



ST JOHN OF GOD
Foundation

Giving Insight

St John of God Foundation Autumn Newsletter 2020

25 YEARS: CELEBRATING YOUR IMPACT

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**AUTUMN
2020**

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Dear friends,

As we reach the end of the Foundation's 25th anniversary year, I've spent some time reflecting on what you, our valued supporters, have achieved and how you have made a big difference to the lives of others.

Your choice to partner with the Foundation has enabled life-changing care for thousands of grateful patients. You've supported medical research to lead to improved health outcomes for our patients and the broader community. Your generosity has led to better healthcare through hospital and service expansion, state-of-the-art equipment, and personalised patient treatments.

Without you, these achievements and patient outcomes would not have been possible.

So I want to thank everyone who has been part of our 25 year journey, and invite you to continue this journey over the coming years.

I'm pleased to share with you some of the recent stories of your impact in this newsletter as evidence of what we've been able to achieve together. Together, we are all better.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to St John of God Foundation.

Kind regards,



Bianca Pietralla
Chief Executive Officer
St John of God Foundation

FOUNDATION WELCOMES NEW BOARD CHAIR

St John of God Foundation is pleased to welcome its new Board Chair, Mr Tony Howarth AO.

Tony's career spans over 30 years in the international banking and finance industry, and he brings a diverse range of executive experience to the Foundation Board.

Tony is also a former St John of God Health Care Board Chair (2004 – 2018), during which time the organisation grew from employing 5,700 caregivers with 10 hospitals and pathology and radiology services, to employing more than 13,000 caregivers and running 23 facilities in Western Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, and New Zealand.

In addition to holding non-executive director roles with Alinta Energy, BWP Trust and Viburnum Funds, Tony has previously held board and executive roles with Wesfarmers (non-executive director), UWA Business School (Board Deputy Chair), Challenge Bank Limited (CEO) and Hartley's Limited (CEO).

Tony said he was delighted to be appointed as Board Chair.

I look forward to bringing my previous experience with St John of God Health Care to the role, and supporting the Foundation in its purpose to help deliver healthcare advancements across Australia. – Tony Howarth.

Mr Tony Howarth AO joined the St John of God Foundation Board as Chair in October 2019.



INTELLIGENT HEALTH: INVESTING IN TOMORROW'S HEALTHCARE

St John of God Foundation is committed to pursuing advancements in healthcare to ensure patients can experience the life-changing benefits that come with new, precision technologies and personalised patient treatments.

Technology used across St John of God hospitals today has already helped save countless lives and yet, this is only the beginning. These technology-assisted life-changing outcomes are the catalyst for the Foundation embarking upon the next chapter of our commitment to meeting our purpose of transforming healthcare for humanity.

THE FUTURE OF PERSONALISED HEALTHCARE

Intelligent Health is the Foundation's primary innovation fund, from which state-of-the-art advancements in medical technology, care and facilities are funded.

Intelligent Health aims to ensure St John of God hospitals remain at the forefront of medical technology and innovation with one simple objective: **To improve patients' lives.**

INTELLIGENT HEALTH IN ACTION

Our combined focus is, and always will be, on improving the lives and health of our patients, families and the community.

Whether this is through raising funds to improve diagnostics, sourcing new technology that allows for less invasive procedures and quicker recovery times, or new opportunities yet to be discovered

that offer the very best patient outcomes – Intelligent Health will ensure we are focused on the future of healthcare and the wellbeing of our communities.

OUR COMMITMENT

With the support of our valued donors, the Foundation is committed to funding Intelligent Health, to directly benefit the lives of patients through emerging medical and healthcare technologies.

The best medical technology and equipment should not be a luxury for anyone.

To support Intelligent Health, please complete the donation form on the back page of this newsletter, or call us on 1800 281 288 to discuss how you, your family or organisation can get involved.

A brand new delivery at Geelong hospital, supported by your generous donations.

NEW ULTRASOUNDS FOR BERWICK, GEELONG, AND MOUNT LAWLEY HOSPITALS

Three new state-of-the-art ultrasound machines have been purchased for St John of God Berwick, Geelong, and Mount Lawley hospitals to support personalised maternity care for mums-to-be.

The new equipment allows scans to be completed on site during early stages of pregnancy, giving women a better understanding of any pregnancy risks, and to alleviate anxiety around the baby's health.

The most common use is to reassure women there is a foetal heartbeat in early pregnancy. Families love seeing their baby on the screen, which helps to foster an improved patient experience.

The ultrasounds are mobile, which provides greater convenience and flexibility, as they can be easily transported between patient rooms, and consulting suites.

St John of God hospitals are using the ultrasounds to support new, low-cost maternity care packages, giving patients greater choice for treatment options without compromise.





Montana Chapman,
2019 recipient of the
Guthrie study bursary.

GENEROUS GUTHRIE STUDY BURSARY SUPPORTS BETTER PATIENT CARE AT MURDOCH HOSPITAL

When Annette Guthrie, a much-loved Patient Care Assistant (PCA) at St John of God Murdoch Hospital, sadly passed away at 55 with recurring Lymphoma, her family made the decision to keep her spirit alive by helping others.

Thanks to the generous support of Mrs Dolores and Mr Kevin Beasley, caregivers at St John of God Murdoch Hospital can undertake study to become a Patient Care Assistant (PCA) or further their education with the assistance of a bursary.

In 2019 a bursary was awarded to Montana Chapman to assist her Diploma in Nursing at South Metropolitan TAFE.

Montana has worked at St John of God Murdoch Hospital as a PCA since 2015. While working at the hospital Montana decided she would like to complete further studies and become a nurse.

I'm so grateful for the support, receiving the bursary is helping me complete my studies in 2020, which was a personal goal. – Montana Chapman.

Montana is due to complete her Nursing Diploma in December 2020, and will then apply for graduate nursing roles.

I want to stay with St John of God for a long time. I love working here.

Ben Edwards, St John of God Murdoch Hospital CEO, says the support from the Beasley family is valuable to both hospital caregivers and patients.

Thanks to the generous support of the Beasley Family, our caregivers can access further education support, which overall benefits our patients, supporting better health outcomes. – St John of God Murdoch CEO, Ben Edwards.



L-R, Prof Christobel Saunders AO, St John of God Foundation CEO Bianca Pietralla, donors Robert & Maria Carcione, St John of God Subiaco Hospital CEO Prof Shirley Bowen, and Dr Lee Jackson, with the new IORT equipment at St John of God Subiaco Hospital.

FOUNDATION DONORS FUND ADVANCED BREAST CANCER TREATMENT

Thanks to the generous support of a group of donors including the Carcione Foundation, St John of God Health Care has become the first private hospital provider in Australia to introduce a rapid radiation treatment for breast cancer, called Intraoperative Radiation Therapy (IORT).

The IORT equipment was purchased with philanthropic donations made to St John of God Foundation, to support advanced treatment options for breast cancer patients at St John of God Subiaco Hospital.

IORT reduces a patient's treatment time from between three to seven weeks of daily radiation, to a single, targeted treatment that is administered during the surgical removal of breast cancer.

St John of God Subiaco Hospital Breast Surgeon Prof Christobel Saunders AO said there are many benefits for patients receiving IORT treatment.

Compared to traditional radiation, IORT delivers a more tailored, precise and localised treatment. It also offers significant convenience to eligible patients.

By dramatically reducing treatment time and minimising side effects, IORT is particularly beneficial to women working full-time and rural patients, who previously had to arrange and pay for accommodation for extended periods of time when coming to Perth to receive treatment.

– Prof. Christobel Saunders AO.

Robert Carcione of the Carcione Foundation said his family has had a strong connection with St John of God Subiaco Hospital for more than 30 years.

It's a pleasure to be able to give back to the hospital and to the community, a value which was instilled in us by my father. – Robert Carcione

The compassion of a group of generous Foundation donors has allowed us to support St John of God Subiaco breast cancer patients with advanced treatment options.

Jennie in training for the Sandakan Trail on Rottneest Island



COMPASSION IN ACTION: CAREGIVER FUNDRAISING TO SUPPORT CANCER RESEARCH

Jennifer Fraser, a caregiver (staff-member) of over 18 years, is striving to raise \$3,000 for the Foundation to support cancer research at St John of God Subiaco Hospital. Jennie works as a nurse in the clinical trials unit and Ivy Suite, where chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and other radiation treatments are carried out.

Jennie is heading to Borneo this April to complete the Sandakan Trail – a challenging six-day trek in severe humidity with temperatures around 30 degrees – in the lead up to the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II.

During Jennie's preparation for the challenge, her mother was unexpectedly diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and heartbreakingly passed away just 11 days later on Christmas Eve. Jennie is dedicating the walk to her mother, and all the other people "who can walk no longer."

The unique challenges that Jennie will endure will help her to understand the physical and emotional struggles that cancer patients can go through every day.

Jennifer's decision to fundraise for St John of God Foundation to support cancer research within the hospital she works is a wonderful display of compassion in action from one of our own caregivers. - Bianca Pietralla, CEO St John of God Foundation.

Jennie is very busy training four days a week, tackling the challenging Jacob's Ladder stairway on the weekends and Reabold Hill on weekdays as her regime intensifies.

Challenging terrain of the Sandakan Trail

Many people want to donate, or support me in other ways, like joining me for training in Kings Park and encouraging me on Jacob's Ladder. – Jennie Fraser.

Support Jennie's fundraising challenge today.



Jennie's mother Joan, as a teenager, who sadly passed away late 2019. Jennie is dedicating her challenge to her mother.



IMMUNOTHERAPY TREATMENT GIVES VALERIE AN INCREDIBLE OUTCOME



Otherwise fit and healthy Valerie Davis was diagnosed with lung cancer in October 2018 after being tested for a cough that wouldn't go away.

It's been, I suppose, one of the darkest times of my life that I can recall. Being given a timeline is extremely confronting. – Valerie Davis.

One of the worst things I've had to do as a parent was sharing my prognosis with my son. You know, what do you say? He just sobbed.

My friends and family were there for me, but I couldn't talk to them much. It's really something that you have to deal with yourself. I could barely sleep for the first few weeks after my diagnosis.

But life does go on, even with cancer. The bills still come in, there are things to do around the house, and you have to keep going on, even with your diagnosis.

Fortunately, Valerie was able to take part in an immunotherapy clinical trial at St John of God Murdoch Hospital, to which she has responded positively.

I'm one of four in WA, one of 19 in Australia, and 770 worldwide. It's extraordinary.

Valerie began treatment in November 2018, and after six weeks her first check-up scan showed her tumour was shrinking. Amazingly, after six months of treatment, Valerie's tumour had shrunk by 70%.

Valerie at home in February 2020, feeling happy and healthy as she continues treatment.

I really feel extremely fortunate. My results have shown that my lymph nodes have all gone back to normal size, and the main tumour is shrinking.

It's expected my tumour will shrink away to nothing, meaning no surgery will be required, and I'll just be left with a bit of scarring on my lungs. I can't believe it.

The whole process gives you so much faith. From the staff, to the treatment, to the kindness of strangers, and the incredible support of your loved ones.

I'm so grateful to live in this place where we have all of these amazing medications. I think we have some of the best doctors and researchers here.

Generous donations to the Foundation supported St John of God Murdoch Hospital to establish a clinical trials unit. Because of this support, people like Valerie are able to access the best treatment options.

The Foundation is committed to raising funds to support leading medical research and personalised patient treatment in St John of God hospitals, enabling life-changing care for people like Valerie.

25 YEAR CELEBRATIONS

AT ST JOHN OF GOD BUNBURY HOSPITAL

In celebration of the Foundation's 25th anniversary, St John of God Bunbury Hospital hosted a sundowner to raise funds towards the Gifts of Hope program at the hospital.

A Gift of Hope is a gift of financial support that can directly provide a person with a life-threatening illness to access costly medicines including unsubsidised treatments.

The event raised nearly \$10,000, including a generous \$5,000 donation from Global Diagnostics Australia. In addition, Global Diagnostics Australia will provide in-kind imaging support to Gift of Hope recipients, which will mean an extra potential saving of up to \$2,000 per patient.



Jeffrey Williams, St John of God Bunbury Hospital CEO, accepting a generous donation from Paul McCrow, Global Diagnostics Australia General Manager.

Jeffrey Williams, St John of God Bunbury CEO said, *Donor support through St John of God Foundation has greatly benefitted patients in the South West region.*

Donations to Gifts of Hope help us support patients who require costly, unsubsidised treatments, to gain the best treatment options and better health outcomes and quality of life.

To learn more about Gifts of Hope, and how to support your local hospital program, visit www.sjogfoundation.org.au, email GiftsofHope@sjog.org.au, or call us on 1800 281 288.

ST JOHN OF GOD HEALTH CARE'S RESPONSE TO AUSTRALIAN BUSHFIRES



THE MIDFIELD GROUP GENEROUSLY SUPPORTING ST JOHN OF GOD WARRNAMBOOL HOSPITAL

The Midfield Group has generously donated \$200k to St John of God Foundation to support improved patient experience at St John of God Warrnambool Hospital.

This generous donation from the family owned Warrnambool business will bring to life the hospital's vision to update patient rooms to provide an environment to best support patients and visitors.



Jo Bell, St John of God Warrnambool Hospital CEO is grateful for this generous donation. *Our mission is to best support the healthcare needs of our community. Our aim is to offer comprehensive care close to home so that patients in our community don't need to travel for treatment.*

The updated patient rooms will have new bathrooms that are larger and safer for patients with mobility issues.

As we have a strong community focus, receiving this incredible support from a local business reinforces our value in the community.

I want to thank The Midfield Group for their generosity and for sharing our vision to provide the best healthcare for our patients and their families.
- Jo Bell, St John of God Warrnambool Hospital CEO.

(L-R) Jo Bell, St John of God Warrnambool Hospital CEO is presented with the donation from Colin & Janice McKenna of The Midfield Group.

In the face of the recent bushfire emergency gripping Australia over summer, St John of God Health Care hospitals and services have come together to support those in need.

Along with the many other Australians who united to support fire affected communities, St John of God Health Care provided support in a number of ways:

- > Saline vials were donated to help firefighters in NSW to clear their eyes of toxins, smoke, dust and ash
- > Hospital caregivers set up donation drives to collect items for those affected, and hosted fundraising sausage sizzles
- > Expired medical supplies were donated to support the treatment of injured animals
- > Medical supplies were donated to remote areas to support increased demand

St John of God caregivers rallied together and demonstrated remarkable compassion and drive in supporting their communities during some of the worst bushfires in recent memory. Our thoughts are also with our colleagues and the communities impacted during this terrible time.

St John of God caregivers preparing relief items to donate to bushfire affected areas



LOOKING BACK AT 25 YEARS OF YOUR SUPPORT

Pioneering Sisters of St John of God in Australia

Your support over the past 25 years has provided over \$40 million to support better healthcare and services in our communities.

Thank you to all our past caregivers, donors, supporters, and volunteers for your commitment to making a difference through St John of God Foundation.



2003



Berwick 2019



2018



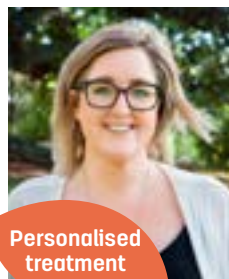
Advanced cancer care



Let's talk play group



2020



Personalised treatment



2003

House becomes a home for youth

NEILMA MAYNE
UNITED, a few weeks ago "Yield" did not know where he was going to sleep the next night.
Driven from home by health problems, he moved from relatives to relatives in search of shelter.
The teenager was about to abandon his last tentative home when he was shown a lifeline.
Yield was offered a place at Skerton House, a new home for young people at risk of homelessness operated by the Sisters of St John of God Foundation.
The project was of timely assistance for Yield and will provide accom-



2004

Caring for youth

Support needed earlier
A "WICH NEEDER" article for "Sisters of St John of God" in Bendat House is just months away from opening. With 100 beds, the new facility will house up to 100 young people between 16 and 22.
The initiative is co-ordinating the local health services in Bendat House. It's a really worthwhile project for the community - there are many young people who are struggling with mental health issues and need support.
The foundation, based after philanthropic St John of God, is the financial backbone for the project. The foundation will provide up to \$1 million to support the project in Bendat House. The foundation will provide up to \$1 million to support the project in Bendat House. The foundation will provide up to \$1 million to support the project in Bendat House.



2006

Community fundraising



Horizon House fundraising



The Great Bike Ride



2010



Murdoch Community Hospice fundraiser



Charity Golf Days



2004



2013



2014



2004

Generous Supporters



2012



2007



2018



Bunbury 2017



BFCCC official opening



ST JOHN OF GOD
Foundation

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Your generosity supports transformational healthcare in our communities to improve the lives of many.



We rely on your generosity to support transformational healthcare, enabling excellence in personalised patient treatment and leading medical research to improve lives.

You make this possible.

DONATE TODAY



Donate online today at:
sjogfoundation.org.au/donate



Complete the form below and return to:
PO Box 5753, St Georges Terrace,
Perth WA 6831

Yes, I would like to support transformational healthcare for people in need.

Please accept my gift of: \$25 \$50 \$100 OR \$ _____

All donations of \$2 of more are tax deductible. St John of God Foundation Trust ABN 64 715 901 441

Payment Details

Please debit the above amount to my credit card MasterCard VISA OR My cheque / money order enclosed
(made payable to St John of God Foundation)

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Card Holder's Name _____ Expiry Date _____ / _____

Signature _____ Date of Birth _____

Email Address _____

Providing your email address allows us to email your tax receipt to you, minimising costs and paper usage.

I would like a receipt emailed to me.

Please be assured that 100% of your donation to the St John of God Foundation will be used as you request. We respect your privacy. If you would prefer not to receive further materials from St John of God Foundation please contact us on 1800 281 288.

Please direct my gift towards:

- Area of greatest need
- Intelligent Health
- Leading medical and health research
- Gifts of Hope
- I would like to support a specific SJG Hospital: _____