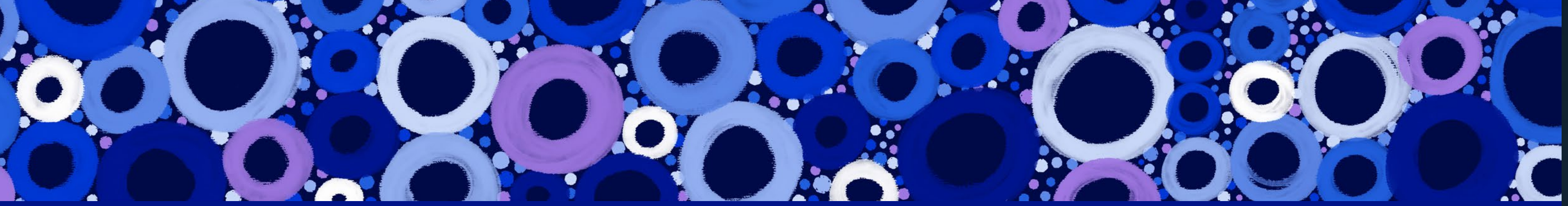
Annual Report

2021–2022

Leukaemia Foundation®



Acknowledgement of Country

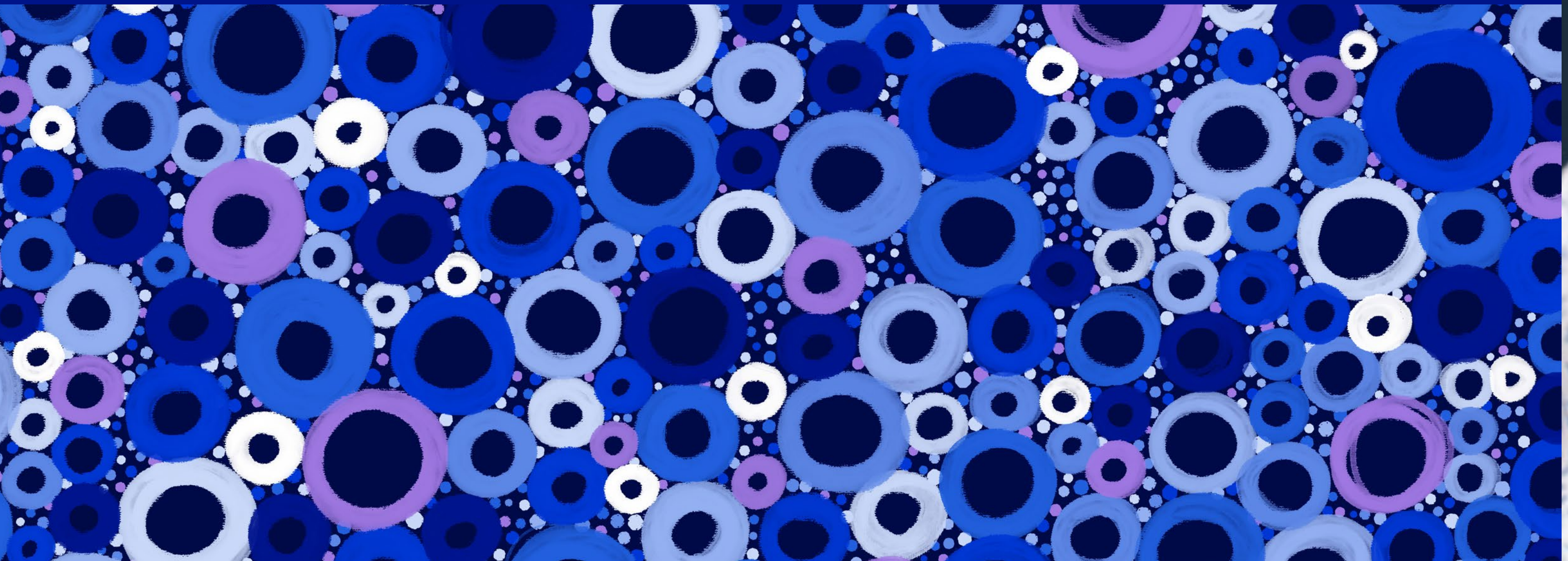
In the spirit of reconciliation with First Nations peoples of Australia, the Leukaemia Foundation acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the Countries on which we operate.

We acknowledge and respect First Nations peoples' spiritual beliefs, connections to land, sea and communities.

The Leukaemia Foundation pays our respect to Elders past and present and extends that respect to all Traditional Owners across the Nation.

Artwork created by Navada Currie, Mununjali woman and Graphic Designer at the Leukaemia Foundation

Front Cover: Vince and his partner, Terri.
Vince was diagnosed with amyloidosis



Garry, a First Nations Australian, was diagnosed with blood cancer

Message from your Chair and CEO

This time last year the Leukaemia Foundation was entering a period of renewal with a new Board, new Board Chair, new CEO, new Executives and some new members in our teams.

We are a motivated collective with a singular focus to reach more Australians with blood cancer, maximise patient access to treatment and improve patient survival outcomes by investing in world-leading research.

Pleasingly, this collaborative approach has resulted in some significant achievements in 2021-22. Some highlights include:

- The Board, executive and staff co-designing a strategy which puts patients at the centre of all of our decisions.
- Reaching more patients earlier and improving our support experience for people living with blood cancer – building a cross-function triage team and new online support forms for patients and healthcare professionals.
- Leading the Blood Cancer Taskforce's delivery of six new standards of care for all Australians living with blood cancer – these are referred to as Optimal Care Pathways and are designed to ensure that all people diagnosed with cancer receive the best care, irrespective of where they live or receive cancer treatment.
- Driving a public-private Federal Government partnership to develop more blood cancer standards – and to fund research into the impact of blood cancers in First Nations communities as well as the development of a Blood Cancer Research Roadmap.
- Launching two internationally-led clinical trials in Australia – enabling patients to participate in potentially life-saving research offering new hope for Australians living with acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) and myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS).
- Partnering with international blood cancer organisations to build greater national and international awareness on the impacts of blood cancer – including the launch of a new Australia-wide survey to identify the public's awareness and attitude towards blood cancer symptoms.
- Advocating to Set the Standard for patient access to treatment – a campaign with a powerful mission – for all Australians to have access to the best blood cancer diagnosis, treatment and care, no matter their postcode.
- Establishing a Consumer Engagement Group – in the spirit of renewal, we've invited patients, caregivers and their loved ones to join us in the co-development of business processes, systems, policies and procedures so that we can be even better at meeting their needs.
- Building a Member, Branch and Stakeholder Board sub-committee – to be the voice for our members, branches and broad stakeholder community who are all so important in contributing to our future vision.

It's our absolute pleasure and privilege to work alongside our voluntary Board members, executive team, staff, members, patients and their loved ones who are unwavering in their commitment and contribution towards achieving our goal of zero lives being lost to blood cancer by 2035.

Lucio Di Giallonardo

Chair of the Board

Chris Tanti

CEO

Our new Patient-First Strategy

This year we were proud to launch the Leukaemia Foundation's next five-year strategy. We call it our Patient-First Strategy and it helps map the next part of the journey towards our goal of zero lives lost to blood cancer by 2035.

It's made up of four key pillars that we'll organise our work around to deliver maximum impact for the blood cancer community.

The first pillar is about improving the experience for all those affected by blood cancer. We're aiming to reach more patients and their families and then deliver the best support and care we possibly can, no matter who and no matter where.

To make sure this happens we need to grow support and funding for our work, and so the strategy's second pillar is all about increasing our revenue.

The third pillar of the strategy is a life-saving one. We hope to increase awareness of blood cancer and take a lead in funding the research, policy and advocacy projects that will help more people survive their blood cancer and then thrive.

Finally, underpinning everything is our fourth pillar, which will help enable our staff and partners to work more effectively with the blood cancer community to stop blood cancer wrecking lives.

Sabrina (left) stands with Blood Cancer Support Coordinator, Amber (right). Sabrina has received emotional support from the Leukaemia Foundation

In pursuit of clinical excellence

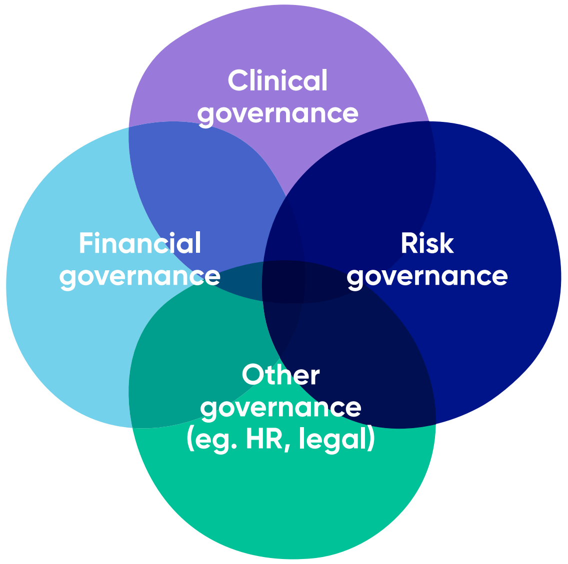
People with blood cancer have the right to access safe and high-quality healthcare, and the provision of the information they need to participate in decisions about their care. This year we've made rapid progress towards ensuring we're delivering continuously improving, sustainable care.

A coordinated plan of action

This year we developed a new Clinical Governance Framework, setting out a coordinated plan of action to ensure we're a trusted source of health information and advice, and that our services are high quality, person-centred, accessible, safe, efficient and equitable.

There are many different healthcare settings and models of care in Australia and no single best-practice approach to clinical governance. The Leukaemia Foundation has adapted the five core elements of effective clinical governance outlined in the National Model Clinical Governance Framework and the National Safety and Quality Health Service standards, which were only released in late 2021.

We've already begun to implement some of the key features of our new framework, helping our staff understand the role they play in delivering quality health services and continuous improvement.



A dedicated triage team

This year we put in place a new triage service to ensure patients and those who support them have timely access to support and advice from our qualified clinical staff.

A highly-skilled team of healthcare professionals from around Australia are now on standby to help patients and healthcare professionals who get in touch via new online referral forms or our blood cancer support helpline.

The team prioritise and coordinate requests for support to ensure that people with blood cancer have the best care experience. Those who contact us are given the opportunity to immediately connect with one of the team, who can quickly help with emotional, financial and practical support, and information.

Sharing a lived experience

We know there are enormous insights to be gained and problems to be solved by giving our community the opportunity to share their lived experience.

So, this year, we created a new Blood Cancer Consumer Engagement Group for patients, carers and family members. We're now able to engage with our consumer group to help improve the planning, design, monitoring, delivery and evaluation of our services, systems, policies, and procedures.

These opportunities also extend to helping our research, advocacy, fundraising, communication and business partnerships teams do a better job by weaving the unique experience that each person holds into our work. Critical insights from our blood cancer community are now driving better outcomes for everyone in our community.

With the support of visionary philanthropists and the generosity of Gift in Will supporters, the Leukaemia Foundation Research Endowment has grown to over $2.7 million over the past 12 months and achieved positive market returns.

Coping with COVID

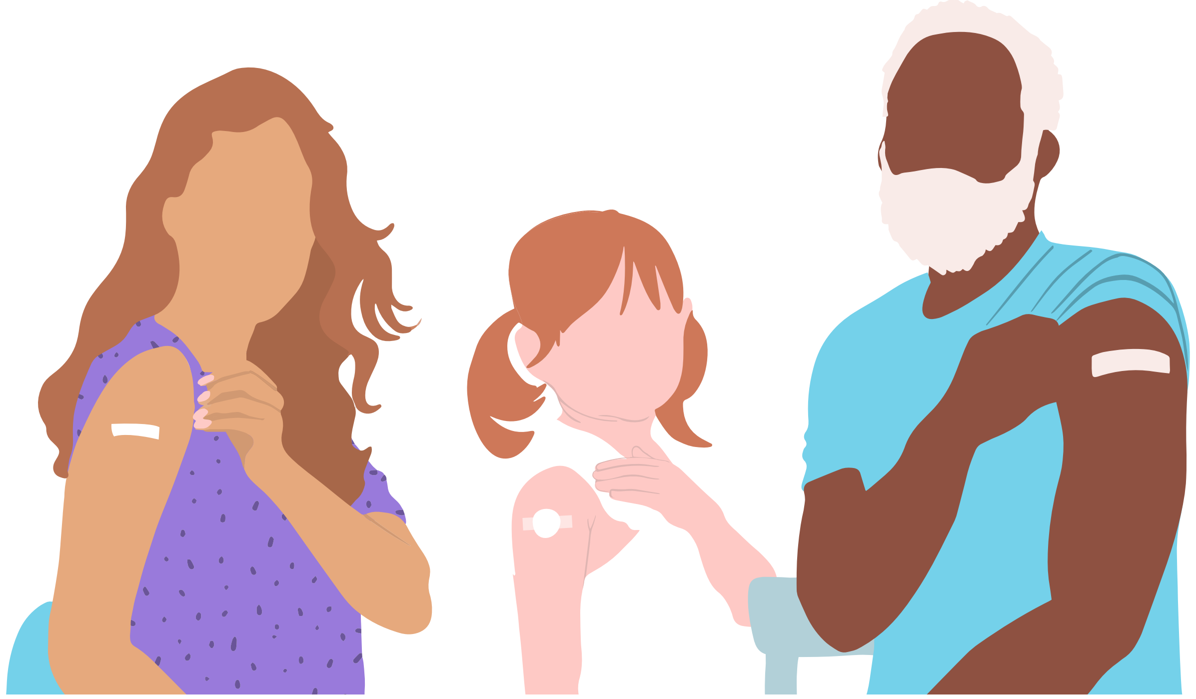
Blood cancer leaves people very vulnerable to infection and viruses, including COVID-19, and the pandemic continued to cast a long shadow over our community this year.

We concentrated more of our time and resources on protecting patients from COVID-19 and its effects.

This year we co-funded a new vaccination study to investigate the impact of COVID-19 vaccinations on immune response in patients with low-grade lymphoma. The aim of the study is to assess whether the treatment for lymphoma affects or changes the COVID vaccine's effectiveness in these patients.

We also expanded our online COVID-19 information hub, giving patients and their carers more of the latest information, advice and resources about the virus. Four webinars dedicated to vaccination advice, staying safe during winter and myth busting have received more than 3,000 views on our dedicated Blood Cancer Information YouTube channel.

In October we also facilitated a special online Support Group dedicated to ‘Coping with COVID’, giving people new strategies for living as well as possible during the enduring pandemic.



Life-changing information, health and wellbeing support

The Leukaemia Foundation is a trusted source of blood cancer information for Australians living with blood cancer.

Regardless of your stage of diagnosis, lifestyle factors such as diet, nutrition and exercise have been proven to improve quality of life and help manage side effects of treatment such as fatigue and pain.

We're continuing to make our services more accessible to people living in regional, rural or remote Australia, and in 2021-22 we extended and expanded a unique range of online support across various digital platforms.

Our health and wellbeing programs, information and webinars have been designed by experts and provide simple tips and advice to help patients and their carers live well.

Online support groups

Webinars

Podcasts

Online information

Now streaming

In October 2021 the Leukaemia Foundation was proud to launch its new podcast series, Talking Blood Cancer.

This unique new service helps people facing blood cancer gain insights, inspiration, information and find meaning as they navigate and adjust to a new normal. Guests with different stories and backgrounds share their experience of being diagnosed in their terms to help those facing blood cancer today learn they are not alone. After 3,507 downloads and lots of positive reviews, we'll be launching the second series of Talking Blood Cancer in 2022-23.

43
Online support groups delivered

14
Disease-specific education events

2,096
Attendees of support groups & education

764,704
People accessed blood cancer info on our website

6,611
Post-event views

Australia's blood cancer support line

The Leukaemia Foundation manages Australia's first and only dedicated blood cancer support line. Anyone impacted by blood cancer can call 1800 620 420 to connect with an experienced blood cancer support professional, who will guide and support them through diagnosis, treatment and survivorship.

Australia's blood cancer support line is open Monday-Friday 10am-4pm AEST, with highly skilled blood cancer support professionals ready to help. If somebody calls out of hours, they are able to leave a message to request a callback.

Helping people understand their blood cancer

In 2021, Emma's son, Elliott, was diagnosed with blood cancer just after his 21st birthday - and their entire family's lives were turned upside down.

With a professional background in haematology, Emma knew more than most parents about blood cancer. However, she still found solace and relief when accessing the Leukaemia Foundation's support and information on our website and found resources that were specific to Elliott's type of blood cancer.

"It was all in a form that lots of people could understand. But it was also detailed enough to satisfy my questions and give me answers to things that I wanted to know. I particularly enjoyed reading about new directions for research, and new treatments for specific blood cancers that hadn't been able to be treated well before.

"I also found personal stories of patients and their families; I could see everything they went through. It reassured me that other people who have been through it before weren't alone."

Elliott is now in remission but continues to be monitored closely as he and his family embark on life's next chapter.

> **"I found that the Leukaemia Foundation had a huge amount of information that I found really reassuring."**
>
> **- Emma Jones-Perrin**

Personalised emotional and practical support

For over 45 years, the Leukaemia Foundation has supported and cared for Australians impacted by all blood cancers.

Whether you or someone you know has been personally diagnosed, you're a carer or bereaved, the Leukaemia Foundation's highly trained Blood Cancer Support team are here to support people through the rollercoaster of a diagnosis, treatment, survivorship or grief and loss.

This year the Leukaemia Foundation continued to offer confidential support over the phone, online or in person, designed to meet the individual needs of people right across Australia.

We understand how a blood cancer diagnosis can have a huge impact on every aspect of life. Families often have to relocate to the city for treatment, they need transport to and from medical appointments, work arrangements change and family life and relationships can suffer. Blood cancer often brings with it added financial pressures, too.

Our team works with those facing blood cancer to understand what practical support they need and then connects them with Leukaemia Foundation services and other trusted providers to help meet their individual needs and ease the stress of everyday life. It means people can focus on getting better and staying better.


26,327
interactions with support coordinators


5-6 interactions
on average

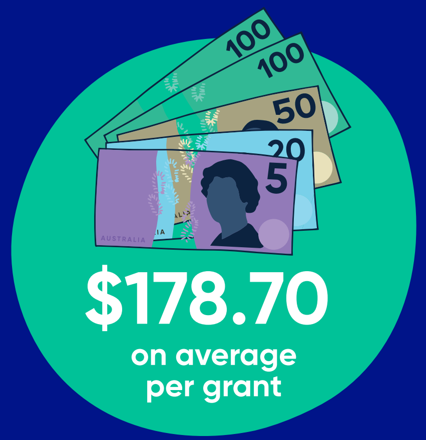

547
families given accommodation


staying for an average of
18-19
nights


36,363
nights given in total


$203,031
total given in financial assistance grants

703
financial assistance grants provided



$178.70
on average per grant


$329,542
in transport support provided

1,478
people benefited from transport services

Putting patients on the road to recovery

Our transport services helped Hayley to and from treatment

In 2018, aged just 35 and still breastfeeding her youngest son, Hayley was shocked to learn she had blood cancer and began treatment almost immediately.

Throughout her treatment, Hayley found the practical and transport support she needed at the Leukaemia Foundation. “We were given grocery vouchers, which were a great help in that time, but the main thing was getting help with transport,” said Hayley.

> **"For some appointments, I needed to be driven to the hospital, but my husband had to be home to care for the children. We were so grateful to get that support as taxis are so expensive and it would’ve added up quickly."**

Hayley is now blood cancer free and is grateful to have received support from the Leukaemia Foundation.

Our transport service has been proudly supported by Bridgestone Australia and its network since 1986.

Funding leading-edge research

The Leukaemia Foundation is committed to funding research innovations that drive advancements in new diagnostics, treatments and novel therapies, supporting the careers of promising scientists and clinicians, and giving Australians access to global clinical trials.

Under our National Research Program, we support the career development of researchers and clinicians and support high-impact projects with broad potential for all people living with blood cancer.

- **PhD Scholarships**
- **Cancer Australia PdCCRS**
- **Strategic Ecosystem Research Partnerships**
- **Translational Research Program**
- **Trials Enabling Program**

In June 2022 we were supporting 45 research projects across a wide variety of blood cancers and at all stages of development from fundamental research through to clinical trials.

In 2021-22 we committed more than $5m in funding to a raft of ground-breaking new projects to better understand the genetic make-up of blood cancers and how blood cancers become resistant to therapies.

This is improving the quality of life of patients undergoing treatment and the development of new and exciting therapies that will accelerate us towards the day when zero lives are lost to blood cancer.

We’ve proudly been supporting Australian blood cancer research for over 20 years, committing $57.8m since 2000.

The team taking us closer to zero

Dr Camille Guillery
Preventing leukaemia relapse in children using umbilical cord blood

Dr Devendra Hiwase
Improving quality of life for older patients with AML and MDS

Professor Peter Mollee
Investigating a better diagnosis system for AL amyloidosis

Professor Richard Lock
Improving outcomes for children with aggressive ALL

Dr Vajiranee Malalasekera
Investigating mechanisms of disease development and new therapies for AML

Associate Professor Jane Oliaro
Making CAR-T cell therapy more effective for aggressive lymphoma and myeloma

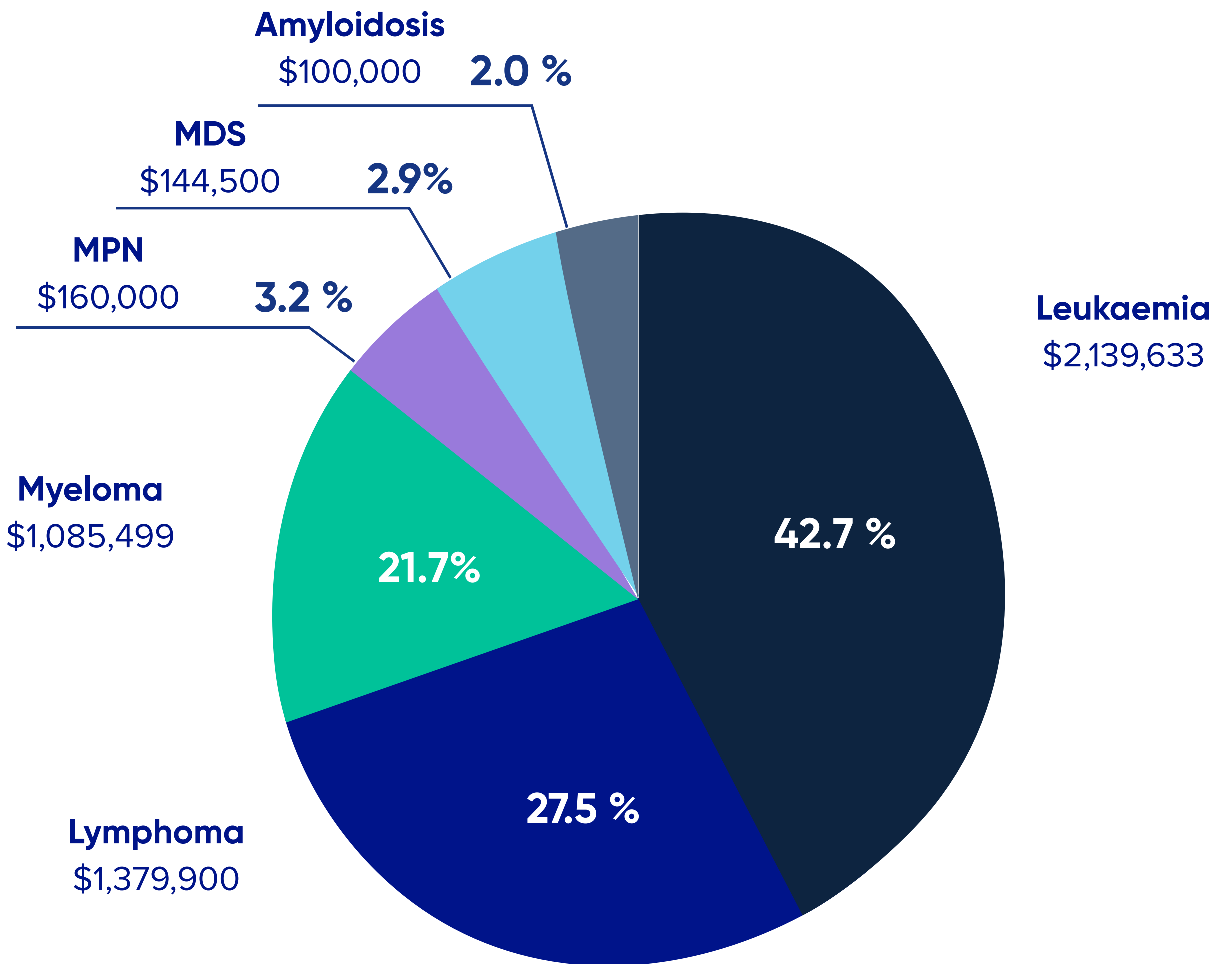
Dr Jasmine Singh
Investigating genetic mutations in the blood

Dr Rachel Thijssen
Understanding why people with CLL become resistant to treatment

Dr Kate Vandyke
Predicting myeloma risk

Professor Deb White
Investigating precision medicine for people with ALL

We may have leukaemia in our name, but we fund research across all the major types of blood cancer



Distribution of research funding by disease type FY21/22

Read more about these projects at leukaemia.org.au/research

Fast-tracking affordable access to innovative treatments

The Leukaemia Foundation engages with governments at all levels to advocate for access to appropriate testing and affordable treatments on behalf of people living with blood cancer.

We continue to be their voice when the government considers making a blood cancer diagnostic, therapy or drug more affordable by listing it on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) or the Medicare Benefits Scheme (MBS).

In 2021-22, the Leukaemia Foundation made 23 patient submissions to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee and the Medical Services Advisory Committee supporting the listing of diagnostics, therapies and drugs on the PBS or the MBS.

Approval of new blood cancer drugs moves us closer towards zero lives lost

This year 12 blood cancer drugs were given positive recommendations by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee to become available through the PBS.

Affordable access to these drugs means new treatment possibilities are now within reach for many more Australian blood cancer patients each year.

More access to clinical trials

Through our Trials Enabling Program we continue to improve patient access to the latest ground-breaking research and new therapies by supporting leading-edge international clinical trials to open in Australia.

The innovative RAVEN trial run through ANZCHOG, will be the first to examine the effectiveness of combination treatment with venetoclax and navitoclax to overcome chemotherapy resistance in children and young people with relapsed acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

The international phase II clinical trial will open at sites across Australia in 2023, giving young blood cancer patients access to two new and promising drugs.

Dr Michael Osborn consultant paediatric haematologist/oncologist at the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide, will lead the trial.

> **"High-quality clinical trials are vital to improve clinical care for patients and international partnerships are essential due to the rarity of childhood cancers," said Dr Osborn.**

The PETReA clinical trial, run through the ALLG, aims to improve outcomes for poor prognosis patients with follicular lymphoma and minimise further treatment for good prognosis patients. We have extended our support to PETReA this year, which means an additional 20 Australian patients will be able to access the trial. We also supported a further extension of the PETReA study to include a COVID substudy, investigating the impact of COVID vaccination on immune response of the patients in the trial.

Thank you to our research co-funding partners

Cancer Australia

The Haematology Society of Australia and New Zealand

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (U.S.A)

International Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia Foundation (U.S.A)

The Waldenstrom's Macroglobulinemia Foundation of Canada

Snowdome Foundation

Setting the standard for blood cancer treatment

Each year, 1,375 lives could be saved by making sure Australians with blood cancer get the best treatment available.


5,334 people from all over the country added their name to the campaign's online tally

Australia has a world class health system. But when it comes to treating people affected by blood cancer, we don't have Australian-specific guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and care. We can do more.

So, this year we launched our Set the Standard campaign, calling for a new set of national standards so no matter who you are or where you live you get the best possible blood cancer treatment for you.

We developed the campaign on behalf of all Australians living with blood cancer.

The aim was to raise awareness of a 13% disparity in survival outcomes, and that we can prevent 1,375 deaths from blood cancer each year by implementing priority recommendations in the National Strategic Action Plan for Blood Cancer.

Thousands responded to our call to action, helping to show decision makers, including the Federal Government, that every life counts.

Visit ***setthestandard.org.au***

Five-year delay in diagnosis

Back in 2010, Katrina's illness started innocently enough – as a burning itch that she thought might be caused by the heat.

But with no clear answers after five years of ill health, Katrina continued to visit specialists - undergoing numerous tests and prescribed a variety of medications. She only got answers after a chance meeting with a rheumatologist whose wife had been researching the early stages of the type of blood cancer with which Katrina was eventually diagnosed: stage four subcutaneous T-cell lymphoma.

"When I was diagnosed I was scared," Katrina recalls, "because I thought, 'If I'm at stage four, what hope have I got to make it?' I was also angry and frustrated – I didn't understand how a skin problem could be caused by lymphoma, and I didn't know how pathology had missed it for so long."

If the national standards set out in the Leukaemia Foundation's new Set the Standard campaign had existed when Katrina first attended her GP, Katrina may have been diagnosed sooner and had access to the best possible cancer treatment.

"It's about time – it's so needed," she says.

> **"Blood cancer doesn't care what gender you identify as, what race you are or how much money you have – it impacts all walks of life, and everyone has the right to good healthcare."**

New guides to best cancer care

Optimal Care Pathways (OCPs) are trusted guides that describe what optimal care for a particular type of cancer should look like. They set out a national standard of high-quality cancer care that all Australians should expect.

Covering every step from diagnosis and treatment through to recovery, living with a chronic disease, or end-of life-care, they aim to improve patient outcomes through promoting quality cancer care.

They're one of the key recommendations in Australia's National Strategic Action Plan for Blood Cancer and this year we helped develop six new blood cancer OCPs: for children, adolescents and young adults with acute leukaemia, chronic lymphocytic leukaemia, chronic myeloid leukaemia, low grade lymphomas, myelodysplastic syndromes and multiple myeloma.

All Australians diagnosed with blood cancer and their healthcare professionals can now access the new guides from ***leukaemia.org.au/OCP***

The project is an initiative of the Blood Cancer Taskforce and was jointly led by the Australasian Leukaemia & Lymphoma Group (ALLG) and the Haematology Society of Australia and New Zealand (HSANZ), with support from Leukaemia Foundation.

Graham Lewis was diagnosed with blood cancer in 2010 and has suffered a severe decrease in physical ability due to his treatment – something he thinks could have been avoided had his treating team had a clearer direction.

Graham feels OCPs could help future patients avoid the treatment experience he feels has had such an impact on his current quality of life.

> **"I'd like to see the OCPs as a tool for bringing that collective knowledge together into one place. They could keep the treatment approaches updated with what's available."**

Blood Cancer Taskforce

Supported by the Federal Government, the Blood Cancer Taskforce was established during Blood Cancer Month 2019 to deliver Australia's first National Strategic Action Plan for Blood Cancer.

Currently co-chaired by Leukaemia Foundation CEO Chris Tanti and Professor John Seymour (Director Department of Clinical Haematology, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre & Royal Melbourne Hospital), the Taskforce unites 32 of Australia's leading haematologists, researchers, patients and members of the blood cancer community.

The Taskforce, supported by seven specialist Working Groups and drawing on almost 100 external experts, convened five times in 2021-22 to continue to implement activities from the National Action Plan.

Closing the health gap

Blood cancer among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is under diagnosed and under reported, with data on incidence, survival, and mortality very limited.

The National Action Plan recommends several important actions are taken to improve the delivery of cancer care for First Nations Australians.

This year the Leukaemia Foundation took the first step by committing to fund the first stage of an innovative new epidemiological and health services implementation research study. The study aims to better understand limitations, improve data collection and statistics on blood cancers among First Nations people. This initiative is fully supported by the Commonwealth with representatives from Cancer Australia taking part in the delivery.

> **"I saw a different doctor nearly every time I was there and wasn't told much about anything."**

More must be done to ensure First Nations people like Sherma experience equal health and wellbeing outcomes.

You're part of a movement

The life-changing support and care. The life-saving research. The change-making advocacy. None of it would be possible without the support of the Australian community, who once again dug deep, and deeper still, for our shared cause this year.

People chose to support the Leukaemia Foundation in so many ways. And we're grateful for each and every gift – small, large or somewhere in between.

Many chose to leave a gift in their Will, others gave through their payroll. Some made regular monthly donations, while others chose philanthropy to help transform outcomes for people with blood cancer. We were also lucky enough to count on some incredible support from the business community.

Meanwhile, some chose to run 250km across New South Wales without sleeping!

Callan Gates from Green Point went the extra mile (or three!) to raise an incredible $53,000 for the Leukaemia Foundation. With Callan's family directly impacted by blood cancer, the father-of-two ran and walked for more than 60 hours between Newcastle and Sydney in June. That's after his wife shaved her hair for World's Greatest Shave nine years ago. True commitment to helping other families facing blood cancer.

Thank you, Callan – and everyone who chose to support our mission this year.

World's Greatest Shave is mission possible!

This year, the Leukaemia Foundation introduced a new look and feel for its iconic World's Greatest Shave fundraiser and continued to rally Aussies from all over the country to shave, cut or colour their hair to fight blood cancer.

While the campaign looked a bit different in 2022, the message remained the same: shave, cut or colour your hair in the name of fighting blood cancer. As Australians continued to find their way out of the COVID-19 pandemic, 17,000 action-heroes from around the nation continued to brave the shave and collectively raised $14,098,352 for the Leukaemia Foundation.

World's Greatest Shave 2022 saw two schools reach the incredible six-figure milestone, with Mereweather High School from Newcastle and Wesley College from Perth raising $119,407 and $111,270 respectively - an incredible effort from all involved.

It was truly inspiring seeing all the fun and creative ways participants came together to shave, cut or colour their hair to raise crucial funds in support of the 135,000 Aussies currently facing blood cancer.

Our highest fundraisers included:

Graham Mirabito	**$42,260**
Kate Wynne	**$33,762**
Michael Hancock	**$23,020**
Emma Jones-Perrin	**$25,982**
Emma Edwards	**$23,955**

Lighting the way for our community

Last October saw thousands of Australians come together to Light the Night and reflect on how blood cancer has touched their life.

This night is about reflection, remembrance, and support, led by a community that understands the darkness that blood cancer can bring. Each year, the event draws to a close with a magical lantern lighting ceremony, where participants raise a lantern to reflect on their own blood cancer journey.

Each lantern holds a special meaning – white symbolises someone's own blood cancer journey, gold for a loved one lost to blood cancer, and blue to show support for those affected by blood cancer.

On Saturday, 16 October 2021, the Leukaemia Foundation continued to hold the event virtually which allowed us to connect with more people from across Australia, including those in hospital undergoing blood cancer treatment. More than 3,100 joined Light the Night this year, raising an incredible $853,000 for our shared cause.

Our highest fundraisers included:

Shane Bulloch	$15,798
Bianca Tesoriero	$10,441
Ruby D'Rozario	$10,305
Helen Roach	$8,255
Nicole Gregson	$7,900

Our commitment to reconciliation

Everyone at the Leukaemia Foundation wants a society that demonstrates deep respect, care, and value for First Nations peoples, their rich heritage, and continuing culture.

We also hope for First Nations peoples to experience equal health and wellbeing outcomes to the wider Australian community.

This year we developed our new Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan, in collaboration with Reconciliation Australia.

Through funding external research, and the introduction of a Reconciliation Action Plan, we are starting to turn our goals into actions.

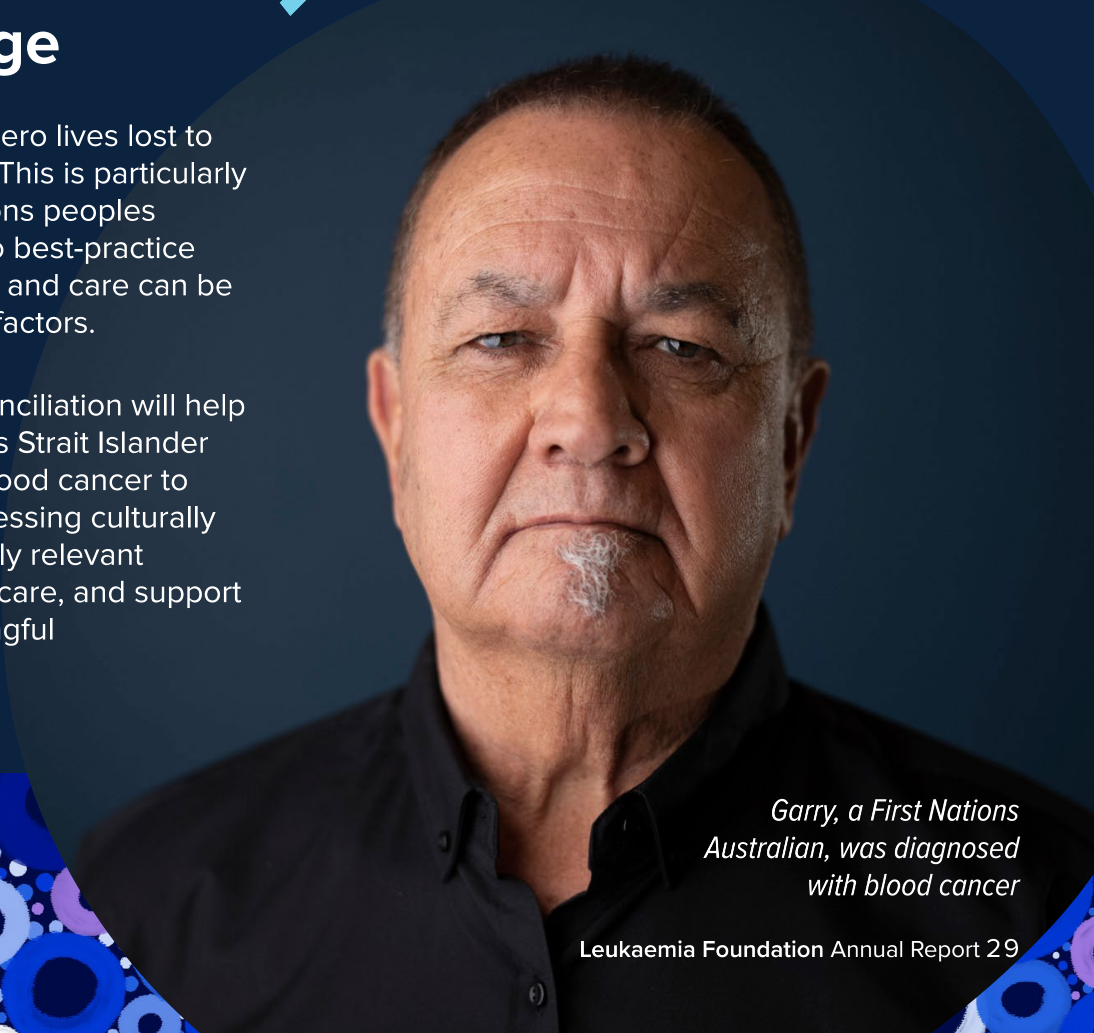
We launched our Reconciliation Action Plan during NAIDOC Week 2022 and are already beginning to deliver on our commitments.

Read our plan here

A commitment to make change

Our goal is to achieve zero lives lost to blood cancer by 2035. This is particularly important for First Nations peoples whose lack of access to best-practice blood cancer treatment and care can be compounded by many factors.

Our efforts toward reconciliation will help Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people experiencing blood cancer to feel empowered in accessing culturally appropriate and clinically relevant information, treatment, care, and support in ways that are meaningful and impactful.



Garry, a First Nations Australian, was diagnosed with blood cancer

Thank you to our major supporters and partners

The Leukaemia Foundation believes the key to zero lives lost to blood cancer by 2035 lies in the hands of researchers and blood cancer support service providers in partnership with our philanthropic partners and the wider community.

We are extremely proud of and grateful for the generosity and loyalty of our business partners, trusts and foundations, major donors and those remembering the Leukaemia Foundation in their Will. We have a bold plan to dramatically change the landscape for people living with blood cancer in Australia. Such bold visions require robust and long-standing partnerships.

We cannot achieve our vision alone. So, we thank the following for your commitment to the Leukaemia Foundation over the past year. To all those who prefer to stay anonymous, we also say thank you.

AstraZeneca
Better Living Group
Bridgestone Australia
Brydens Lawyers
CBGU JV – Cross River Rail Project
Freemasons – Calen Hamilton Lodge & Hand Heart Pocket
Gordon Fallance & Bloody Cells Ball Committee
Honda Foundation
Janssen
KOJO
Lexus of Brisbane
Multiplex
Novartis
Pfizer
Roche
Secure Agility
Simon National Carriers
Suzuki Australia

Philanthropic Partners and Donors

Megan Baker
Boost Charitable Trust
Phil and Pam Botsis and Family
Bourne Foundation
Calm Holdings Pty Ltd
Peter Carr
Civic Solutions
Cory Charitable Foundation
Terry Cryer
Davies Family Foundation
Alfred and Jean Dickson Foundation
Rosalia Di Giacomo
Dry July Foundation
Tony Fini Foundation
Mario and Maggie Franco
GKMI Pty Ltd
John and Paulette Goodell
Tim and Linda Goyder
David and Macca Goyder
Greater Charitable Foundation
Waverly Griggs
Jonathan and Kaitlin Gumley
Stephen and Sandra Gumley
Rae and Peter Gunn Family Foundation
Halifax Foundation
Hammond Family Foundation
Handy Family Foundation
David Hill
Paul Hughes
Lin Huddleston Charitable Foundation
John and Gay Hull
John James Foundation
Russell and Julie Kempnich
SN Kyri
Nghia Quy Lam
Greg Lewins
Todd Lewis
Val McAlpine
Dr Robert Menz
Ray Narkiewicz
Jonathan O'Donohue
Stan Perron Charitable Foundation
Bell Potter Securities Ltd
Pursche Foundation
Richardson Family Foundation
Bruce Saint
Tom Shearer
Suitters Foundation
Bert and Vera Thiess Foundation
Anita Thomas
Tour de Cure Ltd
James and Danielle Unger
Universal Zone Pty Ltd
Tony and Gai Wales
William and Patricia Westlake
WMozzies
Rick Zeuschner

Gift in Wills

The Leukaemia Foundation would also like to acknowledge those who so generously left a Gift in Will. These supporters are creating a legacy that will make a difference now and in the future. To all those who prefer to stay anonymous, we also say thank you.

Norman Aldridge
Daphne Annesley
Hilda Atkins
Shirley Lynette Ayres
Nancy Baker
David Ball
Rozelle Barry
Nola Bennett
Malcolm Bothwell
Cecelia Brazil
Joan Teresa Bremner
Bjorn Brolin
Barbro Brolin
Mary Cairns
Margaret Cameron
Wendy Cavenagh
The Thomas and Vera Condie Trust
Johanna Cronje
Ian Neil Galletly
Roy Edmund Gaskin
Coralie Mavis Hartley
Sybil Hine
Lynette June Howden
Donald Christopher Hudson
Michael Kelleher
Heather Maude King (Korber)
Jens Letting
Margaret MacLennan
The Matheson Bequest
Eva Maxwell
Robert Maynard
Agnes McDonnell
Denise Lorrimer McGuire
Beverly Joyce McIlwain
Derek Martin Muller
The Alf & Winifred Murgatroyd Trust
Thomas Edward Murray
Daniel O'Dwyer
Margo Parry-McKitrick
Donald Reeves Paterson
Vincent Pengilly
Nancy Hannah Dorothy Penhallurick Fund
Lorna Postle
Malcolm Potter
Ruth Louvain Pryce Trust
Queensland Community Foundation
Laurel Reece
Ivy Jane Reeves
Lynette Anne Richards
Mervyn Edwin Rodgers Fund
David Roleston
Margaret Roney
Paolo Rubera
Ian Rylands
Colin Sampson
Beverly Simersall
Eva Stastny
The Neil Stewart Memorial Endowment
Kevin Stuckings
Colleen Tatnell
Christine Julie Tighe
Elsa Norma Vedder Trust
Lois Edna Wadham
Dulcie Jean Walker
Marie Glad Ward
Ward Family Trust
June F Weller
Thomas & Coral Williams Memorial Trust
David Miller Willis
Clover Jessie Wilson
Rolf Woehler
John Raymond Yardley
James Peter Young
Volker Zabo

We would also like to thank and acknowledge the overwhelmingly generous members of our blood cancer community who have participated in and raised funds for various campaigns such as World's Greatest Shave, Light the Night, Dry July and DIY - Fundraise your own way.

Sage was diagnosed with blood cancer at 22 years of age

Reaching a milestone with our members

Members are the lifeblood of the Leukaemia Foundation and help shape the future direction of the organisation.

Members can be connected to a local Leukaemia Foundation Branch, or be a general Member with no branch affiliation. An important development this year has been the establishment of a Members, Branch and Stakeholder Board sub-committee. This has been a milestone enabling us to listen and respond to the diverse needs of our Members and the communities they serve.

The sub-committee is made up of three member representatives, three Board directors and the CEO who together provide leadership, direction and recommendations on areas relating to members, branches and our broader network of stakeholders.

Bringing a new Board, CEO, and Members team together with long-standing Member representatives has reinforced the value of maintaining strong member and branch organisational bonds.

While the first year's focus has been on Member and Branch engagement, attention will be extending to our broader supporter network including people living with blood cancer and their loved ones, supporters, government and the research community.

Key decisions the sub-committee has made in its first year:

- Guiding the establishment of a member communication and engagement plan to build stronger connections with Branch Members and to better meet the communication needs of the broader membership.
- Recommending replacing the Honoured Member title to Honorary Life Member as a more contemporary term that better signifies the long-standing contribution of recipients in supporting people living with blood cancer. The change also reinforces that this is an honour bestowed on the recipient for life.
- Building greater governance around the nomination and selection process for Honorary Life Membership with the introduction of selection criteria to reinforce the nominee's suitability for the honour.
- Improving the new Member onboarding experience with a streamlined approval process and sharing new Member requests with the Board.

344

Members

15

Branches

#ThisIsBloodCancer

Blood Cancer Awareness Month takes place every September and helps us to raise awareness about our cause.

The Leukaemia Foundation has been supporting Blood Cancer Month for more than a decade and this year we doubled down on our efforts to make more noise about blood cancer during September.

Ahead of the month, we forged exciting new global partnerships to maximise our reach, including with the Leukaemia and Lymphoma Society in America and Canada, Blood Cancer UK and Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand.

Together we developed the first ever international theme for Blood Cancer Month, *This Is Blood Cancer.* We also agreed the campaign should ‘go red’, and many important landmarks across Australia, UK and New Zealand were lit red.

The Leukaemia Foundation conducted an Australian-first survey measuring public awareness of blood cancer and its signs and symptoms, while building new clinical content on our website about the symptoms to watch out for, with the aim of raising awareness and encouraging people to speak to their doctor.

12,310
Uses of global hashtag

+35%
Searches of "Blood Cancer" on Google Aus

300,000
People reached on social media

1,000
Visitors to signs & symptoms page

7 million
Views of mentions in media

Building our reputation

Each year the Leukaemia Foundation measures its reputation by taking part in the Australia Charity RepTrak study, which measures the reputation of the 40 largest charities in Australia. We’ve been taking part for 13 years.

This year we were proud to record our highest reputation score, which meant the Leukaemia Foundation climbed to the 14th most reputable Australian charity, up four places since 2019.

Our board

Lucio Di Giallonardo
Chair

Michelle Beveridge
Director

Professor Mark Cormack
Director

Dr Angela Ferguson
Director

Jane Hancock
Director

Nigel Harris AM
Director

Peter Hodgett
Director

Siân Slade
Director

Executive leadership

Chris Tanti
Chief Executive Officer

Kathryn Huntley
General Manager
Health Services

Tim Murphy
General Manager
Blood Cancer Partnerships

Charlotte Webb
General Manager
Fundraising & Growth

Susie Howard
General Manager
Marketing & Communication Services

Mike Hubbard
Chief Financial Officer

Maria Voukenos
General Manager
People & Culture

The financials

Income and expenditure

	2022 ($)	2021 ($)
Income	30,393,207	39,041,834
Fundraising and operational support expenses (excluding research grants and patient support)	(15,244,124)	(14,885,871)
	15,149,084	24,155,963
Fulfilment of mission expenses	(18,358,602)	(13,873,084)
Net surplus / (defecit) for the year	(3,209,510)	10,282,879
Other Comprehensive income - items that will not subsequently be reclassified to profit or loss		
Net changes in fair value of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	(243,970)	392,679
Total comprehensive surplus / (defecit) for the year	(3,453,489)	10,675,588

The Income and Expenditure table is extracted from our audited Financial Report and shows overall income of $30.4m for the financial year ended 30 June 2022 (FY22).

The World's Greatest Shave was somewhat impacted by floods in key fundraising periods and staff transitions, however the event performed in line with expectations and remains a cornerstone of our fundraising activity.

Other fundraising activities (Light the Night, community fundraising, individual giving, philanthropy and business partnering) performed well when compared with prior years and once again we're hugely grateful to our supporters.

Other variances between FY21 and FY22 levels of income reflect one off government COVID-19 financial measures and the benefit of asset sales in FY21.

Fundraising and operational support costs in FY22 were 2% higher than the prior year but this modest increase was within budget and the increase in spend was largely centered on increasing awareness of our work, of blood cancers and the experience of those impacted. As the Leukaemia Foundation is self-sustaining in its ability to generate funds, the costs of doing so are essential.

Importantly in FY22, expenditure on research and advocacy rose by $2.3m to $5.3m and patient support expense rose by $2.1m to $13.0m; a combined $18.4m spent on mission activities being $4.5m higher than in FY21. The net deficit for the year of $3.2m was in accordance with operational plans.

The balance sheet as at 30 June 2022 broadly shows changes in the asset position over the course of the year were in keeping with the ordinary activities of the Leukaemia Foundation.

There were no significant changes to property or funds held and we're in a robust position as we navigate an uncertain economic climate. We do not take this for granted and will be looking carefully at income levels and future activities. The Board has approved a deficit budget for FY23 as it is right for us to use reserves in order to continue with our Patient First strategy.

Notable changes at the end of FY22 compared with the prior year relate to: a change in the accounting treatment of the John James Village (ACT) but the underlying use of the facility is unchanged (lease liability); and, an advance payment from the Department of Health to develop optimal care pathways for patients (unearned income).

Financial position of Leukaemia Foundation as of 30th June 2022

	2022 ($)	2021 ($)
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	41,657,161	42,122,611
Trade and other receivables	672,980	558,080
Other assets	254,887	46,180
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	**42,585,028**	**42,276,871**
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	51,564,290	53,317,964
Right-of-use assets	6,580,327	1,427,342
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	2,576,624	2,750,514
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	**60,721,241**	**57,495,820**
TOTAL ASSETS	**103,306,268**	**100,222,691**
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	1,585,606	1,071,181
Lease liability	824,006	835,746
Unearned income	1,183,094	327,456
Provisions	1,258,616	1,381,366
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	**4,851,322**	**3,615,749**
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Lease liability	5,856,230	640,230
Provisions	645,278	559,784
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	**6,501,508**	**1,200,014**
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**11,352,830**	**4,815,763**
NET ASSETS	**91,953,439**	**95,406,928**
EQUITY		
Retained surplus	64,369,249	67,578,768
Reserves	27,584,190	27,828,160
TOTAL EQUITY	**91,953,439**	**95,406,928**

Ways to support our work

Give

Your donations mean we can continue to offer free support services to the 135,000 Australians living with blood cancer, including financial and practical assistance, education, counselling and accommodation, and drive some of Australia's vital life-saving cancer research.

Leave a gift in Will

After taking care of your loved ones, a gift in your Will is a direct and valuable way of helping to create a brighter future for Australians living with blood cancer.

Fundraise

You can get involved in our many fundraising events, big and small, such as World's Greatest Shave or Light the Night or perhaps one of our other community events.

Become a Member

Our members are the lifeblood of the Leukaemia Foundation and play an important role in shaping the future of the organisation. Lend your voice to the future of blood cancer and become a member today.

Partner with us

There are many ways we can work together to help more people living with blood cancer survive. Find out how your organisation can make an impact and share in our achievements.

Donate your blood or bone marrow

Stem cell transplants and blood donations save the lives of many people facing blood cancer.
Visit donateblood.com.au to help.

Leukaemia Foundation®

Turrbal and Yuggera Country
GPO BOX 9954 BRISBANE QLD
1800 620 420 info@leukaemia.org.au

The Leukaemia Foundation cares about our environment. Please recycle or dispose of thoughtfully.

ABN 57 057 493 017