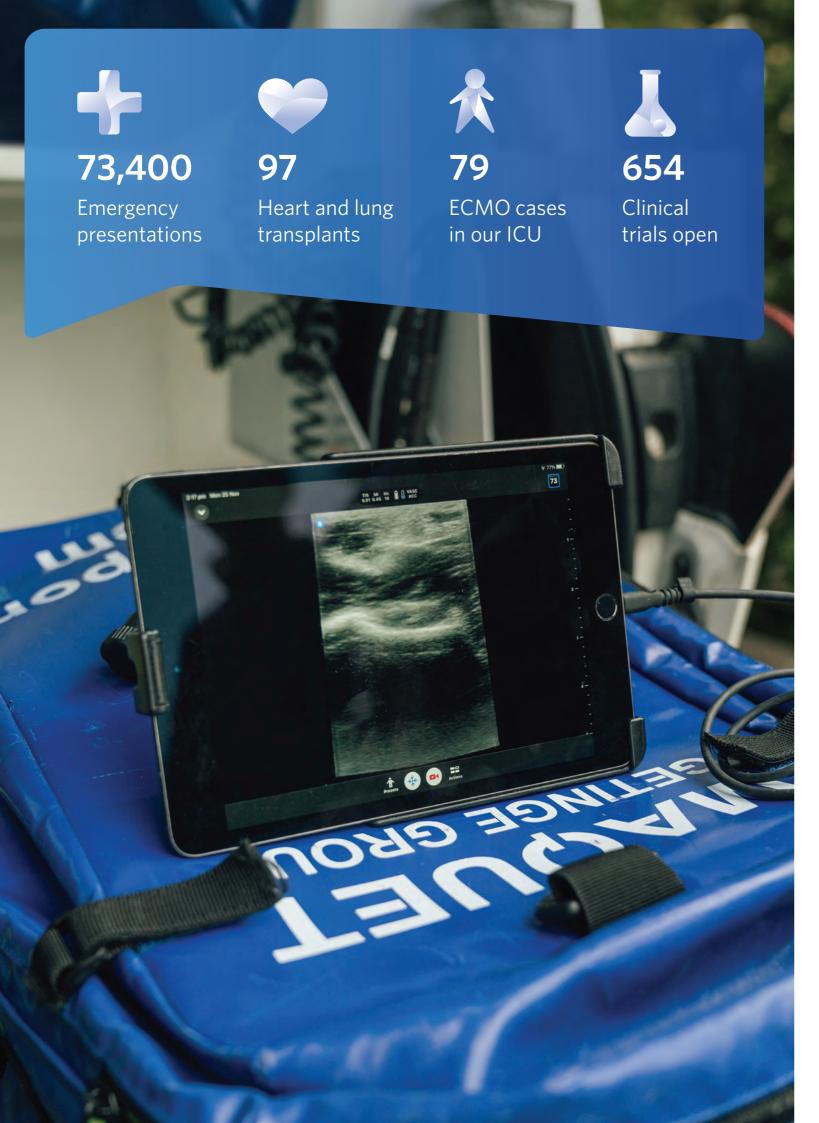


## 2024 Impact Report

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## Our new Chief Executive

Adam Horsburgh

In 2023-24, Alfred Health continued as one of Australia's leading health services with the backing of our staff and you, our donors. For the first time since the pandemic, we returned to regular operations and launched several initiatives that strengthened our reputation as a leader in innovation and research, while tackling the challenge of deferred care.

In April 2024, we welcomed a new era in cancer treatment and research with the opening of the Paula Fox Melanoma and Cancer Centre. This new centre was the result of a partnership between Commonwealth and State governments, Monash University, Alfred Health, the Fox Family Foundation and the philanthropic community.

A standout achievement was our strong accreditation performance against the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards. Alfred Health became the first Victorian health service to complete a short-notice accreditation with no recommendations. This affirmed our commitment to meeting the expectations of the sector and community for consistent and reliable patient care.

The Alfred Emergency and Trauma Centre remained one of the busiest in the country, with more than 73,400 presentations, while our Intensive Care Unit – Australia's largest and most acute – played a crucial role in lifesaving interventions.

We were well positioned to meet the increased demand for care and treatment during the second half of the year, while initiatives to reduce waitlists for planned surgery and decreasing the wait times for outpatient appointments were successful. Development in our Hospital in the Home Program meant that older patients with chronic and complex conditions could be provided with out-of-hospital care, when previously they were considered too complex for home care.

Alfred Health's culture of research and innovation saw new ways of better connecting care and finding new pathways to tackle growing diseases. Combatting heart



failure was evidenced by our work on a revolutionary, implantable mechanical device intended to fully replace a natural heart and provide patients with a possible alternative to heart transplant.

We continue to work in partnership with regional health services including Bass Coast and Central Gippsland, improving health equity in regional Victoria and bringing care closer to home. Cancer, cardiac, neurology and respiratory clinics have been established in Bass Coast, while specialist perioperative and surgical support was provided for La Trobe Regional Hospital.

Thank you to the Board, donors and broader community for your outstanding support over the past year. Most of all, thank you to our amazing staff. No matter what the challenge, their commitment to quality care has been resolute, and dedication to our patients unwavering.

Alfred Health also bid farewell to Professor Andrew Way AM in July 2024 after 15 years at the helm. During his tenure, Prof Way cemented Alfred Health's position as a health service for all Victorians, leading in critical and complex care, teaching and education, and research. Quality and safety, and engaging with consumers and patients, were among his top priorities.

I was delighted to be appointed as the new Chief Executive of Alfred Health and look forward to further enhancing the wonderful reputation of the organisation, supported by the highly valued relationship with our donors.

Adam Horsburgh Chief Executive Alfred Health

## Our Chair and **Director**



## Sir Rod Eddington AO and Patrick Baker

To our valued supporters and members of The Alfred Foundation community.

It is with great pride that we present to you Impact: The Alfred Foundation's Year in Review 2024. This past year has once again showcased the transformative power of philanthropy in advancing our mission to deliver world-class healthcare.

In 2024 we were thrilled to mark the completion of several vital projects, including the official opening of the Paula Fox Melanoma and Cancer Centre in April.

We were delighted to have Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Victorian Premier Jacinta Allan join philanthropist Paula Fox AO and Director of the Melanoma Service at The Alfred Prof Victoria Mar to celebrate the milestone, heralding a new era in cancer care.

Not only is the \$152.4 million facility delivering lifesaving clinical trials, research and care under one roof, but the building itself was also recognised by the world design community in 2024, winning best new health building at the World Architecture Festival Awards in Singapore.

Our annual Critical Care Appeal was another standout success in 2024, achieving great results via activations at The Alfred, online and at Southern Cross Station, the campaign demonstrating the immense power of community support and reaffirming the deep connection that so many have with The Alfred. Thanks to your generous support, we upgraded our emergency and trauma flight deck, equipped neuroscience clinical trials, and bolstered our mobile extra corporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) program in the ICU. Your contributions also funded research fellows in myeloma and pulmonary fibrosis, as well as critical research projects in mental health, palliative care, epilepsy and oncology.

This year also marked a change in leadership as we welcomed our new Chief Executive, Adam Horsburgh. Adam commenced in August 2024 and brings a wealth of experience, most recently as the Chief Executive of Austin Health. We look forward to working with Adam as he leads our health service into the future.

As we embark on another year, on behalf of The Alfred Foundation and Board, we extend our deepest gratitude for your continued support and we wish you and your loved ones health and happiness in 2025.

Sir Rod Eddington AO (

Patrick Baker Director

# World-first trial **for silicosis**

Patients around the globe who suffer from silicosis a potentially fatal lung disease - are a step closer to a viable treatment for the disease, thanks to a three-year research funding commitment from Zaparas Lawyers.

Silicosis, which started to drastically emerge from 2015, is caused by inhaling dangerous silica fibers predominantly from cutting artificial stone benchtops.

Dr Ryan Hoy, respiratory and sleep disorders physician in The Alfred Occupational Respiratory Clinic, said hundreds of workers around Australia now have silicosis from heavy levels of silica exposure.

"This is a preventable lung disease, but unfortunately young workers in their 20s, 30s and 40s have been diagnosed," he said. "Silicosis has been off the radar in many middle and high-income countries for years, so there are no established treatments to halt or reverse it.

"It is a really critical time for patients with silicosis to undertake research to identify treatment for this condition."

Dr Hoy said that some drugs could halt the progression of the disease, based on laboratory research.

"The funding from Zaparas Lawyers is going to allow us to commence a world-first trial of a medication that has shown promise in the laboratory setting that could be applied to people with this condition," he said.

### The Alfred Foundation Board

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Dr Ravi Bhatia

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Allan Hood

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# Meg Landrigan Chris Nolan Nicholas O'Donohue Amanda Robertson Paul Sheahan AM Professor Andrew Way Outgoing Chief Executive, Alfred Health

#### Volunteers

Dianne Dymond Rhonda Moroney Doreen Phillips Uri Rosenberg Sally Shuter

## The Alfred Foundation 2023/24 financial year summary

Net income	\$15,825,000
Total expenses	\$3,325,000
Total income	\$19,150,000
<ul> <li>Trusts, foundations and major donors</li> </ul>	\$12,770,000
Gifts in Wills	\$4,570,000
Donations	\$1,648,000
Corporate and events	\$162,000



Dr Ryan Hoy (middle) with Senior Associate Kehela Vandenberg and firm Partner Yianni Zaparas from Zaparas Lawyers.

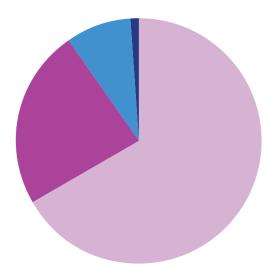
"This study may be very beneficial for workers in Victoria but also around Australia and potentially has international implications as well."

Partner of Zaparas Lawyers, Yianni Zaparas, said the partnership with The Alfred and Dr Hoy allowed the firm to "go beyond legal representation and actively invest in the health and safety of the communities we serve".

"It reaffirms our dedication to advocating for improved workplace safety and also contribute to systemic changes," he said. "The fact that it is a world-first trial and us wanting to support and contribute to this important research is a driving factor.

"To contribute in any way to the improvement of the wellbeing of individuals suffering from silicosis potentially around the world is humbling. It's more humbling than the business of law."

The next phase of the trial is an immunosuppression treatment for silicosis.





Project co-leads A/Prof Shaun Gregory and Prof David Kaye with Minister Mark Butler at The Alfred.

#### **FEBRUARY**

#### Artificial heart to give new hope to heart failure patients

A revolutionary, implantable mechanical device is tested at The Alfred and set to provide new hope to patients with debilitating heart failure. The Total Artificial Heart is intended to fully replace a natural heart, providing patients with a possible alternative to heart transplant. It is one of three heart technologies being created under the Artificial Heart Frontiers Program, based at the Monash Alfred Baker Centre for Cardiovascular Research at The Alfred.



Prof Mark Shackleton joins 3AW live at Southern Cross Station

#### **SEPTEMBER** Critical Care Appeal raises funds for lifesaving scanner

Victorian cancer patients are set to benefit from the arrival of a world-class scanner at The Alfred, transforming the speed with which the deadly disease is detected and treated.

The Alfred's Critical Care Appeal for 2024 raised funds for a Quadra, a PET-CT scanner that performs faster scans with a lower dose of radiation, while better able to identify smaller lesions.

The Alfred's Director of Oncology, Prof Mark Shackleton, said The Alfred would be the first public hospital in Australia to use the lifesaving technology for cancer research, treatment and diagnosis.

Steve Kemp on his way to recovery after a concussion iniury

#### Victoria's first public-funded concussion clinic opens

Providing much-needed support for hundreds of people experiencing ongoing concussion symptoms each year, the clinic helps people up to six months post-injury, providing access to experts in neurology, physiotherapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy and clinical psychology. Alfred Health sees up to 680 concussion patients each year. The clinic sees anyone aged over 16 in the community suffering ongoing effects from concussion, including those involved in falls, accidents, assaults, family violence and community sport.



The launch of the fund was celebrated with a function at the Pullman Hotel

The Alfred Health Nurses Fund will support further improvements in patient care by enabling professional development for more nurses including support for research projects, observation of global best practice or attendance at conferences.

These opportunities will deliver ongoing community benefits, as nurses will bring back ideas and experiences to their colleagues and the broader health sector.

The new cancer centre opened in April.

#### **APRIL**

MARCH

#### The Paula Fox Melanoma and Cancer Centre at The Alfred officially opens

The Paula Fox Melanoma and Cancer Centre on St Kilda Road is officially opened by the Prime Minister of Australia Anthony Albanese and Premier of Victoria Jacinta Allan.

The new \$152.4 million facility is delivering lifesaving clinical trials, research and care under one roof, heralding a new era in cancer care.

Alfred Health staff with Pharmacist Joseph Tesoriero from HealthSmart, who made a \$10,000 donation.

Designed to treat life-threatening burns, it is hoped

to eventually replace traditional skin grafts.



**OCTOBER** 

It is hoped the breakthrough will significantly improve outcomes for patients and has the potential to significantly reduce long-term scarring. The trial is a partnership between The Alfred and Monash University.

Adam Horsburah is the new Chief Executive of Alfred Health.

### AUGUST

#### New Chief Executive to lead Alfred Health

Following a rigorous selection process that attracted high-calibre national and international candidates, Adam Horsburgh started as the new Chief Executive of Alfred Health.

Before joining The Alfred, Adam was Chief Executive at Austin Health for four years. Prior to this he was the Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer at Melbourne Health, and spent time as the Chief Operating Officer for Southern Health (now Monash Health) at Monash Medical Centre.



#### **SEPTEMBER** The Alfred Nurses Fund officially launches

Our hard-working nurses now have access to additional transformative training and development opportunities, both locally and abroad, thanks to a new fund backed by the generosity of donors.

### Support for the Sunflower

The Alfred is the first metropolitan hospital in Victoria - and one of the first few hospitals across the country - to support the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower.

The initiative aims to raise awareness of the daily challenges faced by individuals who live with an invisible disability or condition, who can wear the sunflower and indicate to people around them that they may need extra understanding, help or a little more time.

### First-of-its-kind artificial skin breakthrough

A Melbourne man had his burns repaired with bioengineered skin in a first-of-its-kind adult case, decreasing his need for skin grafting and significantly reducing his risk of deadly infection. The skin was grown from his own skin cells in a laboratory based at The Alfred.

## A new Neuroscience Clinical Trial Unit

The first of its kind in Australia, The Alfred is home to a new, dedicated clinical trial unit area which will revolutionise how patients are cared for and greatly expand the research capabilities for movement disorders and neurology research.

The Neuroscience Clinical Trial Unit opened in June 2024, thanks to funding from the Shake It Up Australia Foundation and the Bendat Family Foundation, which will allow for more in-depth and innovative clinical trials, especially for Parkinson's disease.

The unit works across many different areas, which also includes epilepsy, Alzheimer's, headache and neuromuscular trials.

Jack Germaine, the Manager of Neuroscience Clinical Trials Research at The Alfred, said having a large, dedicated trial space for the unit was a gamechanger.

"A lot of these diseases are incurable. So having these sorts of trials gives people and doctors other options," he said. "By trialling new medications, it could lead to the next phase of research or treatment for these conditions and, potentially, cures."

The unit has six dedicated beds for patients with movement disorders. This allows for multiple people to stay overnight as well as conducting outpatient visits on the same day.

"We have basically been able to triple how many patients we can see in a day," Mr Germaine said.

As well as the immense benefits to patients and staff for The Alfred and its community, the space also allows for biotechnology companies from around the world being attracted to undertake initial trials at the facility.

"It gives our team a lot of opportunities to do a lot of cutting-edge, fast-paced research, and it is really exciting for the hospital as well," Mr Germaine said.

"By trialling new medications, it could lead to the next phase of research or treatment for these conditions and, potentially, cures." Jack Germaine, Manager of Neuroscience Clinical Trials Research at The Alfred

The new specialist unit has six dedicated beds.



Touring the new space were members of the Bendat Family Foundation, Shake It Up Australia Foundation and The Alfred Foundation.

"One 'phase one' trial is a lot of work on its own and we have six starting in 2025, so we are looking forward to the challenge of that. But we couldn't do it without the specialist unit.

"A significant number of all early-phase trials in Australia are now occurring at The Alfred in the neuroscience space, which is only growing."

Head of Movement Disorders at The Alfred, Dr Kelly Bertram, said it was *"really beneficial"* to have a clinical space which allowed for patients who sometimes have difficulty with mobility.

"Having the opportunity to do that in a public hospital, allows anyone with Parkinson's disease in Australia access to the trial," she said. "But it also allows us to bring trials to Australia that were previously unattainable. We can now book overnight stays which don't affect the running of the hospital.

"For many years, there hasn't been a significant change in medicine in the Parkinson's disease space. Any medicines now treat the symptoms; they're not altering the long-term disease course.

"Having new drugs come through to be tested that might actually do that, is really exciting."

Established in partnership with The Michael J Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, the Shake It Up Australia Foundation is dedicated to funding world-class research to find a cure for Parkinson's disease, which currently affects more than 200,000 Australians. Chief Executive of the Shake It Up Australia Foundation, Vicki Miller, said trials like this at The Alfred allow fasttracking "groundbreaking research for Parkinson's so that the community can benefit from these studies' translational impact sooner".

"Clinical trials are the cornerstone of scientific discovery and evidence-based practice," she said. "Not only do they accelerate our mission to discover ways to slow, stop and cure Parkinson's, but they also provide patients with a unique opportunity to directly participate in research, bringing us one step closer to a world without Parkinson's.

"By creating this gold-standard clinical trials facility and supporting world-class research, Shake It Up is excited to empower The Alfred in establishing a scalable model for Parkinson's research across Australia," Ms Miller said.

"We are incredibly grateful to the Bendat Family Foundation for their generosity, which has made this landmark project possible.

"We believe this initiative will inspire greater collaboration, faster advancements in treatments and, ultimately, bring us closer to unlocking the answers needed to cure Parkinson's once and for all."

#### **TRANSFORMING CARE**

## A groundbreaking approach

The Alfred is the first hospital in Australasia to incorporate a revolutionary clinical trial using portable cardiopulmonary bypass machines outside of the hospital.

#### At The Alfred, we are always pushing the limits as to what can be achieved. This trial program is part of a broader scheme of transforming how we can care for the community in groundbreaking ways that are saving lives.

The program, in partnership with Ambulance Victoria and called CHEER3, is a feasibility study which provides lifesaving extra corporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) machines not only throughout the hospital, but in the community – in our parks, on our streets, in our homes.

An ECMO machine takes over from a critically ill patient's lungs and heart when their own organs cannot function, by circulating blood through a machine outside their bodies.



Dean Barber (middle) back on-site at work alongside the paramedics who helped save his life.

The program is only used in the most dire of circumstances. For when a person has collapsed due to cardiac arrest, who has received immediate CPR from a bystander, and who has received at least 15 minutes of paramedic-delivered CPR and attempts at defibrillation and, despite all this, the heart has been unable to restart using conventional methods.

Program Director and Senior Intensivist Dr Sacha Richardson said for people who do not have their heart restarted during that time, *"your chances* of survival are dismal".

"Beyond 30 minutes (since the initial collapse), the survival rate falls below 2 per cent," he said. "So only one in 50 people are going home.

"This therapy is a last line of defence."

The concept of using ECMO machines for cardiac arrest was pioneered by Prof Steve Bernard, an intensivist at The Alfred in the early 2010s.

Since the program started in 2020, 27 patients have received this pre-hospital ECMO.

Incredibly, eight people have gone home to their families with excellent neurological outcomes – despite an average of more than 45 minutes of CPR – returning to full-time work and an active lifestyle. A further three people whose lives could not be saved, were still able to donate organs and tissues.

"We were the first in Australasia to do it," Dr Richardson said. "We are one of perhaps half a dozen cities around the world that have the capability for it, but The Alfred already has so much experience looking after many ECMO patients."



Senior Intensivists Dashiell Gantner and Sacha Richardson with paramedic Steve Musgrave show off some of the lifesaving equipment that can be used in the community.

Support from donors has helped this groundbreaking trial by funding a new replacement portable ultrasound machine, which is integral to the operation of the program.

Used to insert the large bypass cannulas to establish the ECMO without the need for an X-ray machine, the procedure simply could not be done without it.

"When you consider that the first cardiopulmonary bypass machines that were developed in the 1950s were completely immobile and the size of a chest freezer, the technological advancement to where they can now be hand carried and put in the back of an ambulance or car, is just incredible," Dr Richardson said.

"Coupled with the portable ultrasound machine, we can put patients on bypass just about anywhere."

With more people witnessing these events and wearable technologies able to identify cardiac arrest, the importance of the effectiveness of the trial will only grow over time, Dr Richardson said.

"It will lead to a greater pool of patients who can potentially benefit from this therapy," he said.

"That is why it is important that we build a system that is able to accommodate and expand to service that need and hopefully save many, many more lives." "The technological advancement to where a cardiopulmonary bypass machine can now be hand carried and put in the back of an ambulance or car, is just incredible."

Dr Sacha Richardson, Program Director and Senior Intensivist

Dean Barber will remain forever grateful to the trial and The Alfred.

Installing air conditioning in the Metro Tunnel Project in May 2021, Dean was unloading a crane when he suddenly collapsed. Fortunately, two colleagues in a scissor lift saw what happened and immediately came to start CPR.

After being stabilised on scene and retrieved by the CHEER3 team, Dean spent five days in intensive care and about three weeks in total at The Alfred before coming home.

"It's unreal technology. It's lifesaving stuff," he said.

Dean is now back to full-time work and enjoys running around the footy field with his son.

"I am just so thankful to everyone at The Alfred," he said. "Without them and their hard work and dedication, I simply wouldn't be here. I will be forever in their debt."

# Out of the box thinking

It may look like just an ordinary black box, but this cutting-edge machine could lead to remarkable discoveries in cancer research through its capabilities in synthetic biology and genetic engineering.

The first-of-its-kind in Australia and one of a handful around the world, this Telesis BioXp 3250 DNA printer is in operation at The Alfred. The automated printer streamlines the synthesis of DNA and mRNA fragments, allowing researchers to generate custom constructs swiftly, providing for rapid cancer monitoring and discovery research.

Associate Professor Vivek Naranbhai, who is a Medical Oncologist and the Laboratory Head of Translational Immunology at The Alfred, said having this technology was vital in breaking further ground in cancer research.

"One of the frustrations of modern biology is that it requires you to manipulate DNA and mRNA sequences to understand how the system works and make new therapies," he said.



Associate Professor Vivek Naranbhai and donor Krishna Bhalerao with the new DNA printer. "DNA and mRNA is the language of biology – just like letters and numerals are the language of English, for example.

"Once you have a mutation driving a new cancer, you've got to be able to understand how it works by comparing a cell with the mutation and one without.

"This machine can stitch pieces of DNA together to rapidly make 32 new DNA constructs in a night – it allows us to create synthetic biology.

"You can see what would happen if you take a T-cell receptor that's involved in fighting cancers or viruses and mutate it – see if you can make it better, or what makes it worse.

"If we make it better, we can turn it into a drug. It allows us to really supercharge our efforts around making new therapies to harness the immune system around cancer.

"Put simply, it levels the playing field.

"It is a boring black box, but it can do crazy stuff and that's a cool thing."

Krishna Bhalerao donated the funds for the technology on behalf of his wife and "soul mate", Saroj Godbole, who died from cancer last year.

"We always had an affinity with The Alfred, so the first thought in my mind was that cancer had to be treated and some people would benefit if I donated something worthwhile," he said.



"The Alfred was our first encounter with any hospital experience. We were astounded by the quality of care that was given to us and the compassion of the nurses."

Saroj was born and brought up in Pune, India, attaining a degree in mathematics. After learning computer programming in England, she returned to India and headed a computer consultancy, also teaching and spreading computer language before moving to Melbourne to join Krishna.

Here she also headed computer consultancy divisions in two companies and was also on the Review Panel of the Victorian Government.

"She was a born leader, quick-witted, loved reading, enjoyed music, was a keen supporter of the Indian and Australian cricket teams and was a passionate supporter of the Essendon AFL team," Krishna said. "Everyone loved her because of her helpful and compassionate nature."

Receiving donations like the one received from Krishna was incredibly moving, Associate Prof Naranbhai said.

"I feel deeply accountable to Krishna to make sure that we do something good out of this. Wanting to make a contribution that was foundational, I understood that," he said. "We were astounded by the quality of care that was given to us and the compassion of the nurses."

Krishna Bhalerao, husband of the late Saroj Godbole, cancer patient at The Alfred.

"Donors play a major role in allowing The Alfred to fulfil its mission; to help patients get the best care."

Associate Prof Naranbhai said The Alfred was the perfect place for such a technology.

"It is a public hospital with a major research interest, linked to a university, with the brand new cancer centre, with great people and great scientists, all in the same place," he said.

"Having philanthropy support that is essential for realising the nascent potential that is there in the Paula Fox Melanoma and Cancer Centre to make outsized discoveries that will have global impact."

#### **DEVELOPING EXTRAORDINARY** CAREGIVERS

## A new look at wellness

The opening of the Paula Fox Melanoma and Cancer Centre in 2024 marked a monumental leap forward in the integration of cutting-edge research, clinical care and innovative cancer treatments.

A driving force to the Centre's vision is an ethos grounded in patient wellness. Bringing this to life is the Minderoo Wellness Centre.

At the heart of this transformative centre is Nicole Jackson, the Integrated Oncology and Wellness Manager. Nicole's role is pivotal in shaping the Centre's holistic approach to comprehensive care that looks beyond just treating the disease. It is a role that would not be possible without the generosity of our donor community and the Minderoo Foundation.

"Integrated oncology is an evidence-based, specialised area focused on supportive care," Nicole said. "It is a holistic model that complements normal medical care addressing the physical, emotional and practical needs of patients in a way that optimises health, quality of life and clinical outcomes."

The Wellness Centre, with its bright, welcoming design and tranquil environment, embodies the philosophy of integrated oncology. Floor-to-ceiling windows allow natural light to flood the space, creating an atmosphere of calm and relaxation in a setting designed for healing and restoring a sense of normalcy.

Here, patients benefit from a range of services, including physiotherapy, nutrition counselling, psychosocial support, occupational therapy, yoga, pilates and art therapy, among others.

"We offer a patient-centred focus of supportive care, where we are looking at the whole person," Nicole said. "Their physical needs, their psychological and emotional needs and practical issues to help people in their day-to-day life and thrive in everyday wellbeing.

"By addressing more than just the disease, we reduce the impact of their cancer treatment and their symptoms."

For patients like Teresa Liano, the impact of the Wellness Centre has been profound. Diagnosed with multiple myeloma in 2017, Teresa's journey through treatment included several rounds of stem cell transplants and CAR-T cell therapy.

Teresa is now in remission and while her medical treatment was effective, it was the holistic support offered at the Wellness Centre that helped her address the toll that cancer took on her overall wellbeing.

"I was very fatigued. It's such a big thing, having this (cancer)," Teresa said. "I've got beautiful, supportive family and friends, but one thing I've realised since coming here is that I haven't really been taking care of myself."

For Teresa, the Wellness Centre has not only eased the physical toll of her treatment, but also transformed her emotional outlook.

"It's made my heart bigger," she said. "I don't feel scared anymore. I feel like I owe a lot to The Alfred."

The transformative care of the Wellness Centre would not have been possible without the generosity of the community and Minderoo.

"In a big hospital like The Alfred that prides itself on excellence and amazing care, having the Minderoo Foundation facilitate getting a big new program off the ground is imperative," Nicole said.

"This Centre is the gold standard.

"We are really lucky that they got on board because we can see the difference that the program is making." the disease, we reduce the

and Wellness Manager



## Thanks to our supporters

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#### **GIFTS IN WILLS**

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Estate of Evelyn Rose Kendrick Joseph Kronheimer Charitable Fund Martha Miranda Livingstone Fund The Sarah Josephine Logue Memorial Fund Estate of Shirley Margaret Loxley Estate of Margaret Lyons Estate of Charlotte Marshall Estate of William Marshall John Robertson Grigor and Mrs Eva McKenzie Bequest Estate of Edith McTaggart Estate of Edna Mavis Nemecek Eugene and Janet O'Sullivan Memorial Fund Thomas B Payne Fund James Richardson Medical Research Foundation Estate of Danuta Rogowski The Geoffrey Mallin Rollason Trust Mr and Mrs Simon Rothberg Charitable Trust Estate of John Desmond and Movra Frances Russo The Valda Salton Charitable Trust Sartori Medical Research Fund Vladimir and Georgia Selar Bequest Estate of William Arthur Shipperlee Estate of Alan Ross Singer Estate of Heather Sybil Smith Estate of Frank Rayner South Estate of Isabel Stevens The Yvonne Patricia Stevens Family Trust Mary Symon Charitable Trust Estate of Alice Letitia D'Esterre Taylor Flora Louisa Thompson Charitable Trust The Gary Thomson Endowment Estate of Valma May Thomson Estate of Mona Olive Walker Eliza Wallis Charitable Trust Estate of Ronald Charles Weeks Annie Josephine Wellard Charitable Trust Sydney Maxwell Wellard Charitable Trust Estate of Wilma Anne Wheatland Estate of Betty Ann and William **Bailey White** Estate of Emily Vera Winder Charles Wright Charitable Trust Estate of John Frederick Wright Estate of Alex Yakovlev



#### **PROJECTS YOU FUNDED** Transforming care

- Paula Fox Melanoma and Cancer Centre (PFMCC)
- Infusion chairs at PFMCC
- Respiratory Unit upgrade
- Headspace Early Psychosis Dragonfly
   Music Program
- Ultrasound for the mobile ECMO program
- Castan Apheresis Unit
- PARTY ON Program

Image: Infusion chairs in use at the PFMCC.



#### **PROJECTS YOU FUNDED** Leading technology

- Neuroscience Clinical Trial Unit upgrade
- MRI compatible ventilator for laser interstitial thermal therapy in neurology
- Slit lamp table enhancement
- Telesis BioXp 3250 DNA printer

Image: The new Telesis BioXp 3250 DNA printer.



#### **PROJECTS YOU FUNDED** Developing extraordinary caregivers

- Alfred Health Nurses Fund
- Integrated oncology manager
   in Minderoo Wellness Centre
- LEB Foundation Myeloma Research Fellow
- Pulmonary Fibrosis Research Fellow
- Bambery Myeloma Fellow
- Jenkins Lymphoma Fellow
- Tegner Myeloma Fellow
- Castan ICU Fellow

Image: Nicole Jackson with Teresa Liano in the Minderoo Wellness Centre.

#### **PROJECTS YOU FUNDED** Advancing discovery

- National Muscle Disease Biobank
- The Foster Foundation Alfred Cancer Biobank
- Melanoma Prevention Project (stem cell)
- Roberts Family lymphoma research
- Shaun Fleming leukaemia research
- Leo Chen mental health research
- Colorectal cancer research
- Acute myeloid leukaemia research
- Research into Alzheimer's and dementia early diagnosis
- Emergency and Trauma Centre research into end-of-life care needs of older Australians
- Epilepsy research project
- Melanoma and skin cancer screening and diagnosis research

Image: A new dedicated space for clinical trials.



## *Team Alfred* **Stories that bind us**

It is a team effort at The Alfred Foundation, and there is no better demonstration of that commitment than through our community.

Team Alfred is a welcoming community of individuals that is dedicated and supportive, who are passionate about taking part in events and challenges to raise funds that are vital for lifesaving care at The Alfred.

This was demonstrated in countless efforts during 2024, through all manner of events, from long-distance efforts to heartwarming afternoons filled with fun and happiness.

Carnegie mum Kristen Kearns certainly worked hard to represent herself and her beliefs. In August, the aged care and disability support worker swam 34km across the English Channel to France in 10 hours and 47 minutes – significantly under her target time of 14 hours. Raising money for headspace Elsternwick, headspace Bentleigh and headspace Syndal, which are run by Alfred Health, Kristen received more than \$8500 in donations.

She said she wanted to draw upon the idea of a personal milestone to make a positive impact on youth mental health.

"My family went through some tough times during and after lockdown (from COVID-19). headspace worked with my kids individually and with the family as a whole to process the hurt and find a way to move forward together more harmoniously," Kristen said.

"headspace worked with my kids individually and with the family as a whole to process the hurt and find a way to move forward together more harmoniously." Kristen Kearns, aged care and disability support worker

> From left: Her dad Michael, her husband Aaron, Kristen, and her friend Sally at Dover Beach



Jackson Arthur (middle) with his family and friends after completing the half-marathon at Run Melbourne.

Robbie Small inspired others through a community event in memory of his mum.

The 'Kerie Cup' tennis tournament brought together loved ones to celebrate Kerie Small's life and passion for tennis while raising more than \$2250, which went towards the Intensive Care Unit at The Alfred.

Known for her enthusiastic spirit and love for tennis, the 'Kerie Cup' served as a reminder of her vibrant personality and joy she brought to those around her.

More inspiration was found at the Run Melbourne event in July, where 164 runners represented Team Alfred. The community spirit was alive and well as dozens of Team Alfred members – staff, patients and supporters – congregated at the marquee throughout the day.

One of those to take part was Jackson Arthur, who raised close to a staggering \$52,000 after overcoming serious injuries on the football field and receiving treatment at The Alfred.

He recalls at the time thinking that if he ever got the chance, he would do what he could *"to give back to this place"*.

"Raising this amount of money has been a very fulfilling way of giving back to a place that did so much for me," he said. "The response from everyone around me shows how important this organisation is to everyone."

Our community fundraisers all have their own motivations and inspirations for supporting The Alfred, and funds raised can be directed to any area of the hospital they wish to support.



A tennis tournament was held in the memory of Kerie Small.

## A natural **fit**

People choose to remember The Alfred in their Will for many different reasons - all of them personal to their own story of connection to the hospital.

Geoff Hook was one such person, as told by his good friend Peter Logan.

As a child, Geoff was told 'you must return to society the benefit bestowed on you'.

"By a lifetime of volunteering and leaving his estate to charities and organisations, Geoff did this many times over," Peter said.

Geoff donated to 13 charities in his Will, including The Alfred, inspired by his excellent care when diagnosed with prostate cancer. Gifts in Wills are deeply valued by The Alfred, making a significant difference to the lives of others. Each year, these special gifts support so much of the hospital's vital, lifesaving work.



Geoff Hook was a passionate cyclist.

"Geoff lived a busy and productive life until his sudden death, aged 76," Peter said. "He was on a daily bike ride with his cycling group when he had a catastrophic brain incident that resulted in his unexpected death.

"His death was a shock because he had been so fit, taking up ultramarathons in his late 30s.

"Being fit does not exclude a person from having a stroke but Geoff never mentioned that he had blood pressure issues. He had pulmonary hypertension, a condition affecting the heart's ability to pump blood to the lungs.

"His death should be a lesson for everyone: 'Have regular blood pressure checks, no matter your fitness'."

The philanthropic values that Geoff espoused were carried on by Peter and Joan Logan, who assisted in executing his Will. It was their perseverance and determination which ensured Geoff's wishes were fulfilled after four years.

"The feedback we have received shows the money has provided a legacy that Geoff would have been proud of," Peter said.

Gift in Wills Manager at The Alfred Foundation, Feygl Cylich, said that executors were sometimes "the unsung heroes" of the many legacy gifts received.

"Often undertaken by family or close acquaintances as a final act of kindness, it is a labour of love, for which The Alfred is deeply appreciative," she said.



Joan and Peter Logan with Geoff Hook (right) and other friends.



## ALFRED FOUNDATION THE 0 **TO DONATE** LIKE I WOULD ΥES,

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## Make the **impossible** *possible*

See reverse for details on how to donate to The Alfred Foundation

Chloe



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