

# Year in Review 2022

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ROAR

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Together, we look to the day that children's cancer is gone.

# **Our impact** at a glance

\$64,972,000 raised since inception

### **Our Mission**

We believe nothing is impossible - it is just that no one has done it yet.

We are mothers and fathers who have experienced childhood cancer.

We are past patients and individuals who care and have the foresight and vision to see the day when children's cancer is gone.

We are a small, extraordinary and dedicated team of staff who know our involvement is making a material difference and is so much more than just a job.

We know we can only achieve what we do to progress our essential mission thanks to the exceptional generosity from the many individuals and organisations who graciously embrace our cause.





### **Our Values**

### **CURIOUS**

We always want to fund a better way for every childhood cancer challenge

### **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

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### **COLLABORATIVE**

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



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

### ACCOUNTABLE

We strive for the most efficient ways to achieve our ambitions and always provide full disclosure



to continue the research, clinical trials and workforce development (\$10m from CCF and \$35 from Victorian State Government)



spent on non-project related expenses





projects





funded hospital and research staff



### **Board Members**



**Jeremy Smith** Father of Linus

Barrister, Commercial, property, employment and estate litigation Special Responsibility: Chairman



**Tracey Danaher** Mother of Zac Professor, Monash Business School **Special Responsibility:** Project Funding





### Mary McGowan OAM

Maurizio Marcocci

**Special Responsibility:** 

Cancer Survivor

Chair, My Room

Mv Room Liaison

Former Community Liaison Officer, Children's Cancer Centre, Paediatric Oncology, Royal Children's Hospital

**Director,** University Food Group and

Special Responsibility: Parent Engagement



### Sarah Wyse

Independent Advisor and Founder, Wyse Women

**Special Responsibility:** Media and Communications









**Jeff Darmanin** Father of Will Executive Director, Children's Cancer Foundation

**Special Responsibility:** 

### **Peter Crinis**

**Executive Director** for PUBLIC Hospitality and Managing Director, Anchor Consultancy Co.

**Special Responsibility:** The Million Dollar Lunch Committee

### **Kevin Martin**

Charted Accountant, Global Financial Director of Ryco Hydraulics Group entities

Special Responsibility: Finance and Audit; Secretary

Vivienne Petroff Executive Director, Flagstaff

**Special Responsibility:** Finance





Prof. Doug Hilton AO Director, Walter & Eliza Hall Institute







Prof. Sarah-Jane Dawson Professor, Sir Peter MacCallum Department of Oncology, University of Melbourne





### **Farewell to our members**

During the course of the year we had two distinguished Directors leave our board.

Nat Lippiatt concluded seven years as a director of the Foundation. Nat has helped revolutionise the Foundation's branding and communications. She has been a passionate and engaged member of our board in all aspects and her input will be greatly missed. True to form, Nat continues to provide advise and support to the Foundation post her departure as a Director.

James Roche has concluded 15 year as a director of the Foundation. James has provided significant support in guiding the Foundation's overall strategy. His involvement has spanned all aspects of the

Foundation including fundraising, government and institutional advocacy, hospital and research engagement and project investment management. He has been a tireless member of the Million Dollar Lunch Committee, a role that he will continue into 2023.

On behalf of all involved in the Foundation, we pay tribute to Nat and James.

**Executive Director** 





### **Scientific Advisory Committee**

Prof. David M. Ashley Director, The Preston Robert Tisch Brain Tumour Center at Duke University, North Carolina

The Preston Robert Tisch



**Prof. Steph Jane** Dean, Sub Faculty of Translational Medicine and Public Health, Monah University





Prof. Nicole La Gurta ARC Future Fellow and Professor. Monash University



**Dr. Kate Johnson** Chair of the Children's Cancer Centre, Parent's Advisory Group at the Royal Children's Hospital; Mother of a child diagnosed with cancer





**Nat Lippiatt** 



**James Roche** 

## A Message from our Chairman

After two extremely challenging years, 2022 has been perhaps the most productive in the history of the Children's Cancer Foundation.

In August 2022, the Foundation staged The Million Dollar Lunch for the first time since 2019. The event was a stunning success, raising \$2.8 million, the strongest result in its 18 year history. Due to the generosity of our sponsors and donors, event costs were limited to less than \$100,000, making The Million Dollar Lunch one of the most efficient fundraisers in Australia.

In October 2022, the Victorian Government announced that it will join the Children's Cancer Foundation in funding Stage Two of the Victorian Paediatric Cancer Consortium, the Foundation's research collaboration with Monash Children's Hospital, Monash University, The Hudson Institute of Medical Research, Royal Children's Hospital, University of Melbourne, the Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute.

The Foundation will contribute \$10 million to the Victorian Paediatric Cancer Consortium and the Victorian Government a further \$35 million. These sums are in addition to the \$9.6 million procured by the Foundation from the Commonwealth which has funded Stage One of the Consortium's activities. All up, and solely due to the efforts of the Foundation, the Consortium now has guaranteed funding of \$54.6 million through to 2029.

This initiative is in addition to the other projects funded by the Foundation in the last year (listed on page 19) across clinical research, clinical trials, clinical services and family support. I would like to pay tribute to our supporters, large and small, who have made these achievements possible. Many of them are acknowledged in the pages that follow. All of them are essential to the Foundation's ongoing success.

> Special thanks to the Event Partners of The Million Dollar Lunch, Crown Resorts, The Australian Football League, Sportsbet, and Lexus of Blackburn, as well as The Million Dollar Lunch Committee.

> And a big thank you to our pro bono service providers including RSM Australia Partners and of course Tennis Australia who support our team at Melbourne Park.

I would like to acknowledge my fellow directors and especially Nat Lippiatt and James Roche, who retired from the board this year after prodigious contributions.

To Jeff Darmanin and his small team of Renee Jess, Yen Ee Yeoh, Sally Armstrong, Ruby Hunter Murphy, Rebecca Bowker and the recently departed Jane Holroyd, thank you for your amazing efforts in the last 12 months.

> Jeremy Smith Chairman

# Nelly and Eli's battle with life and cancer

Childhood cancers can have lifelong health implications, fortunately for us, Eli was able to receive treatment across two different states. This was a result of collaborative and advocating efforts by everyone in his medical treating team, including specialists from Victoria, NSW, and France.

Eli was exactly 1 year and 4 months old when he was diagnosed. I was alone when they told me that his urinary retention was because of a large tumour located below his bladder. As a single parent, having my baby boy go through 17 months of intensive chemotherapy and radiation was incredibly demanding, especially juggling fulltime care and navigating everything on my own.



Eli endured 501 days of treatment, countless days of quarantine in a small hospital room with windows that couldn't open, 6 days of an induced coma in paediatric ICU for radiation treatment, hundreds of finger pricks, hundreds of blood samples taken, and so many viruses, infections, and fevers. I've lost count of how many times I had to hold back tears while I physically held my baby down through his screams and many other horrendous procedures.

# I had to numb myself so I couldn't hear his little voice begging me "please stop Mama".

The emotional and psychological toll it takes on families is profound. I was unable to work and could not support myself financially so I lived well below the poverty line and if it wasn't for the many charity organisations and the Oncology team at Monash, I would not have been able to afford to feed myself or put fuel in my car so we could drive to the hospital.

The side effects Eli endured were labelled "common", his memory of the cancer treatment is very minimal. If I were to ask him what he remembers, he would mention Peter. Dr Peter Downie has been our Oncologist and without the wonderful and tireless efforts of the entire medical team, including nurses, Hospital in the Home team, dietitian, Psychologist, Social Worker, volunteers, and many other researchers and scientists who we don't know; our story may have been very different.

Although I cannot take away the pain and memory of the lifelong damage cancer has had on our psychological wellbeing, I can contribute towards raising awareness and advocating for more funding. Organisations like the VPCC hold a crucial role towards supporting children's cancer research for children and to ensure that families like ours have an opportunity and are given a voice.

Story written by Nelly, Mum of Eli



### Laying the Foundations for **Better Child Cancer Outcomes**

As we come to the end of 2022. we at the Foundation reflect on the year past and look forward optimistically to the coming year.

We start remembering that during this year we expect nearly 1,000 children and adolescents have been diagnosed with cancer in Australia. For all their families this has most likely been the worst year of their lives. We know the challenges they face will be profound.

### Our programs seek to support them through this experience.

We should also turn our mind to those caring for our families - our tremendous healthcare workers. While many of us have seen a return to "normal" in 2022 those that work in and around our hospitals supporting childhood cancer families are in their third year of operation in a difficult environment. We thank them for absorbing these challenges and

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seeking to insulate their patients and families from this additional stress.

These reflections on our patients, our families and our healthcare workers are cause to restate some of the underlying rationale for our work. The Foundation is advocating and raising funds to fund research and clinical care to enhance the quality of care given by hospitals to young cancer patients.

### At the Foundation we believe that research and clinical care are both very

**important** as evidenced by our spread of research, clinical trial, clinical care and family support programs, illustrated on pages 22 to 27. In the following, we highlight two activities which showcase the diversity of the Foundation activities - the Victorian Paediatric Cancer Consortium and the Children's Cancer Family Support Alliance website.

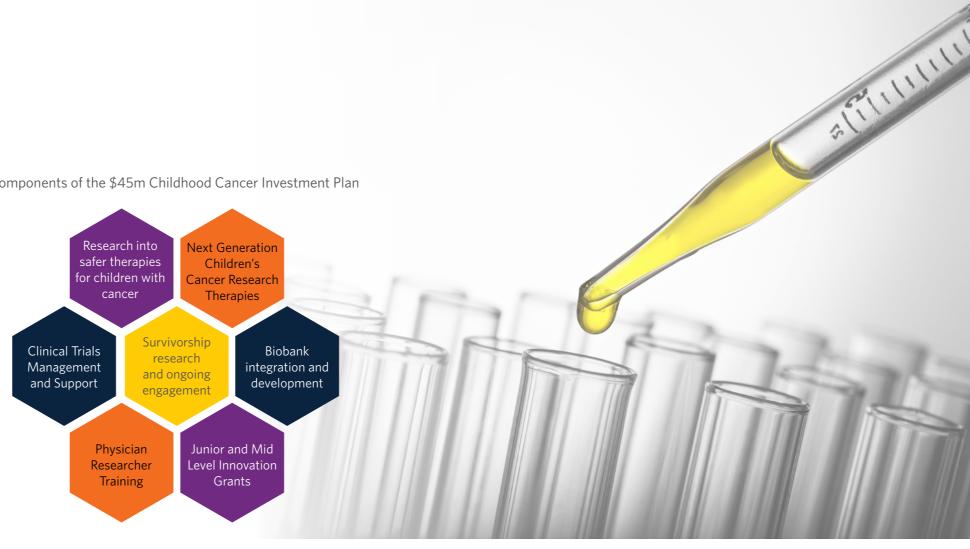


Partners of the Victorian Paediatric Cancer Consortium

The Children's Cancer Foundation's national research agenda is spearheaded by our passion to create the Victorian **Paediatric Cancer Consortium** (VPCC). Don't let the name fool you. We are trying to bring the best minds in Victoria's institutes together to leverage their experience to participate in a national and international conquest - to accelerate groundbreaking childhood cancer research.

The VPCC is nearly 18 months old and was created in 2021 with federal government funding of \$10m secured by the Foundation. We are starting to see some green shoots emerging. To secure this momentum into the future, the Foundation has pledged an additional \$10m over 5 years matched by an additional \$35m from the Victorian State Government.

Components of the \$45m Childhood Cancer Investment Plan



### This \$45m investment which commences in 2024 represents the single biggest investment in childhood cancer research in Victoria.

This investment is designed to:

- Increase access for children to innovative cancer therapies and treatments;
- Leverage existing excellence in Victorian based adult cancer to become a internationally recognised childhood cancer research location; and
- Enhance efforts to develop, attract and retain our childhood cancer workforce.

This investment will provide our research childhood cancer community some certainty until 2029 and we believe position the VPCC to exceed all expectations.



Not all things the Foundation undertakes cost millions of dollars. One of our low-cost investments which we are very proud of is the collaboration with a range of childhood cancer service providers to help create a family services directory.

### The Children's Cancer Family Support Alliance website was

designed to bring the support services offered by charities to families with cancer in one place. Parent usage of this directory site and their feedback has been heart-warming and reassuring that this is a much needed basic service.

### **CHILDREN'S CANCER** FAMILY SUPPORT ALLIANCE

www.childrenscancersupport.com.au

These two initiatives are symbolic of the change the Children's Cancer Foundation is seeking to drive through financial support, creating a collaborative environment and developing plans for better child cancer outcomes.

Wishing you and your family a safe and happy Christmas. Thank you for your ongoing interest and support. None of what we do could happen without you.

### Jeff Darmanin

**Executive Director** 

## **The Million Dollar Lunch 2022**

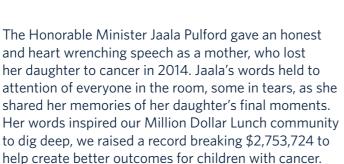
### A sunny afternoon warmed the guests of this year's Million Dollar Lunch

After a two-year hiatus, the Million Dollar Lunch was back, better than ever.

On Friday August 19, we opened the doors to a sunny Palm Springs and welcomed back close to 600 guests to Melbourne's most coveted fundraising event.

Our event host, Sarah Jones, Presenter at Fox Footy, the Children's Cancer Foundation Chairman, Jeremy Smith and Crown Executive, Ann Peacock addressed the room with powerful speeches, invigorating the room to raise over \$2 million for children's cancer.





CROWN

The Foundation is grateful for the amazing goodwill and generosity shown by our guests, donors, suppliers, volunteers, and dedicated Cornerstone Partners that made the event possible. Collectively we are working to see the day that children's cancer is gone and your support will help us get there. Thanks a million!

The Million Dollar Lunch Committee and the team at the Children's Cancer Foundation cannot wait to see what 2023 will bring!



### **Special thanks to our Event Partners**



The AFL supports the Children's Cancer Foundation and The Million Dollar Lunch through event management and production, and assisting with prize procurement.

### 

Lexus of Blackburn supports The Million Dollar Lunch by donating a luxury vehicle to the premium raffle.

### sportsbet

SportsBet supports the Children's Cancer Foundation through ongoing sponsorship of The Million Dollar Lunch.

### Thank you to our Million Dollar Lunch **Committee Members**

- Gillon McLachlan Jeremy Smith Andrew Ryan Ann Peacock Enda Cunningham James Roche Jude Donnelly
- Kylie Rogers Narelle Curtis Peter Crinis **Rianna Ponting** Sean Taylor **Thomas Mort**







Crown Resorts generously supports The Million Dollar Lunch by absorbing all venue and catering costs, and assisting with prize procurement.





The Portland House Foundation supports The Million Dollar Lunch through ongoing project sponsorship.

# MDL \$50,000 Impact Pledge Acknowledgements

The guests at this year's Million Dollar Lunch showed amazing generosity as many put their hand up to pledge \$50,000 in support of the Foundation's mission. We would like to provide a special mention to these individuals, families, business' and other anonymous donors who are dedicated towards our cause.



The Pratt Foundation



The Highland Foundation (\$100,000) Sharon Landy & Kerry Smith



M&J Rockman Foundation



Tamas Szabo



Ponting Foundation



Tom & Dianna Cregan



Nicole McIntyre, John Booth)

The Booth Group

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Grill'd Healthy Burgers



The LUME Melbourne



Arrotex Pharmaceuticals



Pellicano Family

### Childhood Cancer is a Nightmare

Cancer kills more children than any other disease in Australia

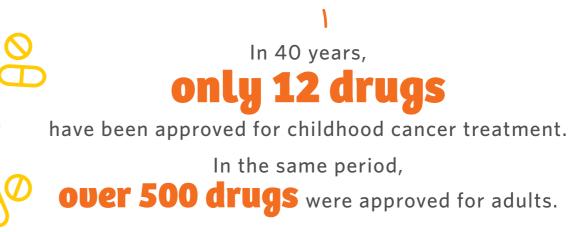
children and adolescents are diagnosed with cancer each year

over 550 will be left with

long term chronic side effects due to the high toxicity of treatment such as:



Brain Damage







### Of the 850 that do survive,



Learning Difficulties



10% risk of developing treatment related cancers







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### **The brightest September ever!**

This September, Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, showed us the strength of our community, supporters, and partners.

During the month, we did some exciting things to boost awareness of the need to increase funding and research in children's cancer. Our generous supporters pulled through, donating close to \$100,000 to support the Foundation's vision.

These are some of the September highlights!







It is the highest valued footy kick this season, **Sportsbet donated** \$1000 for every metre Gill could kick it, Sportsbet rounded it up to a whopping \$40,000 for a 38m kick by the Foundation's Patron, Gillon McLachlan

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#### On Sunday 18th September, a fun Family Day that brought smiles to children with cancer. The day was hosted by the Children's Cancer Foundation and Australian Tennis Foundation. Thanks to our partner, Tennis Australia, these well deserving families were able to enjoy an afternoon away from the hospital with a hit of tennis together, at Melbourne Park. They were also taken on an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of Rod Laver Arena by tennis legend John 'Fitzy' Fitgerald!

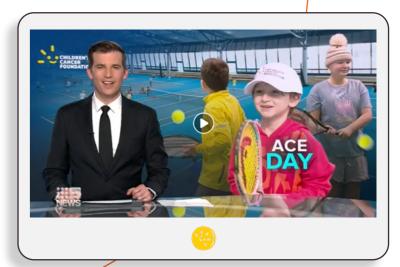
This special afternoon was even featured on Channel 9, bringing awareness of childhood cancer into every home.

We were lucky enough to get our Patron, Gillon McLachlan, CEO of AFL and a key supporter, Ricky Ponting from the Ponting Foundation, to meet one of the children still living with the effects of childhood cancer, Hayden Clements and his twin sister Carlee.

Hayden was diagnosed with brain cancer back in 2015 and continues to battle the many side effects that his treatments have caused.

A special thanks to Bruce Peterson, CEO and Founder of The LUME Melbourne, for lighting up their space yellow for this photoshoot! As well as Herald Sun for featuring our Light It Up Yellow launch this September!





### **Our Wonderful Supporters**

### Bringing celebration and sweetness to children in treatment

March brought a sweet taste to the children in treatment at the Royal Children's Hospital Kookaburra ward with the Children's Cancer Foundation invited to attend the Moomba Parade for a third year!

Through the Foundation funded Art Therapy program, Art Therapist Matilda (Tilly) worked with around 20 children in treatment, to create the wonderful artwork for the Cotton Candy Wonderland Float, that rolled through this year's Moomba Parade.

This year's parade was extra-sweet for one very special child, Novalie. Her artwork was turned into life size sock puppet's that welcomed those who attended the Parade. Unfortunately, Novalie was brought back into hospital for treatment just days before she got to meet her incredible puppets at Moomba. With the help from the team at City of Melbourne, the sock puppet trio were able to make a special trip to the hospital's garden to surprise Novalie as she marvelled at her larger-than-life creations.

On Monday 14 March, the 2022 Moomba Parade was a huge success, with 10 families and their friends joining us at the Parade and spreading the awareness of children's cancer.

### "Thank you for inviting us to enjoy this day... the children were so excited to come out and do something different!"

The Children's Cancer Foundation was delighted to share this sunny (and tasty) occasion with the families affected by childhood cancer and bring joy, hope and happiness for one day, on what is normally an incredible difficult journey.







### The Cytoxic Cyclists take it to the road once again

Since 2008, the Cytoxic Cyclist team, consisting of staff, patient family, childhood cancer survivors and friends of the Children's Cancer Centres at Monash Children's Hospital and the Royal Children's Hospital have raised a total of \$432,144 to support the Foundation's extensive funding of hospital staff, clinical research and family support programs.

This year the team of 28 cyclists and support staff, donned their yellow lycra and began their 520km adventure from Echuca to Port Fairy at the Murray to Moyne Relay in April to raise fund for childhood cancer. Organised by our amazing board member, Mary McGowan, they raised an astounding \$33,801!



### St Nicholas Philanthropic Society of Proty

This dedicated group have been raising money for Children's Cancer Foundation, through their annual gala ball for over 7 years. In that time, they have donated close to \$80,000 to the Foundation - amazing results!

### **MacKenzie Family Foundation**

The generosity of this family cannot go unnoticed, the MacKenzie Family have supported the Foundation for the past two years donating an incredible \$125,000.



### **Marcus Rosin Special Named Fund**

The Marcus Rosin Fund is dedicated to and in honour of Marcus Rosin - beloved son of Marisa and Fabian, and brother to Mia - who was taken too early from this world in May 2014 from Ependymoma, brain cancer. The fund received a boost in 2021 on their way to their \$350,000 target courtesy of a donation of \$25,500 by Nelson Alexander Charitable Foundation representing the commission on a house sold.

### **Pallet Logistics**

The team at Pallet Logistics have been long supporters of the Foundation, making regular monthly donations since 2013. Wanting to simply help others who are less fortunate than themselves, the team have until now donated over \$122,000.



### **C Property QLD**

Since 2017, C Property, a Brisbane based commercial property agent, have donated a percentage of commission from every sale and lease transaction to charity. The generous regular donations have accumulated and as of 2022, C Property has donated over \$70,000 to the Children's Cancer Foundation.

### **Pokeworld Australia**

The Foundation's friends come from all walks of life. Pokeworld brings daily fun and joy to their online community through selling, buying and trading Pokemon Cards! Their passion also extends to lightening up kids' lives, especially those fighting against childhood cancer. The Pokeworld community has been actively raising funds for the Foundation and have raised \$32,000 in just over a year!



A huge thank you to Tennis Australia for your support 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.







**BAKER D. CHIRICO** 



These two family run organisations, work with the amazing Merridy Justice to nourish and sustain our families on a daily basis while their children are staying in at the Royal Children's Hospital. Your generosity means the world to our families and CCF. Thank you!



# **Financial Overview**

### Concise Profit and Loss Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

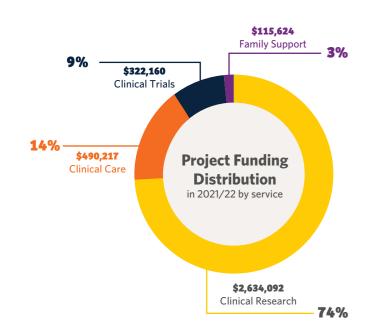
	2022	2021	
The Million Dollar Lunch	\$779,169	\$640,410	
Donations/Fundraising	\$569,470	\$686,892	
Charity Partner Donations	\$1,392,464	\$1,296,240	
Bequests	\$217,120	\$212,652	
Other	\$6,468	\$21,158	
Total Revenue	\$2,964,691	\$2,857,352	
Project funding expenses to support children with cancer	(\$3,562,093)	(\$4,026,243)	
Administration, management and other expenses	(\$371,263)	(\$521,721)	
Depreciation	(\$608)	(\$1,107)	
Finance costs	(\$3,009)	(\$3,427)	
Total Expenses	(\$3,936,973)	(\$4,552,498)	
Surplus/(deficit) before income tax	(\$972,282)	(\$1,695,146)	
Income tax expense	-	-	
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$972,282)	(\$1,695,146)	
The Million Dollar Lunch	August 2021*	August 2020*	
Revenue (Gross)	\$779,169	\$640,410	
Expense **	(\$14,438)	(\$16,532)	
Revenue (Net)	\$764,731	\$623,878	
Net Return on Event	<b>98.1</b> %	<b>97.4</b> %	



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.

#### \* Virtual MDL Giving Day in lieu of physical event due to Covid-19 restrictions

 $^{\star\star}$  All event costs are donated, other than a nominal contractor cost and miscellaneous costs.



### Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2022

	2022	2021	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$4,792,083	\$4,841,641	
Trade and other receivables	\$452,880	\$528,752	
Total Current Assets	\$5,244,963	\$5,370,393	
Property, plant and equipment	\$794	\$1,397	
Total Non Current Assets	\$794	\$1,397	
Total Assets	\$5,245,757	\$5,371,790	
Trade and other payables	\$865,028	\$1,129,178	
Deferred revenue	\$2,611,000	\$1,494,647	
Employee provisions	\$10,404	\$14,956	
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	\$3,486,432	\$2,638,781	
Employee provisions	\$2,263	\$3,665	
<b>Total Non Current Liabilities</b>	\$2,263	\$3,665	
Total Liabilities	\$3,488,695	\$2,642,446	
NET ASSETS	\$1,757,062	\$2,729,344	
Retained earnings	\$1,757,062	\$2,729,344	
TOTAL EQUITY	\$1,757,062	\$2,729,344	

\* The Foundation has contractual agreements with hospitals and research institutes for multi year project funding. A total of \$7.75m has been committed for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2024.

# The Foundation funded the following projects in 2021/22

Name	Location	Funding Pilla	r
Hudson Monash Paediatric Precision Medicine Program - Phase II	Hudson Institute of Medical Research	Clinical Research	\$1,794,667
Acute Myeloid Leukaemia National Clinical Trial <sup>1</sup>	ANZCHOG	Clinical Trial	\$341,388
Translational Studies Optimising Relapse Prediction in High Risk Neuroblastoma	University of New South Wales	Clinical Research	\$182,432
On Ward Art Therapist	Royal Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$136,969
Decoding the Dark Matter of High Risk Pediatric Cancer Genome $^{\rm 1}$	University of New South Wales	Clinical Research	\$130,000
Investigating Mechanisms of Relapse in High-Risk Paediatric Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia <sup>1</sup>	University of Adelaide	Clinical Research	\$100,000
SIOPEN Neuroblastoma Clinical Trials <sup>3</sup>	ANZCHOG	Clinical Trial	\$88,818
Family Resource Co-ordinator <sup>2</sup>	Royal Children's Hospital	Family Support	\$87,156
Clinical Research Fellowship <sup>1</sup>	Monash Children's Hospital	Clinical Research	\$77,289
Children's Cancer Foundation Clinical Research Fellowship	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	Clinical Research	\$75,000
On Ward Music Therapist	Royal Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$61,511
On Ward Oncology Social Worker & Patient Amenity Fund <sup>1</sup>	Royal Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$57,303
On Ward Physiotherapy Service <sup>1</sup>	Monash Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$56,482
PhD Scholars Development Program	Monash University	Clinical Research	\$51,413
Neuro-Oncology Research Co-ordinator <sup>4</sup>	The Royal Children's Hospital	Clinical Trial	\$50,910
Identification of Megakaryocyte and Platelet Bone Marrow Opportunities for Improved Care	St Vincent Institute of Medical Research	Clinical Research	\$50,315
On Ward Child Pyschologist Services	Queensland Children Hospital	Clinical Care	\$33,562
Osteosacoma Bone Regeneration Research <sup>1</sup>	Queensland University of Technology	Clinical Research	\$32,928
Victorian Pediatric Cancer Consortium Intiatives	Multi Institutional	Clinical Research	\$30,000
On Ward Child Psychologist	The Royal Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$29,170
On Ward Dietitian <sup>1</sup>	Monash Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$28,381
On Ward Music Therapist	Monash Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$17,884
Family and Community Resource Liason Officer	Monash Children's Hospital	Family Support	\$12,116
On Ward Occupational Therapist <sup>1</sup>	Monash Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$10,136
On Ward Speech Pathologist <sup>1</sup>	Monash Children's Hospital	Clinical Care	\$9,911
Family Counselling Financial Reimbursements	National	Family Support	\$9,310
Lilies for Hope Beaded Journey <sup>5</sup>	Victoria wide	Family Support	\$5,678
Family Alliance Website Build	Victoria wide	Family support	\$1,364
Total project funding			\$3,562,093

**Funded by or in conjunction with our charity partners:** <sup>1</sup>My Room <sup>2</sup>Portland House Foundation <sup>3</sup>Steven Walter Children's Cancer Foundation <sup>4</sup>Marcus Rosin Special Named Fund <sup>5</sup>Lillies for Hope Special Named Fund





### **Research and Care: Staff We Fund**

In a year where 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 alongside 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.





Jessica Buck

Researcher, UWA







**Alexandra Lederman** Art Therapist, RCH

**Dr Claire Sun** 

CCF Bioinformatician,

Hudson

Dilru Habarakada

Senior Biobank Specialist,

Hudson



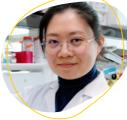
Assoc Prof Andrew Moore Chief Investigator National MyeChild01 Clinical Trial, QCH

**Dr Daniel Gough** 

Chief Investigator, Hudson



**Bree Boucher Alexander** Paediatric Medical and Oncology Nurse, MCH

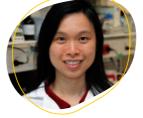


**Claire Shi** HIMR PhD Scholar, MU















Paediatric Oncologist, Hudson



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











Physiotherapist, MCH



Paediatric Medical and Oncology Nurse, MCH















Dr Jason Cain



Chief Investigator, Hudson





**Elisabeth McNulty** Social Worker, RCH

Irina Arzhintar

Lead Clinical Trial

Co-ordinator, MCH

Assoc Prof David Ziegler

Chief Investigator

National Clinical Trial, SCH



Erin Dalrymple



Dhanya Sooraj







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Pouyda Faridi Researcher, MU



Jacqui McGovern Research Fellow, QU

Melina Roberts Music Therapist, RCH







Ma'ayan Geffen Program Manager, Hudson



**Merridy Justice** Family Resource Coordinator, RCH



**Dr Peter Downie** Head of Clinical Enterprises, Hudson



Seong Lin Khaw CCF Research Fellow, MCRI



Matilda Dawson Art Therapist, RCH



Dr Nataliya Zhukova My Room Clinical Research Fellowship, MCH



Priscilla Pek Music Therapist, MCH



**Toby Trahair** Senior Researcher, UNSW



Hudson - Hudson Institute of Medical Research MCH - Monash Children's Hospital MCRI - Murdoch Children's Research Institute MU - Monash University **QCH -** Queensland Children's Hospital **QU -** Queensland University of Technology **RCH -** Royal Children's Hospital **SCH -** Sydney Children's Hospital UNSW - University of New South Wales UWA - University of Western Australia

# **Project Funding**

The Children's Cancer Foundation together with its partners has funded 28 projects in the 2021/2022 year. Funding includes salaries for hospital and research staff, laboratory consumables and family resources.





#### **Researching Paediatric Brainstem Glioma**

Institute: Hudson Institute of Medical Research

collaborations (local, national, and international).

**PhD Scholars Program** 

Focus: All childhood cancers

**Funding:** \$318,106 over 5 years

Institute: University of Western Australia **Recipient:** Dr Jessica Buck Funding: \$49,838 over 1 year (CoFounded) **Overview:** DIPG is a fatal brain cancer that affects children. This project investigates a new combination of treatments targeting the immune system in the brain to treat DIPG.



### **Childhood Cancer**

Research Institute



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Children's Research Institute **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.

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### **Translational Studies Leveraging the SIOPEN Neuroblastoma**

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

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

**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.



### **Researching Novel Targets for Paediatric Tumour Immunology**

Institute: Monash University Recipient: Dr Pouya Faridi

**Funding:** \$66,655 over 2 year (CoFounded)

**Overview:** Immunotherapy has brought hope for the treatment of incurable cancers. This project utilises new technologies to discover and validate novel targets.





### **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

### 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: 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.

### National Clinical Trials Co-Ordinator associated with Zero Cancer Program

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.

### **Children's Cancer Foundation and My Room Chair in**

#### **Institute:** University of Melbourne

Philanthropic Funding: \$3 million from Children's Cancer Foundation with \$3 million matched from My Room for perpetual funding of the endowed chair, further matched by \$6 million from institutional partners

Institutional Partners: Victoria Comprehensive Cancer Centre, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Royal Children's Hospital, Murdoch Children's

**Overview:** Establishing Victoria's first perpetually endowed chair, to be based at the Victoria Comprehensive Cancer Centre. The Chair, a leading international clinician-scientist, will play a key leadership role in collaborative research directed towards improving clinical care and research in paediatric cancer both nationally and internationally.

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# **Project Funding**



### **Decoding the Dark Matter of the High-Risk Paediatric Cancer** Genome

**Institute:** University of New South Wales **Recipient:** Dr Mark Crowley Funding: \$200,000 over 5 year Overview: High-Risk Paediatric Cancers have dismal survival rates, this research looks to explain current poor outcomes and propose innovative ways to study these in the largest study of patients with these cancers to date.

### **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.

# my room

### 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.



### **VPCC Annual Conference**

#### Funding: \$30,000

**Overview:** The aim is to advance the Victorian Paediatric Cancer Consortium by developing and strengthening collaboration within and outside the consortium.



### **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.



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### **SIOPEN Neuroblastoma Clinical Trials**

Focus: Neuroblastoma Institute: Sydney Children's Hospital **Recipient:** A/Prof. Toby Trahair Funding: \$530,965 **Overview:** The SIOPEN 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.

### **Neuro-oncology Research Coordinator**

Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital **Funding:** \$312,217 over 3 years access and novel therapies.

### **Physiotherapy Service**

**Focus:** In-hospital patient care **Institute:** Monash Children's Hospital Funding: \$147,355 over 3 years throughout treatment.



my room

### **Child Psychological Services**

Hospital Foundation



### Institute: Royal Children's Hospital Funding: \$43,143 over 1 year times.

- Focus: Clinical trials for solid and brain cancer patients
- Overview: The key outcomes are to increase clinical trial enrolment of
- children undergoing treatment for cancer and to ensure that every child has access to the same pathway to timely and accurate treatment, improved drug
- **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
- Institute: Queensland Children's Hospital
- **Funding:** \$67,124 over 2 years, matched by the Queensland Children's
- **Overview:** Interim salary funding for a Child Psychologist to assist in meeting the demand for cancer patient care. This investment will ensure the mental health clinician can delivery clinical support and seamless continuity of care for patients and families facing the difficult journey of a cancer diagnosis.

### **Interim Child Psychological Services**

- **Overview:** Interim salary funding to assist in meeting the increased mental health demands of children diagnosed with cancer during these uncertain









### **Art Therapist**

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.



#### 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.



#### Music Therapist

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 centre and outpatient settings. Music therapy aims to provide positive coping-related behaviours and reduce anxiety for patients and their families during procedures.



### **Family Counselling Service**

**Project:** Family Counselling Service **Focus:** In-hospital family support Children's Hospital Funding: \$429,000 over 5 years.

### **The Beaded Journey**

Focus: In-hospital patient support Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre throughout their treatment with a special bead.



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### Family Gym Memberships

Focus: In-hospital family support **Institute:** The Royal Children's Hospital

# **Family Resource Coordinator**

Focus: In-hospital family support Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital **Recipient:** Merridy Justice social activities and respite.

### Family and Community Resource Officer

Focus: In-hospital family support **Institute:** Monash Children's Hospital **Recipient:** Jessica Kelly



#### 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.

Institute: The Royal Children's Hospital and Monash

**Overview:** Funding for face-to-face counselling with a Psychologist for children with cancer, their parents or siblings.

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

- 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.

- 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,
- 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.





### **Children's Cancer Foundation**

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