

CHILDREN'S CANCER FOUNDATION

Annual Report 2016/17

25th
Anniversary



Message from the Chairman and Chief Executive

In 2017, the Children's Cancer Foundation celebrates its 25-year anniversary.

Founded by parents of children with cancer in 1992, their aim was to give their children – and those in the future – access to the world's best treatment and support to save their lives.

Over 25 years the Foundation and its supporters have worked hard to realise this aim.

Today, our charity continues to be driven by a group of passionate and committed directors – many of whom have been impacted by childhood cancer. We are honoured to serve alongside them.

The Foundation's impact and achievements are a testament to the commitment and support of many – from our *pro bono* suppliers, corporate donors to generous volunteers.

This year, our achievements include:

- Raised \$1.72 million at **The Million Dollar Lunch** 2017, hosted by Crown Resorts;
- The Foundation and My Room celebrated 15 years funding ground-breaking research at Murdoch Children's Research Institute;
- Launched our first national funding round and awarded \$1.37 million for two national clinical trials to provide Australian children with access to new treatments;
- Committed \$8,458,796 together with our funding partner My Room across 25 projects through to 2023;
- Appointed new directors, Jeff Darmanin and Maurizio Marocchi, to strengthen our governance and expertise; and
- Launched two family support programs – Family Connect to bring families together over morning coffee, and Family Counselling to assist families through treatment and beyond.

We are very proud of how far the Foundation has come and our major resourcing of hospital clinical services and research successes, but we still have a long way to go.

Personalised medicine, involving targeted drugs and immunotherapy, is now radically reshaping the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, particularly for adult cancers. Major challenges remain in translating our improved knowledge of cancer biology into new treatments for children and adolescents with cancer.

With your help, we can continue to fund lifesaving clinical research and clinical trials and support families through the difficult cancer treatment journey.



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Jeremy Smith
Chairman



A handwritten signature in black ink.

Aileen Boyd-Squires
Chief Executive

Our Impact



\$1,231,735

distributed to 24 projects supporting children with cancer

\$8,458,796

committed to 25 projects through to 2023



21 staff

funded in hospitals and research institutes

107 volunteers

donated 733 hours



73% directed

towards project funding for clinical research and trials



76 children

accessed new treatments through our resourcing of 29 clinical trials



3,392 sessions

with our Art and Music Therapists



1,000 children

threaded their personal Beaded Journey since 2008

Celebrating 25 Years

- 1992**
Parents of children undergoing treatment at Monash Children's Hospital establish KOALA (Kids Oncology and Leukaemia Action) Group
- 1998**
Parents of children undergoing treatment at The Royal Children's Hospital establish the Children's Cancer Centre Foundation
- 2002**
The Foundation and My Room raise \$23 million for the construction of a new Children's Cancer Centre at The Royal Children's Hospital and cancer research laboratory
- 2004**
Tony McGinn OAM, Chairman of KOALA Group, establishes KOALA Foundation
- 2005**
The Million Dollar Lunch is launched
I have set out to achieve what some believe is impossible. I am on a mission to unite the movers and shakers of our entertainment industry with the captains of big business and the country's leading entrepreneurs. The idea? The greatest fundraising lunch in the country Tony McGinn OAM (2005)
- 2006**
The new Children's Cancer Centre at The Royal Children's Hospital is opened by Victorian Premier, Steve Bracks MP and Federal Minister for Health and Ageing, Tony Abbott MP
- 2006**
\$3.7 million invested in the Bone Marrow Transplant unit at The Royal Children's Hospital including construction of the unit, purchase of essential equipment and salaries for 7 core clinical staff (2006-13).
- 2007**
KOALA Kids volunteer group launched to provide the 'small things' that help families during their cancer journey in hospital
- 2008**
The Foundation prioritises clinical trial resourcing, funding three staff at The Royal Children's Hospital
- 2010**
KOALA Foundation commits \$2,485,000 (2010-16) to medical staff resourcing at Monash Children's Hospital
- 2010**
Children's Cancer Centre Foundation commits \$3,137,950 (2010-15) to medical and psych-oncology staff resourcing at The Royal Children's Hospital
- 2012**
KOALA Foundation and the Children's Cancer Centre Foundation merge to strengthen paediatric cancer advocacy, funding and support
The combination of two like-minded charities created scale, allowing the appointment of our inaugural Chief Executive, establishment of a grants committee to maximise project outcomes and professional administration Kevin Martin, Director of both charities pre-merger
Resourcing of the Bone Marrow Transplant unit permits it to achieve international accreditation, a prerequisite for international transplant exchanges and clinical trials
- 2013**
The Foundation shifts its focus to investing in clinical research, while continuing to support clinical care and family support programs
- 2014**
The Million Dollar Lunch celebrates its 10th anniversary, raising \$11.3 million over 10 years
Gillon McLachlan, AFL Chief Executive appointed Patron
For 25 years the Foundation has supported a community of families and children by adding light to young lives. Australian football is built on community and we are only as strong as the community in which we reside Gillon McLachlan, Patron
- 2016**
Kate Langbroek, Australian media personality and broadcaster, appointed Ambassador
The Foundation funds an Australian first immunotherapy clinical trial that successfully uses a child's own genetically engineered immune cells to attack cancer cells
- 2017**
Murdoch Children's Research Institute recognises the Foundation and My Room's investment of more than \$7 million since 2002 to build Melbourne as a leader in childhood cancer research
The Foundation commits \$8,458,796 across 25 projects from 2017 through to 2023

Find out more about our 25-year history at childrenscancerfoundation.com.au/about-us/our-heritage

The Same Girl – Strong and Independent

In 2015, Violet was diagnosed with Pre-B Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia. She was four and half years old, loved kindergarten and ballet, and was about to become a big sister.

“Violet became ill with tonsillitis, an ear infection and then she stopped walking. The fifth GP we visited advised us to take her straight to emergency,” said Sal, Violet’s dad.

“We never assumed the worst, not once. But exactly four hours later we were told that Violet had blood cancer.”

Violet began her 27-month treatment plan with 8 months of intensive chemotherapy followed by maintenance therapy for 18 months. Her long term prognosis was extremely positive: she would go on to live a healthy life.

In May 2017, however, Violet had completed 26 months of treatment when she relapsed.

A relapse meant that she would miss out on months of school and once again become isolated from her friends due to long hospital stays.

“It was heartbreaking news,” said Sal. “Violet was in shock... and repeatedly blamed us for lying, because we had been counting down the days to finishing treatment,” said Sal.

“Violet doesn’t want her health issues to define her. She is the same girl she was before she was diagnosed – strong and independent.”

“Violet looks forward to collecting beads for her Beaded Journey, as well as her music and art therapy sessions, all of which are funded by the Children’s Cancer Foundation, and we love our morning tea (‘Family Connect’) with the Foundation team,” said Tess, Violet’s mum.

“Things like this lift our spirits. We attend everything we can because most of the time we walk away brighter.”

“We know there will always be hard days and not everything goes to plan, but we are stronger than ever. Our hope lies in the clinical trials Violet is participating in, knowing they will help children in the future – Sal, Violet’s father”



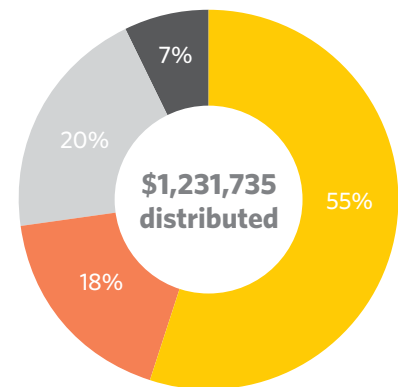
Project Funding

In 2016/17, we distributed **\$1,231,735** across **24** projects in clinical research, clinical care, clinical trials and family support. Breakthroughs in the prevention and treatment of childhood cancers lie in research. New targeted treatments that reduce the harmful side effects of treatment are our hope for the future.

We are proud to have directed more than **73%** of our project funding towards clinical research and clinical trials.

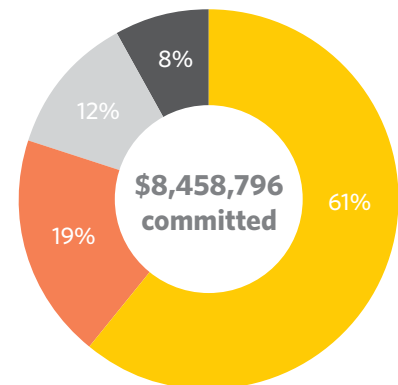
Project Funding Distributed in 2016/17

● Clinical Research - Attracting the world's best childhood cancer clinical researchers and building research capacity in Australia	\$676,920
● Clinical Trials - Facilitating new, more effective cancer treatments to increase the number of trials available for children	\$224,377
● Clinical Care - Enhancing the level of care and helping children cope with pain and psychological issues	\$250,005
● Family Support - Providing resources and hospital-based staff to help parents and children navigate their cancer treatment journey	\$80,433
	\$1,231,735

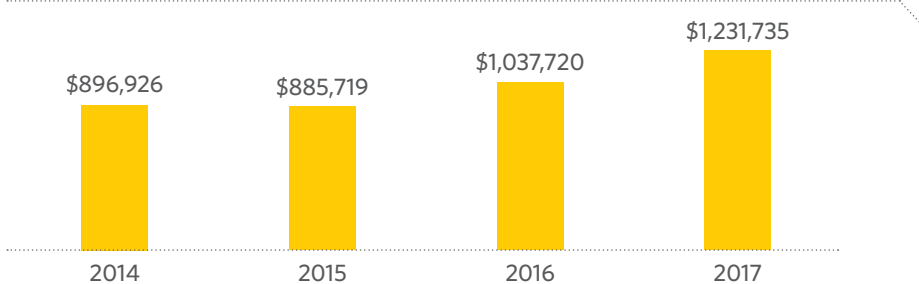


Project Funding Commitments from 2017/18 to 2022/23

● Clinical Research	\$5,193,154
● Clinical Trials	\$1,564,851
● Clinical Care	\$1,050,534
● Family Support	\$650,256
	\$8,458,796



Project Funding Distributions Year-on-Year Growth



Projects Funded in 2016/17

The Royal Children's Hospital

Clinical Care	Art Therapists (1.4 EFT)	\$126,143
Family Support	Family Resource Coordinator (0.87 EFT)	\$70,227
Clinical Care	Music Therapist (0.6 EFT) (Portland House Foundation \$40,000)	\$36,336
Clinical Trials	Immunotherapy Transplantation Research Nurse (1.0 EFT)	\$26,355
Clinical Care	Neuropsychologist (0.2 EFT)	\$24,589
Family Support	The Beaded Journey	\$2,010
Family Support	Family Counselling (The Pratt Foundation \$40,000)	\$569
Family Support	Family Connect	\$340
		\$286,569

Murdoch Children's Research Institute

Clinical Research	Head of Molecular Diagnostics (0.4 EFT) (Steven Walter Children's Cancer Foundation 100%)	\$110,348
Clinical Research	Genomics of brain and solid tumours of childhood (1.0 EFT)	\$103,726
Clinical Research	Clinical implementation of transcriptome sequencing for precision medicine (1.5 EFT)	\$86,059
Clinical Trials	Clinical Trial Study Coordinator (1.0 EFT)	\$85,274
Clinical Research	Understanding the genetics of chemotherapy induced heart disease (My Room 100%)	\$78,768
Clinical Research	Sydney Children's Hospital-Royal Children's Hospital research partnership (0.5 EFT) (Steven Walter Children's Cancer Foundation 100%)	\$75,000
Clinical Research	Modelling childhood leukaemia using human pluripotent stem cells (1.0 EFT)	\$47,010
Clinical Research	Developing molecular diagnostic testing in childhood cancer (My Room 100%)	\$45,000
		\$631,185

Monash Children's Hospital

Clinical Trials	Clinical Trial Manager (1.0 EFT)	\$83,789
Clinical Care	Music Therapist (1.0 EFT)	\$36,119
Clinical Care	Mental Health Clinician (0.8 EFT)	\$21,119
Clinical Trials	Clinical Trial Research Associate (1.0 EFT) (Steven Walter Children's Cancer Foundation 100%)	\$13,052
Family Support	Family & Community Liaison Coordinator (0.4 EFT)	\$6,425
Clinical Care	Neuropsychologist (0.2 EFT)	\$5,700
Family Support	The Beaded Journey	\$862
		\$167,065

Hudson Institute of Medical Research/Monash University

Clinical Research	Clinical Research Fellowship (1.0 EFT) (Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation 100%)	\$131,009
Clinical Trials	Light therapy to improve sleep and quality of life for children with ALL	\$15,908
		\$146,916

Total Project Funding \$1,231,735

Lighting the Way to Better Recovery

A clinical trial, funded by the Children's Cancer Foundation, is investigating bright light therapy as an intervention to relieve the disruption of sleep patterns in young cancer patients with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL).

"Treatment for ALL is known to cause lasting disruption to sleep, and may have detrimental effects on children's education, relationships and quality of life that last into adulthood", said Dr Lisa Walter, a researcher specialising in sleep disorders, who is leading the trial.

Dr Walter learnt that light therapy had been effective for sleep problems in adult cancer patients and devised this trial to test whether the therapy will provide the same benefits to younger patients.

Eight-year-old Jensen, a patient at Monash Children's Hospital participated in the project – his first clinical trial.

Maree, Jensen's mother, enrolled him in the trial, as she hoped the outcomes would help him and other children with ALL in the future.

During the trial, Jensen had to wear a special light visor for 30 minutes when he woke each morning, for the duration of one of his treatment cycles (84 days).

Dr Walter monitored the sleep patterns of all participants, including those who did not have light therapy, via a special watch that recorded the number of hours they sleep and how often they wake.

Bright light therapy is a non-invasive treatment and importantly doesn't add to the mix of medications children are coping with. Jensen was able to eat his breakfast and play on his iPad while wearing the special light visor as he participated in the trial.

Jensen attends school full-time and like most eight-year-olds has an active life, playing with his two brothers and in under 10 cricket. Ensuring he sleeps well through the night is more important than ever.

"Jensen was a light sleeper, now he goes straight to sleep. He used to sing himself to sleep or play with his toys. Sometimes it would take him half an hour to go to sleep; now it takes 5 minutes," said Maree.

"This research would not be possible without funding from the Children's Cancer Foundation, and we thank them for their support," said Dr Walter.



“By improving the children’s sleep we also expect to see that the parents have less stress and there is an improvement in the quality of life of the family as a whole
– Dr Lisa Walter

Financials

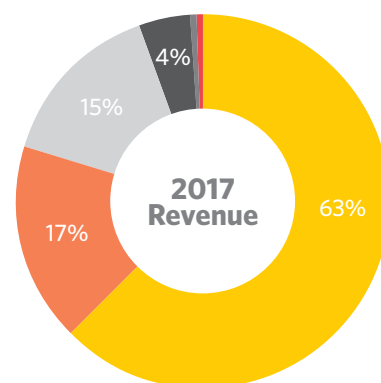
The Children's Cancer Foundation relies on the generosity of *pro bono* suppliers, donors, fundraisers and corporate partners. All directors and committee members are volunteers, supported by a small paid team and around 100 volunteers.

This support has ensured our administration overheads have averaged just 14% over the past 5 years.

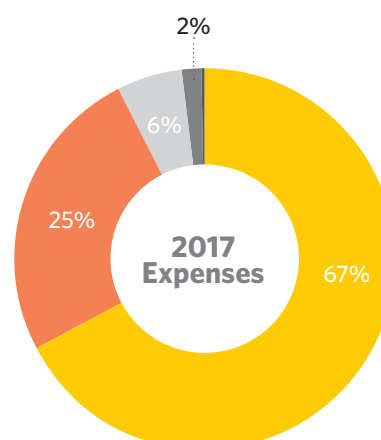
Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2017	2017	2016
Total current assets	\$4,731,013	\$3,255,957
Non-current assets	\$0	\$527
Total Assets	\$4,731,013	\$3,256,484
Total current liabilities	\$796,980	\$110,549
Equity*	\$3,934,033	\$3,145,935

*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 \$8,458,796 has been committed for the period 2017 to 2023.

Revenue	2017	2016
● The Million Dollar Lunch	\$1,637,611	\$2,082,634
● Charity Partners	\$447,024	\$392,057
● Donations/Fundraising	\$386,282	\$414,415
● Other	\$115,865	\$67,631
● Grants	\$17,219	\$36,370
● Bequests	\$9,184	\$47,477
	\$2,613,184	\$3,040,584

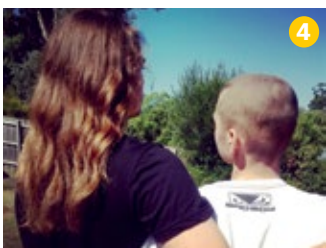
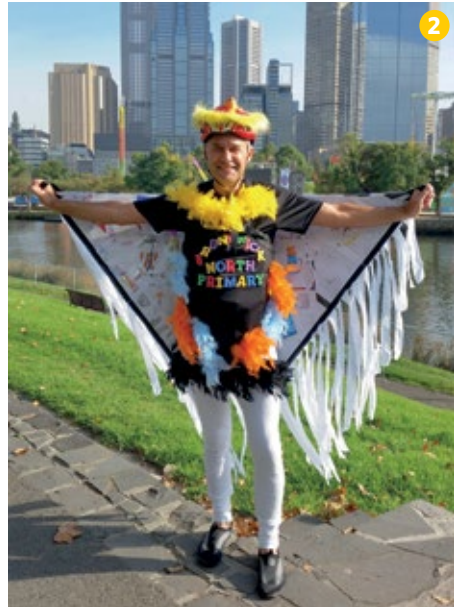


Expenses	2017	2016
● Project funding to support children with cancer	\$1,231,735	\$1,037,720
● Administration	\$460,034	\$390,564
● The Million Dollar Lunch*	\$101,029	\$177,882
● Fundraising	\$30,363	\$39,116
● Other	\$1,924	\$1,601
	\$1,825,086	\$1,646,883
Net surplus*	\$788,098	\$1,393,701



*All event costs are donated, other than \$38,500 for a contractor, a notional allocation for time spent by our staff on the event, and miscellaneous costs.

Our complete financial statements and Director's report are available at childrenscancerfoundation.com.au/about-us/our-integrity.



thank you

To the many individuals, organisations, communities, volunteers and families who supported the Foundation by raising funds and awareness of our work - **thank you.** Your generosity continues to inspire us.

1. James rode his motorbike 19,000 km around Australia raising \$62,052 for the Foundation.
2. Brunswick North Primary School participated in the Moomba Festival Birdman Rally and raised \$4,000.
3. The Rathbone family hosted a charity lunch at Yering Station and raised \$28,725.
4. Brave individuals, like Ashlee and Josh, shaved their heads to fundraise for the Foundation.
5. More than 100 volunteers donated over 700 hours of their time, helping us keep our overhead costs low.
6. AFL and Sesame Workshop partnered with the Foundation for the Put Yourself in Their Socks campaign.
7. Bodriggy Brewing raised \$7,230 through their 3-on-3 basketball competition.
8. St Nicholas Philanthropic Society of Proty supported the Foundation through their annual gala for the third year, contributing more than \$36,000 in total.
9. Hopscotch Heroes, a fundraising initiative for the Foundation, raised more than \$20,000.

Our Supporters



Gillon McLachlan, Patron
AFL Chief Executive



Kate Langbroek, Ambassador
Media Personality and Broadcaster



Jeremy Smith, Chairman
Barrister and father of Linus, who was successfully treated for rhabdomyosarcoma



Anthony McGinn OAM, Deputy Chairman
30+ years in the media industry and father of Ben, who was successfully treated for acute lymphoblastic leukaemia



Jeff Darmanin, Director
Father of William, who died from desmoplastic small round cell tumours at the age of 19



Andrea Diprose, Director
Hospital scientist and mother of Stephen, who lost his battle with leukaemia at the age of 14



Natalie Lippiatt, Director
Strategic branding and digital expert



Maurizio Marcocci, Director
Childhood cancer survivor



Kevin Martin, Director
Chartered Accountant with over 36 year's experience



Mary McGowan, Director
Over 39 years in paediatric oncology nursing and community fundraising



James Roche, Director
Executive Director of Roche Holdings

The Million Dollar Lunch Cornerstone Partners



The Million Dollar Lunch Donors



Ponting foundation

Charity Partners



Pro Bono Partners



The Children's Cancer Foundation is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.



CHILDREN'S CANCER FOUNDATION

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