has a range of research interests investigating both developmental and acquired disorders of the blood and skin in mouse models. At a basic level, this involves the study of gene transcription. He currently holds a number of NH&MRC and other competitive grants. He has published over 120 papers including articles in Science, Nature Medicine and Developmental Cell.



Prof. Sarah-Jane Dawson

Title: Professor, Sir Peter MacCallum Department of Oncology, University of Melbourne

Short Bio: Prof. Sarah-Jane Dawson is a clinician-scientist. She obtained her medical degree from the University of Melbourne in 1998, and trained as a medical oncologist in Melbourne, Australia. She completed her PhD at the University of Cambridge, UK. Following postdoctoral studies at the Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute, she returned to Melbourne in 2014 to head the Molecular Biomarkers and Translational Genomics Laboratory at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. Her current research interests are focused on the development of non-invasive blood-based biomarkers ('liquid biopsies') for clinical application, including early detection, risk stratification and disease monitoring in cancer management.



Prof. Nicole La Gruta

Title: ARC Future Fellow and Professor, Monash University

Short Bio: Nicole La Gruta is head of the T cell development and function laboratory in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Monash University. She received her Ph.D. from Monash University in 2000 and her postdoctoral training at St Jude Children's Research Hospital. Nicole was recruited to Monash University in 2016 where she undertakes a comprehensive program of research to elucidate the key determinants of robust T cell immunity, as well as having a keen interest in understanding the molecular basis of T cell dysfunction in the elderly.



Dr. Kate Johnson

Title: Chair of the Children's Cancer Centre Parent's Advisory Group at the Royal Children's Hospital; Mother of a Child Diagnosed with Cancer

Short Bio: Kate holds a Ph.D., Psychology and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Melbourne. She has also been involved in academic research experience at leading medical research institutions including Harvard Medical School. Kate's experience includes hands-on management of data-intensive research programs, facilitation of research collaborations, analysis and publication of research outcomes, submission of grant applications, development and documentation of core operating policies and procedures. Kate is also the mother of David, now 11. At age 3, David was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

2020 - A Not So Gentle Reminder of What Matters

I am a parent asked to step inside the deliberately windowless room to be told my son has cancer. You don't hear much of the conversation beyond that. In that instance you go from thinking you are in control of your life, to riding a roller coaster ride of fear, uncertainty, isolation and hope. Each week in 2020, around Australia, many parents descended into a unique version of this horror.

This year across Australia we all took a small glimpse into the world of a family who has a child diagnosed with cancer. These experiences were heightened in Melbourne, but observed around the country. We felt a loss of control in our lives, uncertainty about the future, despair and frustration with wanting things to be "normal", the distancing from friends and family, the financial uncertainty and, the disappointment in the way some chose to act.

We also were reminded of what matters.

Strangely enough, the things that matter for me now are the same as those brought so sharply into focus during my son's treatment seven years ago.

- **Science matters** – We listened as the best minds told us what we should do to protect our community. Their advice evolved the more data they understood, and we evolved with it. We stumbled and realised our vulnerability. We knew scientists didn't create this disease and, that they were working hard to understand it and protect us.
- **Healthcare workers are real heroes** – We continue to see doctors, nurses and all forms of allied health workers do their job at great risk to themselves. Their actions during the pandemic were not about what was in it for them, but how can they help, how they could protect the community.
- **Family and friends are critical** – We were deprived of the opportunity to physically meet our friends and families and this affected us greatly. Unable to engage as we had always done, we found ourselves using more technology to keep in touch, but it wasn't the same. This absence compounded the anxiety of the disease itself.
- **The kindness of strangers is a strong antidote** – We observed random acts of kindness from those that could help. We reinvented our sense of community and, better understood our interdependency. We saw more empathy and understanding.
- **Australia is a great country** – We realise again how lucky we are to be in this country. Yes, there are many imperfections and way too many marginalised people, but it still provides a domain others in the world are increasingly envious of.

These attributes realised during this pandemic were a mirror in my family's cancer journey, as I am sure they are for most other parents too.

My son Will's cancer ultimately exceeded his ability to fight it. From this devastation I resolved to try to remember the things that matter and be the best person I can possibly be.

My wish for you and our community is that you take the challenges of 2020 and remember what really matters. Use them as a beacon to guide your future actions.

Jeff Darmanin
Executive Director
Father of Will



Funding Excellence and Love

In a year when we are all reminded that science matters and that healthcare workers are true heroes, the Foundation is once again proud to have been able to fund and support these services with our charity partners. Below are some of the talented and committed men and women, the brilliant minds that support children's cancer research and care.



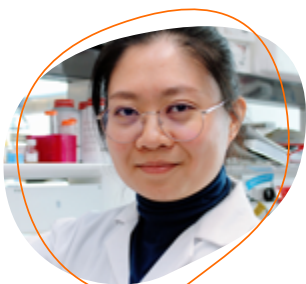
Alexandra Lederman
Art Therapist, RCH



Assoc Prof Andrew Moore
Chief Investigator National
MyeChild01 Clinical Trial,
QCH



Carolyn Drinkwater
ALCCRF Senior Biobank
Specialist, Hudson



Claire Shi
HIMR PhD Scholar,
Monash University



Claudia Toro
My Room Peter McGrath
Clinical Research Fellow,
MCRI



Dr Claire Sun
CCF Bioinformatician,
Hudson



Dr Daniel Gough
Chief Investigator, Hudson



Dhanya Sooraj
CCF Senior Organoid
Specialist, Hudson



Assoc Prof David Ziegler
Chief Investigator
National Clinical Trial, SCH



Herah Hansji
Neuro-oncology Research
Co-ordinator, MCH



Irina Arzhintar
Lead Clinical Trial
Co-ordinator, MCH



Dr Jason Cain
Chief Investigator,
Hudson



Kristin Mellet
Dietitian, MCH



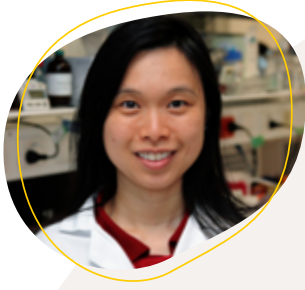
Ma'ayan Geffen
Program Manager, Hudson



Matilda Dawson
Art Therapist, RCH



Melina Roberts
Music Therapist, RCH



Melissa Loi
CCF Technical Sequencing
Specialist, Hudson



Merridy Justice
Community Resource
Liaison, RCH



Naama Neeman
CCF Admin Director,
Hudson



Dr Nataliya Zhukova
My Room Clinical
Research Fellowship, MCH



Dr Paul Daniels
CCF Post-Doctoral
Research Fellow, Hudson



Dr Paul Wood
Paediatric Oncologist,
Hudson



Dr Peter Downie
Head of Clinical
Enterprises, Hudson



Priscilla Pek
Music Therapist, MCH



Assoc Prof Ron Firestein
Head of Research and
Chief Investigator, Hudson



Ryan Hehir
Clinical Trials Manager,
MCRI



Dr Sara Khan
ALCCRF Research
Fellowship, Hudson



Sarah Parackal
HIMR PhD Scholar,
Monash University



Victoria Jackson
Paediatric Oncology
Physiotherapist, MCH

Hudson - Hudson Institute of Medical Research
MCH - Monash Children's Hospital
MCRI - Murdoch Children's Research Institute
QCH - Queensland Children's Hospital
RCH - Royal Children's Hospital
SCH - Sydney Children's Hospital

Where your donations go

The Children's Cancer Foundation together with its funding partners has committed **\$12,343,790 across 28 projects** from 2020 through to 2025. Funding includes salaries for hospital and research staff, laboratory consumables and family resources.



Project: My Room Clinical Research Fellowship program

Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital and Murdoch Children's Research Institute

Recipient 1: Dr Stacie Wang, Matthew Rathbone My Room Clinical Research Fellowship

Recipient 2: Dr Claudia Toro, Peter McGrath My Room Clinical Research Fellowship

Funding: \$495,331 over 3 years

Overview: This program is an investment in training the next generation of oncologists in translational research skills. Two fellowships will be funded under this program.

Project: PhD Scholars Program

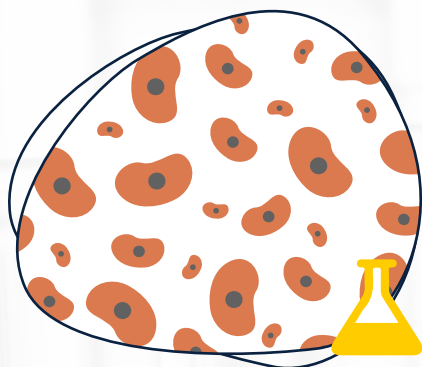
Focus: All childhood cancers

Institute: Hudson Institute of Medical Research

Recipient: PhD Scholar #1 Claire Shi, PhD Scholar #2 Sarah Parackal

Funding: \$318,106 over 5 years

Overview: Funding for three PhD students in paediatric precision medicine. The key aims are to develop a doctoral training program focused on key research themes of precision medicine, and to strengthen cross-institutional collaborations (local, national, and international).



Project: Translational Studies Leveraging the SIOPE Neuroblastoma Clinical Trial

Focus: Neuroblastoma

Institute: University of New South Wales

Funding: \$671,270 over 3 years

Overview: This study aims to understand relapse, improve residual disease detection and develop pre-clinical testing models to identify better therapies for high-risk neuroblastoma patients.



Hudson Monash Paediatric Precision Medicine Program - Phase 2

Focus: Brain cancer, central nervous system tumours and Wilm's tumour

Institute: Hudson Institute of Medical Research and Monash Children's Hospital

Recipient: A/Prof. Ron Firestein

Funding: \$4,967,221 over 2 years

Overview: The program utilises living organoids developed from individual patient's tumour cells to conduct functional genomic analysis to identify new therapeutic treatments and to repurpose existing treatments.

My Room Clinical Research Training Fellowship

Institute: Monash Children's Hospital and Hudson Institute of Medical Research

Recipient: Dr Nataliya Zhukova

Funding: \$375,000 over 3 years

Overview: This program is an investment in training the next generation of oncologists in translational research skills.



Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation Clinical Research Fellowship

Focus: Brain cancers: Medulloblastoma and Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma

Institute: Hudson Institute of Medical Research, with Monash Children's Hospital and Monash University

Recipient: Dr Sara Khan

Funding: \$525,000 over 4 years

Overview: Key outcomes will be the development of a rapid and cost-effective clinical tool to determine the medulloblastoma molecular subtype; new DIPG gene targets for potential therapeutic intervention; and preclinical validation of potential pharmacological epigenetic modifiers of DIPG.

Children's Cancer Foundation Clinical Research Fellowship

Focus: Acute lymphoblastic leukaemia

Institute: Murdoch Children's Research Institute and The Royal Children's Hospital

Recipient: Dr Seong Lin Khaw

Funding: \$1,029,000 over 4 years (2017-21), plus \$341,100 from Murdoch Children's.

Overview: Research project to improve the effectiveness of treatment in children with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia. The key outcome from this research project is to translate biological data to improve treatment precision and effectiveness, particularly with the use of newly developed drugs.



Your generous support delivers impact



Project: Clinical Trials Manager

Focus: All childhood cancers

Institute: Monash Children's Hospital

Recipient: Irina Arzhintar

Funding: \$380,507 over 5 years

Overview: Salary funding for a Clinical Trials Manager to lead the clinical trials unit. The key outcome is to increase the portfolio of trials open, and the number of children enrolled in clinical trials accessing new treatments and innovative drugs.

Project: National Clinical Trials Investigating Stem Cell Transplantation and Personalised Medicine

Focus: All childhood cancers

Institute: Sydney Children's Hospital

Recipient: A/Prof. David Ziegler

Funding: \$316,218 over 3 years

Overview: The key outcome is feasibility of precision medicine in a clinical setting, outcomes of patients treated and test a novel technology that may allow safe and effective stem cell transplant from a patient's parent.



Project: International Collaborations in Paediatric Cancer Research

Institute: Hudson Institute of Medical Research

Funding: \$49,500 over 3 years. Renewal – funded since 2018

Overview: The aim is to advance the Hudson Monash Paediatric Precision Medicine Program (Project 219) by developing and strengthening collaboration with international experts in paediatric precision medicine.

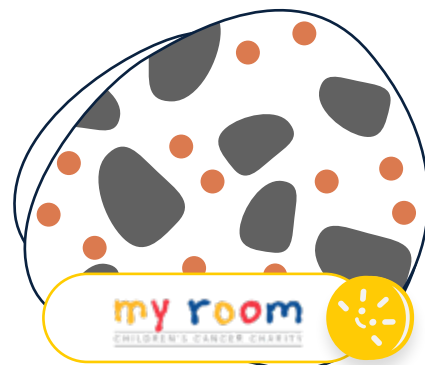
Project: Acute Myeloid Leukaemia National Clinical Trial (Myechild01)

Focus: Acute myeloid leukaemia

Institute: Led by Dr Andrew Moore, Queensland Children's Hospital, Brisbane; with nine participating hospitals in Australia and New Zealand

Funding: \$1,055,245 over 5 years

Overview: This trial provides access to a new drug currently unavailable to Australian children, even on compassionate grounds. The key outcome is to determine which of the current treatments combined with the new drug will provide the best chance of survival.



Project: SIOPEX Neuroblastoma Clinical Trials

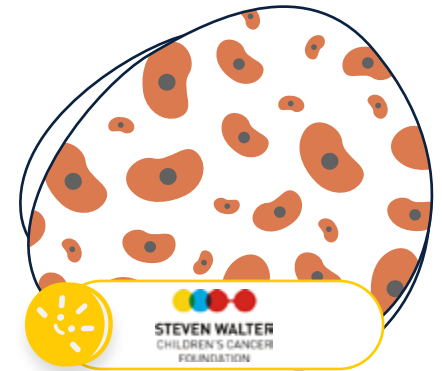
Focus: Neuroblastoma

Institute: Sydney Children's Hospital

Recipient: A/Prof. Toby Trahair

Funding: \$530,965

Overview: The SIOPEX LINES trial is for children with less aggressive tumours and incorporates refined tumour analysis and staging techniques to more easily identify biologically favourable tumours and unfavourable tumours.



Project: Neuro-oncology Research Coordinator

Focus: Clinical trials for solid and brain cancer patients

Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital

Funding: \$312,217 over 3 years

Overview: The key outcomes are to increase clinical trial enrolment of children under treatment for cancer and to ensure that every child has access to the same pathway to timely and accurate treatment, improved drug access and novel therapies.

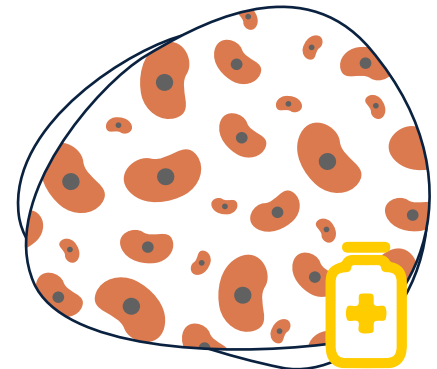
Project: Nurse and Allied Health Staff Professional Development

Focus: Oncology Staff Development

Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital and Monash Children's Hospital

Funding: \$50,000 per year

Overview: This funding is designed to assist the professional development of registered nurses and allied health and psycho social health professionals directly involved in the care of children with cancer.



Project: My Room Oncology Social Worker

Focus: In-hospital family support

Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital

Funding: \$396,154 over 3 years. Renewal - funded since 1998

Overview: Salary funding for a Social Worker to support families with children undergoing treatment within the Children's Cancer Centre.

Project: Physiotherapy Service

Focus: In-hospital patient care

Institute: Monash Children's Hospital

Funding: \$147,355 over 3 years

Overview: Salary funding for two physiotherapists to initiate, implement and evaluate a dedicated physiotherapy service to provide high quality assessment and intervention to all children and adolescents at diagnosis and throughout treatment.



Funding for families and children with cancer



Project: Art Therapists

Focus: In-hospital patient care

Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital

Recipients: Alexandra Lederman and Tilly Dawson

Funding: \$721,745 over 5 years. Renewal – funded since 2010

Overview: Salary funding to provide art therapy services enabling children under treatment for cancer to process their emotions such as anxiety, depression, hopes and fears through art. Through non-verbal and safe individual and group sessions, children can use creative avenues while socialising with other children sharing similar cancer experiences.



Project: Music Therapist

Focus: In-hospital patient care

Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital

Recipient: Melina Roberts

Funding: \$197,500 over 3 years. Renewal – funded since 2007

Overview: Salary funding for a Music Therapist to provide clinical music therapy services to children under treatment. Music therapy improves children's psychological adjustment to cancer treatment and promotes positive coping skills.

Project: Music Therapists (0.2 EFT)

Focus: In-hospital patient care

Institute: Monash Children's Hospital

Funding: \$119,839 over 5 years (2018-23). Renewal – funded since 2009

Overview: Salary funding for a Music Therapist to provide clinical musical therapy across the inpatient, day cancer and outpatient settings. Music Therapy aims to provide positive coping-related behaviours and reduce anxiety for patients and their families during procedures.



Project: Dietitian

Focus: In-hospital patient care

Institute: Monash Children's Hospital

Funding: \$137,526 over 3 years. Supplement of 0.4 EFT to the 0.3 EFT funded 2010-17 and now embedded in hospital budget.

Overview: Salary funding for a Dietitian to provide intensive nutritional support, which is associated with improved survival rates and treatment tolerance. This ensures children have access to a full-time nutritional service to optimise their health during cancer treatment.



Project: Family Counselling Service
Focus: In-hospital family support
Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital and Monash Children's Hospital
Funding: \$429,000 over 5 years.
Overview: Funding for face-to-face counselling with a psychologist for children with cancer, their parents or siblings.

Project: The Beaded Journey
Focus: In-hospital patient support
Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital, Monash Children's Hospital and Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre
Funding: \$79,900 over 5 years. Renewal - funded since 2008
Overview: The Beaded Journey gives children the opportunity to tell their personal cancer story by marking key medical and non-medical events throughout their treatment with a special bead.



Project: Family Gym Memberships
Focus: In-hospital family support
Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital
Funding Partner: Inside Out Performance
Overview: The key outcome is to support parents in improving their wellbeing while based at the hospital for prolonged periods caring for their children.

Project: Family Resource Coordinator
Focus: In-hospital family support
Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital
Recipient: Merridy Justice
Funding: \$273,397 over 3 years. Renewal - funded since 2006
Overview: The Family Resource Coordinator facilitates discussion between staff and families, and provides day-to-day support services through play, social activities and respite.



Project: Family and Community Resource Officer
Focus: In-hospital family support
Institute: Monash Children's Hospital
Recipient: Jessica Kelly
Funding: \$41,483 over 3 years. Supplement of 0.2 EFT to 0.4 EFT funded 2007-17 and now embedded in hospital budget.
Overview: The Family and Community Resource Officer facilitates discussion between staff and families, and provides day-to-day support services through play, recreation, social activities and respite.

Celebrating Melbourne's Moomba and RCH's 150th Birthday



When the Moomba Festival comes to town, it's a distinctly Melbourne event not to be missed. Proudly presented by the City of Melbourne, the Moomba Festival showcases a free, fun-loving and family-friendly program of events and activities along the banks of the Yarra.

The 2020 Moomba Parade was an extra special and colourful affair, featuring the iconic Rainbow Island Float designed by children in the oncology ward at The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne (RCH) who have been participating in the Art Therapy program, proudly funded by the Children's Cancer Foundation.

A creative collaboration inspired by the hospital's 150th birthday, Art Therapists Matilda (Tilly) Dawson and Alexandra Lederman worked together with the Foundation, the City of Melbourne and around twenty children in treatment on the Rainbow Float Moomba Float submission.

"The float brought such joy, hope and happiness"

On parade day, Monday 9th March, the spectacularly colourful float was accompanied along Birdwood Avenue, through Kings Domain parkland and onto Linlithgow Avenue near Queen Victoria Gardens by childhood cancer families and their friends.



A Tribute to a Continuing Campaigner for Children with Cancer

In November 2020 Mary McGowan leaves the Royal Children's Hospital after more than 42 years of service at the front line of children's cancer. As you would expect, Mary isn't retiring she is turning the page to a new chapter in her life, all the while remaining a passionate advocate for children and families.

It was 14 June 1978 when Mary joined the Children's Cancer Centre at The Royal Children's Hospital as a Paediatric Oncology Nurse. Her first nursing role after arriving in Australia from Ireland where she completed her nurse training, within two years she was promoted to Nurse Unit Manager, a position she held for 20 years. In 2001, Mary was appointed the Community Liaison Manager, providing patients and families with the emotional and educational support that they need, and working with charities to support the work of the cancer ward.

Outside of the hospital, Mary has been an extraordinarily active volunteer with many charity organisations including Challenge, Ronald Donald House, My Room, Canteen, Red Kite, and Lion's Club to name a few. She is a founding member and current director of the Children's Cancer Foundation, delivering unrivalled insight and awareness to the real-time difficulties that parents and families of children with cancer face on and off treatment. Mary is also a founding member of the charity My Room established in 1992, who together with four parents from the ward wanted to improve the facilities at the Royal Children's Hospital.

Mary also represents Australia on the advocacy group Childhood Cancer International as Oceania Board Member, supporting and advocating much needed assistance for developing countries through generously sharing her expertise and knowledge in the field of childhood cancer.

It is not goodbye to Mary, but rather congratulations on an outstanding career of service at RCH and we look forward with interest to enjoying the next chapter of Mary's journey.

Mary will continue as a Board member of the Children's Cancer Foundation and a passionate advocate for children's cancer in Australia.

Awards:

- Victorian Honour Roll of Women, Local Champion (2019)
- 2016 Graham Woodrup Memorial Award Winner, Murray to Moyne Cycle Relay (exceptional effort and inspiration to others in the course of his/her team's involvement with the Murray to Moyne Cycle Relay)
- Pride of Australia Medal (2006)
- Ronald McDonald House Charities Hall of Fame (2004)
- White Flame Award, by the Save the Children Fund (1998)
- The Royal Children's Hospital Chairman's Medal (1993)

Qualifications:

- RN, GradDipAdv Nurs (Onc/Pall Care)



Thank You to our Supporters

Million Dollar Lunch Cornerstone Partners



The AFL supports the Children's Cancer Foundation and The Million Dollar Lunch through event management and production, sponsorship, design and other strategic support services



Crown Resorts generously supports The Million Dollar Lunch by absorbing all venue and catering costs, and assisting with raffle and auction items.



SportsBet supports the Children's Cancer Foundation through the AFL SportsBet Community Partnership, contributing towards The Million Dollar Lunch, and a workplace giving program.



Lexus of Blackburn supports The Million Dollar Lunch by donating a luxury vehicle to the premium raffle and contributing to an auction item experience.



Virgin Australia generously supports the Million Dollar Lunch by providing flights for our grand auction and premium raffle items, for MCs and entertainers.



Pro Bono Supporters



Legal Advice



Graphic Design



Audit Services



SEO and Google AdWords



Website Consulting Services



Tennis Australia and the Children's Cancer Foundation teamed up for another year. Tennis Australia supports the Foundation with pro bono office accommodation along with all the workplace essentials so our team can spend more time, and funds on what really matter.

Our Inaugural Giving Day

A virtual world initiative for children living with cancer

It is difficult to imagine circumstances less conducive to fundraising than a state of emergency, a curfew, widespread economic shutdown and recession.

But the fact is, children are still dying from cancer, and we needed to be there for them. That is why, in the face of so many obstacles that the COVID-19 pandemic presented, we decided to reimagine the format of our annual fundraising event The Million Dollar Lunch.

Our inaugural Giving Day held on Friday August 7th, was not an ordinary day. We set ourselves an ambitious goal to raise \$1,000,000 in 24 hours. Rallying support from past attendees of the Million Dollar Lunch, regular donors, friends, family and the wider community, we created a dedicated online donation platform, in lieu of our physical event, for contributions large or small to be gifted towards improving the lives of young cancer patients.

The concept raised more than \$580,000, a result we were incredibly grateful for and proud of too. While it fell well short of the seven-figure sums we are accustomed to seeing from The Million Dollar Lunch, the generosity shown by so many wonderful humans in such unprecedented times, was a truly outstanding achievement.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2021 Million Dollar Lunch on Friday 6th August 2021.



Hayden
Childhood Cancer Survivor

Thank you to our many supporters including:

Million Dollar Lunch Committee

Giving Day Hero Children

Hayden, Stella, Mia, Marcus and David

Giving Day Matched Donor Partners

PFD Food Services, Portland House Foundation
and Arrotex Pharmaceuticals



Giving Day Virtual Riders

The Zwift Community, Brunswick Cycling Club
and Hawthorn Cycling Club



Change Champions Tribute

Antonia Ferrante
Betty's Cut for Cancer



Cassandra Ng
HOLD MY HAND
IMMA BE BALD



Chloe Druda
Chloe's Fundraiser



Drew Farrell
Drew's shave 4
cancer kids



Special Named Funds acknowledgement

We would like to thank the brave and dedicated work of our Special Named Funds. Each raising funds for their fallen angels - Lilly, Marcus and Ruby Rose. Funds raised from these dedicated donation campaigns support the Foundations research and care programs. Thank You.

**Lillies
F^{OR} Hope**

**a
splash
of yellow**
for Marcus

Ruby-Rose
RAINBOW FUND
GIVING HOPE TO KIDS WITH CANCER

Bequests Awareness

During the year the Foundation was once again the beneficiary of gifts from deceased estates. Most of these people were not known to the Foundation and our subsequent enquiries revealed many of them had no direct connection with children's cancer.

Donors' families often talked of their loved ones saying they "had a blessed life and just wanted to share with those that help other". People from all walks of life choose to contribute to a better society beyond their lifetime. These gifts can be large or small.

We thank all our inspiring individuals who have left an enduring glow for children with cancer.

Georgia Kourdis
My first cut for
a cause



Jeremy Cliff
Jeremy's Head Shave
for C



Mark Wells
Cut the bun



Zoe Russell
Zoe's Haircut
Fundraiser



Zach Wong
Stuff cancer!



Fundraising Initiatives

Nathan's 100km Solo Row, September 2019

The idea to complete a solo unbroken row of 100km came about during a casual chat with my brother Dan and our mate Anthony. At the time, we made up the coaching staff at our gym, formerly Mind Body Athletic, now Train Bare.

We knew the row would be one of the toughest challenges we had faced, both mentally and physically. It was a no brainer to attach the event to a cause close to our hearts - I decided to raise money for the Children's Cancer Foundation!

My mum died of cancer when I was 18. Thinking about a child and their family going through something like that is absolutely heartbreaking to me. I wanted to raise as much awareness and whatever money I could, in the hope I could make a small difference to children and their families who are going through the unthinkable.

Looking back on the day, the memory of the physical pain has definitely faded from my mind and I can't remember just how hard it was. The thing that sticks with me most, is knowing that I was able to do something I once thought impossible, and to do that alongside my brother and mate made it all the more special.

For anyone thinking about undertaking a personal challenge, whether that be mentally or physically, I would say - "Think less!". You don't have to be amazing at something to do something amazing. Break through that mental barrier of "There's no way I can do that" to "Yeah, maybe I can do that" - that's when you'll start to see yourself in a different light.

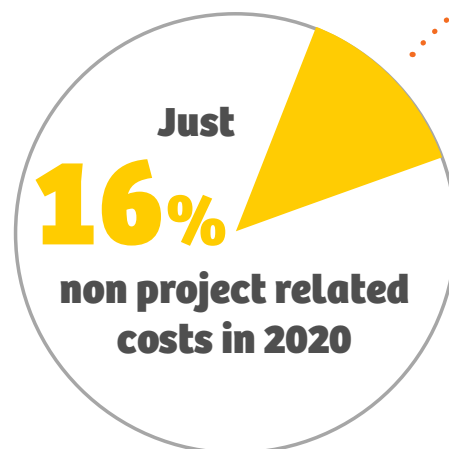


Projects funded 2019/20

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2020

	2020	2019
Cash and cash equivalents	\$5,136,530	\$4,352,451
Trade and other receivables	\$283,508	\$258,418
Total Current Assets	\$5,420,038	\$4,610,869
Property, plant and equipment	\$1,777	\$2,968
Total Non Current Assets	\$1,777	\$2,968
Total Assets	\$5,421,815	\$4,613,837
Trade and other payables	\$838,654	\$17,185
Deferred revenue	\$148,075	\$470,215
Employee provisions	\$9,039	\$72,570
Total Current Liabilities	\$995,768	\$559,970
Employee provisions	\$1,557	\$1,211
Total Non Current Liabilities	\$1,557	\$1,211
Total Liabilities	\$997,325	\$561,181
NET ASSETS	\$4,424,490	\$4,052,656
Retained earnings	\$4,424,490	\$4,052,656
TOTAL EQUITY	\$4,424,490	\$4,052,656

* The Foundation has contractual agreements with hospitals and research institutes for multi year project funding. These commitments are made subject to the availability of sufficient funds. A total of \$12,643,454 has been committed for the period 2020 to 2024.



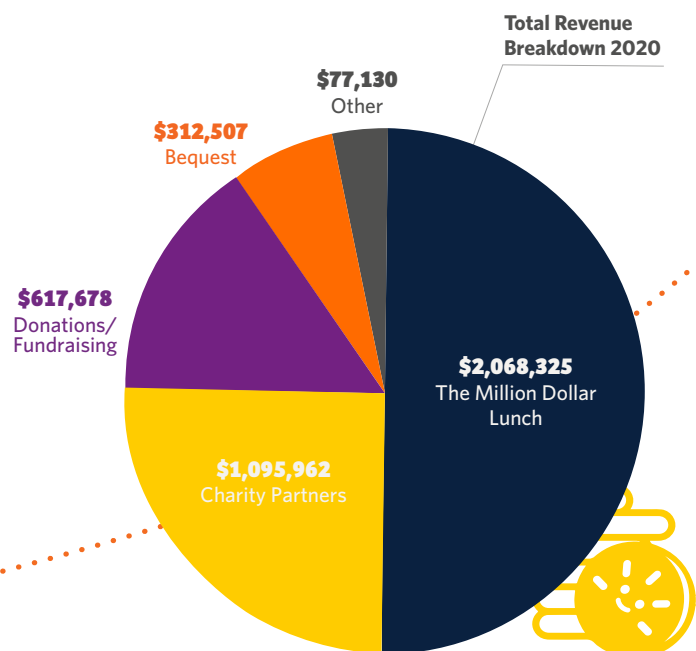
We like to keep administration and fundraising costs to a minimum. Our overheads are kept low through the generosity of many pro bono supporters who provide us with office space, IT, print, legal, audit and event management.

Concise Profit and Loss Statement of Financial Position for Year ended 30 June 2020

	2020	2019
The Million Dollar Lunch	\$2,068,325	\$2,516,900
Donations/Fundraising	\$617,678	\$486,283
Charity partners	\$1,095,962	\$499,995
Bequest	\$312,507	\$174,684
Other	\$77,130	\$140,808
Total Revenue	\$4,171,602	\$3,818,670
Project funding expenses to support children with cancer	(\$3,134,508)	(\$3,517,899)
Administration, management and other expenses	(\$655,739)	(\$707,816)
Depreciation	(\$1,190)	(\$1,188)
Finance costs	(\$8,331)	(\$1,819)
Total Expenses	(\$3,799,768)	(\$4,228,722)
Surplus/(deficit) before income tax	\$371,834	(\$410,052)
Income tax expense	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$371,834	(\$410,052)

The Million Dollar Lunch	August 2019	August 2018
Revenue (Gross)	\$2,068,325	\$2,516,900
Expense *	\$106,409	\$118,978
Revenue (Net)	\$1,961,916	\$2,397,922
Net Return on Event	94.8%	95.2%

* All event costs are donated, other than a nominal contractor cost, a notional allocation for time spent by our staff on the event, and miscellaneous costs.



The Foundation funded the following projects in 2019/20.

Total Project Funding **\$3,134,508.**



Name	Location	Funding Pillar	
113 - Family Resource Coordinator ²	The Royal Children's Hospital	Family Support	\$89,000
115 - Art Therapists ⁵	The Royal Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$114,730
116 - The Beaded Journey Program	The Royal Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$6,919
117 - Music Therapist	The Royal Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$67,906
126 - Clinical Trial Early Phase CRA	The Royal Children's Hospital	Clinical Trial	\$96,543
129 - Family Gym Memberships	The Royal Children's Hospital	Clinical Trial	\$1,660
132 - Leukemia Stem Cells	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	Clinical Research	\$95,538
133 - Family Counselling	The Royal Children's Hospital	Family Support	\$6,966
134 - CCF Clinical Research Fellowship	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	Clinical Research	\$255,000
135 - My Room Peter McGrath and Matthew Rathbone Clinical Research fellowships ¹	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	Clinical Research	\$218,792
136 - Family Connect	The Royal Children's Hospital	Family Support	\$3,003
137 - Oncology Social Worker & Patient Amenity Fund ¹	The Royal Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$111,753
138 - Neuro-oncology Research Coordinator	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	Clinical Research	\$86,559

Name	Location	Funding Pillar	
202 - Family Resource Coordinator ¹	Monash Children's Hospital	Family Support	\$13,560
203 - Music Therapy	Monash Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$21,285
209 - Dietitian ¹	Monash Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$44,390
215 - ALCCRF Research Fellowship HIMR ³	Hudson Institute of Medical Research	Clinical Research	\$95,281
216 - Clinical Trial Manager	Monash Children's Hospital	Clinical Trial	\$46,470
218 - Family Counselling	Monash Children's Hospital	Family Support	\$1,046
219 - Hudson Monash Paediatric Precision Medicine ³	Hudson Institute of Medical Research	Clinical Research	\$ 937,537
220 - My Room Clinical Research Fellowship ¹	Hudson Institute of Medical Research	Family Support	\$104,739
221 - International Collaboration Research Conference	Hudson Institute of Medical Research	Family Support	\$16,544
222 - PhD Scholars Program HIMR	Hudson Institute of Medical Research	Family Support	\$68,241
223 - Physiotherapy Service ¹	Monash Children's Hospital	Family Support	\$88,495

Name	Location	Funding Pillar	
301 - National MyeChild01 Clinical Trial - Moore ¹	National	Clinical Trial	\$105,680
302 - National investigator initiated clinical trials	National	Clinical Trial	\$106,446
305 - SIOPEN Neuroblastoma Clinical Trials ⁴	National	Clinical Trial	\$106,669
306 - Optimising Relapse Prediction in High Risk Neuroblastoma	National	Clinical Research	\$223,756

Total project funding

\$3,134,508

Funded by or in conjunction with our charity partners: ¹ My Room ² Portland House Foundation ³ Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation

⁴ Steven Walter Children's Cancer Foundation ⁵ Pratt Foundation



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