

CABRINI FOUNDATION

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2020



Message

FROM THE CEO AND FOUNDATION DIRECTOR



**Sue Williams**Chief Executive,
Cabrini Australia



**Sue Parkes**Director, Cabrini
Foundation

We are delighted to be able to share some of the many stories of the impact that your donations have had on our work here at Cabrini.

2020 was a challenging year and your support was invaluable in helping us to meet the demand placed on our health services and to support both our patients and our staff. Your generosity enabled us to be well prepared with personal protective equipment, increase our number of ventilators and refurbish shared rooms into single bed rooms with ensuites. As you will read, the impact of your philanthropy has touched people across all areas of Cabrini.

We look forward to 2021 and to working with you all to ensure our patients continue to receive the best care possible and that we all stay safe.

There are some exciting plans ahead for Cabrini and we look forward to sharing them with you throughout 2021.

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

CEO and Foundation Director	
Message	2
Thank you	3
Your Support – Covid-19	4
Your Support – Equipment	6
V 6	
Your Support – Innovation,	
Research & Education	8
Your Support – Bequests	10

We are sincerely thankful to the members of the Cabrini Foundation Board who helped guide us through a particularly challenging year. We extend special thanks to Associate Professor Peter Lowthian, who retired from the Foundation Board.

Ms Sylvia Falzon, Chairman Ms Di McDonald

Mr Paul Holyoake Ms Sue Parkes

Professor Mark Frydenberg AM Ms Sue Williams

Mr Francis Galbally Mr Peter Tuckwell

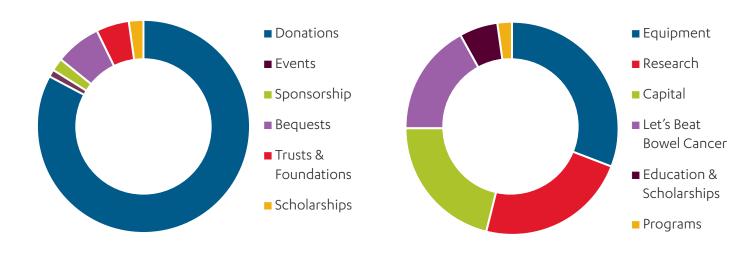
Thank you

### **CABRINI FOUNDATION INCOME 2019-20**

During 2019-20, Cabrini Foundation received more than \$11.6m in philanthropic support from individuals, foundations, corporates and bequests. We are grateful for all the support we received, which is improving the care we provide to our community.

### **FOUNDATION FUNDING 2020**

During 2020, philanthropic support funded lifesaving equipment and technology, enabled us to improve facilities, conduct world-class research and provide education and scholarships to enhance staff knowledge. This was only made possible thanks to the generosity of our donors who continued to support us during one of the most challenging years for our community.





4384



GIFTS IN 2019-20

9179



OLDEST DONOR AGE

102



MOST DONATIONS BY ONE PERSON

26



NUMBER OF BEQUESTS

12



NUMBER OF TRIBUTE DONATIONS

472



INCREASE IN MONTHLY GIVING

172%



## **COVID-19 RESPONSE**

The past year has had an enormous impact on our staff, patients, residents and community. In March, when the COVID-19 pandemic started affecting our community and patients began presenting at Cabrini, we launched an emergency appeal to ensure Cabrini had the capacity and the equipment to respond. We asked for your help and you didn't let us down. Your support was incredible. Thanks to you, more than \$2.4m was raised to ensure Cabrini was fully equipped to play our role in the state-wide healthcare response, and to continue delivering safe, compassionate care to our community.



### LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT

Philanthropic support enabled the purchase of essential equipment to expand the capability of the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at Cabrini Malvern. Three new ventilators and four new ICU beds were some of the equipment made possible by donor support.

"We are so thankful to our supporters who ensured we were best equipped to care for the community during these unprecedented times," said Associate Professor Vineet Sarode, Director of Intensive Care.

Associate Professor Vineet Sarode Director of Intensive Care



# PROTECTING OUR PATIENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY

Cabrini Foundation support funded thermal screening equipment so all patients, staff and visitors were temperature tested before entering Cabrini Malvern and Cabrini Brighton. This was an important measure to help keep our vulnerable patients, staff and community safe, by screening for a high temperature (a common symptom of COVID-19) upon entry to our hospitals. Since their introduction in April, more than 1,000,000 people have been screened thanks to the support of our donors.

# THE SAFEST ENVIRONMENT FOR PATIENT CARE

The COVID-19 pandemic identified an urgent need to convert fourbed wards to double or single bed rooms, to further minimise the risk of any spread of infection. Many donors supported this

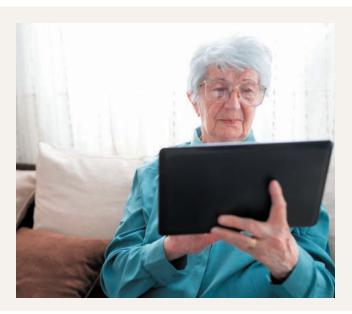


**Anne Zandegu**Group Director Nursing and Clinical Education



by naming a room after a loved one. The refurbishment of wards is an ongoing priority for Cabrini Foundation, with the rooms completed to date already playing an important role in ensuring we are providing the safest environment for our patients and staff, now and into the future.

"Now, more than ever, it is critical that patient and staff safety is at the forefront of everything we do," said Anne Zandegu, Group Director of Nursing and Clinical Education. "Four-bed wards are no longer suitable, and we need to renovate and refurbish so we can continue providing the safest and best facilities for all of our patients."



### **KEEPING RESIDENTS CONNECTED**

When visitor restrictions were imposed, residents in our aged care facility at Cabrini Ashwood felt some of the greatest impact. We needed to find new ways to help our residents stay connected to their family and friends, and we called on our donors to support our appeal for iPads for residents.

"This has been so important for the wellbeing of our residents, as they have been able to communicate with their loved ones," said Sharni Clark, General Manager and Director of Nursing, Cabrini Residential Aged Care. "We are truly thankful for all the kindness from our community."



# **EQUIPMENT**

During 2020, support from our donors provided almost \$2m of specialised equipment to help improve patient care at Cabrini. The purchase of state-of-the-art medical equipment remains a key focus for Cabrini Foundation, to ensure we can continue to provide the highest standard of care.

# Associate Professor Peter Royce, Director

of Urology, with the new equipment

### BETTER DIAGNOSIS OF PROSTATE CANCER

Long-term Cabrini donor Mr Angus Mackay generously funded the purchase of vital equipment to help keep Cabrini at the forefront of diagnosis, management and treatment of prostate cancer.

Mr Mackay supported the purchase of a probe and test kit for a transperineal ultrasound. This equipment is used to take samples of a patient's prostate tissue for diagnosis of prostate cancer.

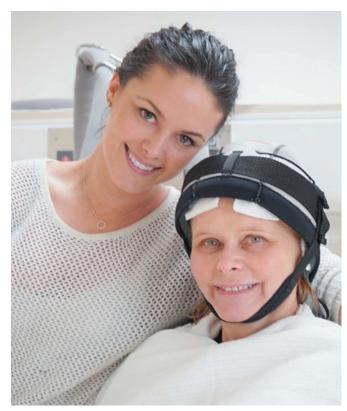
"A very big thank you to Mr Mackay, from Cabrini staff, the urologists and patients," said Meredith Trist, Nurse Manager, Cabrini Day Procedure Centre. "This new equipment means Cabrini can provide more biopsies and therapy for patients in the future, which is essential for the ongoing support of men's health."

Mr Mackay has a long history as a dedicated supporter of Cabrini and gets a lot of satisfaction from helping the hospital and the wider community.

"I'm grateful for the care I have received at Cabrini and I like to give back in appreciation," said Mr Angus Mackay. "It's important that Cabrini has the latest technology available so they can provide the best possible care now and into the future."



Angus Mackay with Natalie Sikora, Planned Giving and Bequest Manager, Cabrini Foundation



Patient using scalp cooling technology during chemotherapy

### SCALP COOLING AT CABRINI BRIGHTON

In 2020, a new scalp cooling machine was funded by donors for Cabrini Brighton. Scalp cooling technology at Cabrini is a proven success for patients who want to reduce the likelihood of hair loss during chemotherapy treatments.

Hair loss is a common, yet devastating, side-effect of chemotherapy; it's is a constant reminder and a public sign of the illness. For some people, hair loss is a reason not to undergo chemotherapy treatment.

First introduced at Cabrini Brighton in 2014, and entirely funded by donors, the scalp cooling treatment proved so popular that the service was expanded to Cabrini Malvern, again entirely funded by philanthropic support.

Scalp cooling works using a mobile system, which consists of a compact refrigeration unit containing a special coolant which is circulated through lines to the head cap. While the side-effects are minimal, scalp cooling causes some discomfort (with temperatures on the scalp dropping to between minus 3-5 degrees which can sometimes cause a headache), but a warm drink and plenty of blankets help patients to adjust to the sensation.

Now most patients undergoing chemotherapy at Cabrini opt for scalp cooling as part of their treatment.

### PATIENT CHEMOTHERAPY DIARIES

Launched in 2015, with the support of Simone and Zoe Singer-Szalmuk, the Cancer Symptom and Care Management Diary is given to more than 1000 oncology patients each year.

The diary is a tool for new patients who will undergo chemotherapy treatment at Cabrini. It provides important information to patients about what they can expect during their treatment as well as information on additional services and support available to them.

An important part of the diary is a place to record appointments and monitor any side effects being experienced, with a simple to understand traffic light system of green, yellow and red to ensure they know what is normal and when they need additional care.

"It made me feel confident about the decisions I was making about how to deal with my symptoms," said Katie, an oncology patient. "I knew when it was bad enough to call my doctor or take something, or whether just to wait and see how it went."

In 2020, a new edition of the diary was developed and printed with important feedback from patients who had used the diary to improve the functionality. The production of this was again made possible by the generous support of Simone and Zoe Szalmuk-Singer.



Cabrini Malvern nurse with a chemotherapy patient

# Support

# INNOVATION, RESEARCH & EDUCATION



Cabrini Residential Aged Care, Ashwood

### **AURIC INNOVATION GRANT**

The Auric Innovation Grant is awarded each year thanks to the generosity of major donors Mrs Lee and Mr Brian Johnstone. The grant is designed to foster a culture of innovation throughout Cabrini to improve patient and staff experience.

One of the projects awarded with an Auric Innovation Grant for 2020 was *The Living Lab: Designing the* Future of Aged Care.

This project is a collaboration between Cabrini Residential Aged Care at Ashwood and Monash Art Design & Architecture. It aims to improve the lived experience of residents and their families by delivering innovative solutions designed onsite and informed by a deep understanding of the people using and delivering aged care services. Living labs in healthcare aim to design with patients, rather than simply for them.

Collaboration began in January 2020 with the teams discussing important issues about the project, in particular ways of working with residents, families and staff. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the team found new ways of moving forward with research.

The project team also looked at the use of iPads used by residents during COVID-19 restrictions.

This was to help researchers understand the needs of staff and residents when designing simple and effective configuration of communications and research within this project.

An abstract capturing the development of the project was presented at the Australian Association of Gerontology (AAG) Conference in November 2020, which provided an opportunity to learn and engage with others about cutting-edge research from leading national and international experts in ageing.



Lee and Brian Johnstone with Sylvia Falzon, Cabrini Chairman and Sharni Clark, General Manager and Director of Nursing at Cabrini Residential Aged Care, Ashwood

### RESEARCH - LET'S BEAT BOWEL CANCER (LBBC)

Let's Beat Bowel Cancer (LBBC) is a health promotion initiative of Cabrini, which aims to significantly reduce deaths related to bowel cancer through prevention and research. LBBC supports bowel cancer research activities at Cabrini.

Led by Professor Paul McMurrick, the Cabrini Monash University Department of Surgery includes a team of specialist colorectal surgeons and research scientists committed to high-quality clinical research and translational bowel cancer research to improve patient care and outcomes.

In 2020, this important research was bolstered thanks to an incredibly generous donation made by a long-term Cabrini supporter who funded three key pieces of equipment to support colorectal cancer research.

This equipment is vital to the research conducted by Professor McMurrick and Dr Rebekah Engel. Through the research, this equipment has the potential to save the lives of future bowel cancer patients.

The Molecular Devices ImageXpress Pico analysis system provides high-resolution imaging and analysis of cancer organoids (miniaturised versions of a patient's tumour cell) which is used to predict the best possible treatments for our patients.

The Leica Biosystems Vibratome is a critical piece of equipment in the drug screening program, capable of cutting tumour slices while retaining viability of the cells and measuring important morphological features such as the shape, size and volume of the cells.

The use of cutting-edge proteomic technology enables extensive analysis of the tissue, making it a powerful tool for the identification of hundreds of biomarkers that may contribute to the predictability of patient outcomes or responses to various treatments.



Dr Rebekah Engel, Senior Research Fellow Cabrini Monash University Department of Surgery

"Thanks to the support of this generous donor, this important equipment and the research it enables has the potential to save lives in the future," said Professor Paul McMurrick, Head of Cabrini Monash University Department of Surgery, Fröhlich West Chair of Surgery.

### **EDUCATION - INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

The ongoing education of our clinical staff is essential in providing the best care for our patients and residents, and has been made possible with philanthropic support. Your generosity has been instrumental in supporting crucial education as part of our COVID-19 response.

A new Infection Prevention and Control position in the Clinical Education Department provides clinical staff with the knowledge, skills and clinical expertise relevant to the specialty of infection prevention and control. This has been particularly important this year during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I would like to thank the donors for their generous support," said Rick Peebles, Director of Clinical Education. "It is humbling to be part of such a wonderful network whose devotion to excellence in patient care and experience is unwavering."



Rick Peebles, Director of Clinical Education

Support

# **BEQUESTS**



### VERONICA CHOO NEO PNG CREATIVE ARTS PROGRAM

Cabrini Prahran has expanded their music therapy and art therapy programs, thanks to a generous bequest from Cabrini patient Veronica Choo Neo Png.

A kind and generous soul, Veronica had a zest for life and felt cheated when she was diagnosed with aggressive pancreatic cancer at just 53 years of age. Although she didn't have much time, she fought every step of the way.

In her final months, Veronica found great comfort and joy with music and art therapy at Cabrini Palliative and Supportive Care at Prahran. Wanting to ensure others could receive the same healing touch as she did, and to help in the fight against pancreatic cancer, Veronica included Cabrini in her Will.

At Cabrini Prahran, music therapy is available for every patient, and is used to promote patients'

quality of life by alleviating physiological, psychological, social and spiritual distress and to improve comfort.

In July 2020, Veronica's gift also allowed us to start an art therapy program. Art therapy allows for selfexpression and communication of feelings and can enhance emotional wellbeing in patients who are facing advanced illness.

"Veronica was a very positive young woman who wanted to make a difference to the lives of others once she had passed," said Professor Natasha Michael, Director of Palliative Medicine at Cabrini. "She was fighting pancreatic cancer and found great comfort and joy in music therapy while in palliative care. We are so grateful to Veronica and other Cabrini bequestors who help to make opportunities like this a possibility for our patients."

### **EXCEPTIONAL TREATMENT AND CARE - DR MAUREEN MACKAY**

Ageing patients with complex medical conditions are now receiving even higher-quality, individualised care, and nursing staff have been able to expand their knowledge, thanks to a bequest Dr Maureen Mackay left in her will to Cabrini.

The generous gift left by Dr Mackay is funding the new position of Clinical Support Nurse, taken on by Anie Abraham, who provides bedside education for staff and patients in the medical and surgical wards.

In her new role, Anie assists the Clinical Education Department in providing nursing staff with the knowledge, skills and behaviours to recognise and respond effectively to patients presenting with complex medical conditions.

"This role has been essential in providing the best possible care for our patients and residents," says Rick Peebles, Director of Clinical Education. "Anie has successfully supported the implementation of an individualised medical daily plan of care project - a new process of patient care and planning which better aligns our care to individual patient and family needs."

Anie has also been instrumental in establishing clinical skills workshops to support up-skilling of medical nursing staff and supported personal protective equipment training during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has proven vital in training our clinical staff to minimise infection risk for both staff and patients.

Dr Mackay, a Cabrini patient, included a gift in her Will to Cabrini to ensure the future of excellence in healthcare.

Dr Mackay was the first woman to be appointed to the Physical Chemistry staff at La Trobe University, and she held positions as Lecturer, Senior Lecturer and ultimately as Reader at La Trobe University. Her name appears on 196 articles in refereed journals.



Anie Abraham, Clinical Support Nurse with a student and staff member





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