



2022/2023 *Impact Report*



Thank you for your support this year.



Thank you.

Cancer Council NSW is proud to be powered by community support and philanthropy, and I want to thank you for your commitment to people impacted by cancer.

I am also delighted to let you know that we have recently launched our new five-year strategic plan and purpose:

To change the path of cancer and make sure no one walks alone.

We will do this by:

- ✿ leading the way in life-saving research to help detect cancer earlier,
- ✿ developing new ways to treat cancer and
- ✿ preventing many more cases of cancer before they even start.

You have enabled life-saving work like our plan for all the major tumour types in Australia – a plan where research and advocacy come together to accelerate ways to prevent and detect cancers as early as possible, on a scale like no other non-government organisation.

Progress like this is only possible thanks to the kind and generous support of people like you and I hope that, in this report, you can see the impact of your contribution. You should feel enormously proud of the difference you are making to people affected by cancer.

Over the next 25 years there's an estimated 1.52 million people in NSW alone who will be diagnosed with cancer, and more people are surviving cancer than ever before.

It's so important that together we continue to lead the way towards a cancer free future, through life-saving research, empowering people to reduce their cancer risk, speaking out on behalf of the community through our advocacy work, and providing vital support to cancer patients, those living with cancer and survivors.

With your help, we're standing by all Australians impacted by cancer, changing the path of cancer and making sure no one walks alone.

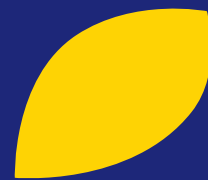
Yours sincerely,

Professor Sarah Hosking

Together, we can
build a cancer
free future.



Meet Monica.



Monica* was just 45-years-old when she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Monica migrated to Australia from Ethiopia, she is a mother of teenage twins and lives with her husband who is a casual worker. Monica previously worked part-time but has been unable to work due to side effects of her treatment, impacting the family's finances and ability to pay the mortgage on their home.

Monica's Occupational Therapist referred her to one of our Cancer Council Liaisons, Kate*. When Kate and Monica first spoke, they discussed the impacts of Monica's cancer diagnosis – the emotional and the practical – and Kate was able to assess her current psychosocial and practical needs. Kate provided emotional support to Monica, as she spoke about the side effects of her treatment and all the ways they impact her life.

It was clear that Monica was under financial stress and Kate was able to organise some immediate relief in the form of food vouchers. They also discussed Cancer Council financial counselling services, empowering Monica to navigate the options available to her, such as advocating with her bank to reduce or place her mortgage repayments on hold. Monica felt supported to work with the bank by herself and was able to have their mortgage payments reduced for several months.

As her diagnosis progressed, Monica began experiencing cording and lymphoedema which meant she required some more practical support. She reached out to Kate again who organised Cancer Council Home Help for her.

Over time, Kate and Monica discussed what returning to work might look like. Monica was referred to the Cancer Council Pro Bono Program to assist in preparation for looking for a new job, as she was unable to return to her previous work due to side effects of her treatment, and was successful in securing a new casual position in a different profession.

When her treatment was finally complete, Monica contacted Kate to thank her for all the support that she and Cancer Council NSW provided to her and her family.

Every day, there are people all across NSW who face similar struggles to Monica and who go without this vital practical and emotional support when they need it most.



Your impact.

We're here to help people from the point of diagnosis through to their treatment and beyond. Together, thanks to your generosity, it's all of us against cancer.

Your support is:



Finding new ways to better detect and treat cancer



Empowering people to reduce their cancer risk



Connecting people affected by cancer to practical, financial, and emotional support



Amplifying the voice of the community to speak out on cancer issues

Cancer Council NSW's vision is for a cancer free future. We can prevent cancer before it even starts, we can detect cancer earlier, we can find new ways to treat cancer and we can be there for every single person who is affected by cancer. Together, we can amplify our voice and we can make a difference.

***With your support,
we will get there faster.***



Here for Life.



With your support, we're helping people affected by cancer.

- ✿ From diagnosis to treatment, to remission or end of life - we're here throughout the cancer experience
- ✿ Cancer doesn't discriminate - we're here to support everyone to reduce their cancer risk and get the information and support they need
- ✿ Facing a cancer diagnosis is often stressful and can create uncertainty or fear for patients and their loved ones - we're here for everyone impacted by cancer and for the community in times of crisis

We're here for everyone. Protecting life's moments, for life.

If you or anyone you know is impacted by cancer,
call Cancer Council on 13 11 20.



What you have made possible this year in cancer research.

Before we invest in any new research project, it is reviewed by both scientific experts and our panel of cancer survivors and carers. This allows us to make sure we fund research that is of most benefit to the cancer community while maintaining the highest scientific standards.



Thanks to your support, this year we've been able to award more than **\$18.2 million in funding to 58 world-class cancer research projects.**

These eminent and emerging cancer researchers are investigating new treatments and solutions to common treatment challenges. The projects span a range of cancers, including common cancers like breast and prostate, and rarer cancers such as childhood cancer.

Overcoming a major treatment challenge in advanced prostate cancer \$450,000 awarded to Professor Jeff Holst and his team who aim to develop a new drug treatment strategy to overcome resistance to hormone therapy in prostate cancer. If Professor Holst's project is successful, the team will be well-placed to start clinical trials of a new treatment with the potential to prevent deaths from advanced-stage prostate cancer that has stopped responding to hormone therapy.

Targeting childhood cancer where it begins \$448,552 awarded to Professor Murray Norris. Through their investigations, Professor Norris and his team hope to develop a new way to treat childhood cancers. The team has a long history of working closely with clinicians, in Australia and overseas, to translate their lab discoveries into real-world improvements for patients. If this research is successful, the team hopes to move quickly towards a clinical trial for a new, more effective and less toxic treatment for aggressive childhood cancers.

Developing an immunotherapy for triple negative breast cancer \$407,328 awarded to Associate Professor David Gallego Ortega for work that could pave the way for a new generation of immune therapies for triple negative breast cancer. This research project will develop biomarkers for myeloid-derived suppressor cells (MDSCs) to detect the early spread of triple negative breast cancer cells to other parts of the body and refine a treatment prototype that targets only MDSCs, leaving immune cells unharmed.

How your impact goes beyond cancer research ...

Cancer Council is the only charity that works across every area of every cancer, from research to prevention and support. This work is only possible thanks to your generous support.

What have we been advocating for this year?

Earlier this year, we called on the NSW Government to protect life's moments and commit to be Here for Change through our four election priorities:

- 1 Invest in cancer prevention – so more people can live a cancer free life
- 2 Improve early detection and diagnosis of bowel cancer – so more lives can be saved
- 3 Introduce the highest standards of cancer care – so people with cancer receive the best possible care, no matter who they are or where they live
- 4 Support people to live well during and after a cancer diagnosis – so they can live a higher quality of life

Real change takes all of us. In the lead-up to the NSW state election, almost 5,000 people signed our online petition, we had 120 meetings with Ministers, Shadow Ministers, Members of Parliament (MPs) and candidates to discuss our Here for Change priorities, with 20 MPs publicly supporting our key priorities. Following the election, we have written to and met with key Ministers who have expressed support for Cancer Council NSW advocacy priorities and have urged us to continue advocating with all MPs across NSW.

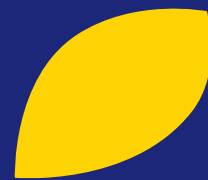


TOGETHER, WE ARE FINDING MORE EFFECTIVE WAYS TO STOP CANCER BEFORE IT STARTS

86% of primary schools participated in our SunSmart Program, helping protect students from over-exposure to UV radiation

4,941 community members signed our petition to remove unhealthy food marketing from NSW government property, including buses and trains

9,075 inquiries were fielded by our 13 11 20 team to help people affected by cancer and health professionals



... funding life-changing programs.

How has financial assistance helped empower people to focus on getting through treatment and living well?

For people like Allie, Cancer Council’s Client Services team is more than just a vital source of practical support. After being diagnosed with an aggressive cancer in early 2021, and facing financial struggles due to having to turn down her dream job and lack of available rental properties during the COVID pandemic, Allie was forced to sell her car and move interstate to live with family.

On top of her cancer diagnosis, this chain of events left her devastated and demoralised.

A year after diagnosis, Allie had undergone eleven different scans, five flights to the city, three surgeries, various treatments and the costs to ‘keep me alive’ continued to mount. A friendly neighbour, Judy, dropped by to visit and suggested Allie call Cancer Council as she knew about our financial assistance program.

Allie recalls her conversations with our Client Services team,

“ They were kind, compassionate and spoke without judgement. They arranged financial assistance for my hotel, groceries and counselling costs. It overwhelmed me with gratitude. Far greater than financial support, Cancer Council showed me a resounding space of support and compassion.

In my experience as a rural patient, without Cancer Council, my ability to access services would have been slower due to my financial constraints. I may not have gotten medical care as quickly as I did and may not have been able to share my story today. ”

TOGETHER, WE ARE HELPING TO REDUCE THE BURDEN OF CANCER FOR ALL AUSTRALIANS

14,016 nights of affordable accommodation were provided to cancer patients and carers, close to treatment centres

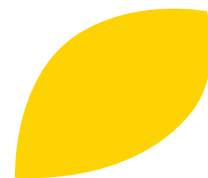
We facilitated **\$3.1m of free legal**, financial planning and workplace advice to 1,384 patients and carers through our Pro Bono Program

19,847 trips were made by our Transport to Treatment drivers, so cancer patients and carers could get to treatment



With your help,
*Cancer Council
researchers are
working towards
the next cancer
breakthrough.*





The year ahead.

Over the next 12 months we'll be getting to work on our new five-year vision.

- Why?**
- In NSW alone, there are more than 50,000 new cancer cases each year, and 15,000 cancer-related deaths.
 - Thanks to advances in cancer research, prevention, early detection and treatment, more people than ever are surviving, with 71% of people diagnosed with cancer in NSW surviving for 5 years or more.
 - Over the next 25 years, around 1.52 million people in NSW will be diagnosed with cancer. This means there are more cancer survivors and people living with and beyond cancer in our community who need Cancer Council's ongoing support.

- How?**
- **We will grow our impact in areas of greatest need:** We will ensure everything we do has a positive effect on cancer outcomes, in particular in the communities with the greatest need. We'll also use our resources wisely, to prioritise the projects with the most opportunity to drive change.
 - **We will improve the lives of cancer survivors:** We will use our research findings to improve the lives of cancer survivors and people living with the ongoing impact of cancer in NSW, and use our voice to advocate for change in areas of unmet need.
 - **We will work with community for better outcomes:** We will form partnerships with like-minded organisations, combining our expertise to increase support for people with cancer and save lives. By working with the NSW community, we will prioritise our focus to make sure we are driving change where it is needed most.

Outcomes:

- Reduced cancer risk
- Improved cancer survival among people who are diagnosed with cancer in NSW
- Enhanced quality of life for people impacted by cancer in NSW
- Improved equity in cancer outcomes in NSW

Together, we will change the path of cancer and make sure no one walks alone

You make a real difference in the lives of people affected by cancer.

Thank you.



Rosie O'Brien

Head of Philanthropy

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**If you need to talk about cancer,
call Cancer Council on 13 11 20**



**Cancer
Council**