Annual Report
Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland
2014 15
Celebrating 40 years of love, sweat and tears
“Without the help of the Leukaemia Foundation I doubt I would have survived what I have been through.”

A familiar face on our television screens, former Channel 7 newsreader Mike Higgins was diagnosed eight years ago with cutaneous T-Cell lymphoma, a rare form of non-Hodgkin lymphoma which primarily affects the skin causing patches, plaques, tumours and lesions.

“My oncologist was pretty upfront and said that it’s not a good one to have. In fact there was just a 16% chance of survival,” Mike said.

Following his diagnosis, Mike endured four years of various chemotherapy treatments, radiation and, finally, a bone marrow transplant, with all the difficult side effects that accompany them.

“At one stage I was on 56 tablets and capsules a day and three injections that I had to give myself,” he said.

During his treatment Mike stayed at our ESA Village which he describes as “a little bit of heaven”, adding: “For a cancer patient, things such as towels, a clean bathroom, and comfy chairs aren’t just supportive, they are healing.”

Happily, Mike is in remission, enjoying a slower pace of life at his eco-cottage on the Sunshine Coast, and we are grateful for his ongoing support of the Leukaemia Foundation.
Contents

Message from the President.................................................................1
Message from the Chief Executive Officer........................................2
Celebrating 40 years of the Leukaemia Foundation.......................3
Year at a glance................................................................................7
Research............................................................................................9
Support services................................................................................14
Fundraising.......................................................................................18
Gifts in Wills......................................................................................20
Trusts and Foundations.....................................................................21
Business partnerships.........................................................................23
Volunteers........................................................................................25
Marketing and communications.......................................................26
About us...........................................................................................27
Organisational chart..........................................................................28
Our Board........................................................................................29
Our people.........................................................................................33
Financial overview...........................................................................34
Statement of financial position.......................................................35
How you can help.............................................................................36

Cover image: Jess Sampson, blood cancer survivor
This is a special year for the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland as we celebrate our 40th anniversary. I look back with tremendous pride and gratitude at the small band of men and women who began our organisation four decades ago.

The late 1960s saw significant advances in the treatment of blood cancers such as leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma with the introduction of new treatments and medical equipment that improved patient survival.

The dedication of haematologist Dr Trevor Olsen to make these new technologies available in Queensland became the driving force behind the establishment of the Lions Leukaemia Foundation in 1975, which, five years later, became known as the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland.

As is the case today, a blood cancer diagnosis put patients and their loved ones under enormous emotional and financial stress, especially those from rural and regional areas who had to travel long distances to Brisbane for treatment. Families who had nowhere to stay and no support in the city were sometimes forced to sleep in their cars while their loved one underwent treatment.

As a registered nurse at Royal Brisbane Hospital I saw how desperate life was for people affected by blood cancers like leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma. Family members were allowed only restricted visits and physical contact. As a young mother of four children I understood how heartbreaking it was for a mother not to be able to hug her child.

During those early days many dedicated members of the Leukaemia Foundation did all they could to offer emotional and practical support to patients. They worked tirelessly to raise much-needed funds and in 1977 an old Queenslander, Hollydene, was purchased and renovated.

It became our first home-away-from-home for families affected by blood cancer. Hollydene was just the beginning.

The decades that followed saw many major achievements for the Leukaemia Foundation, including raising $1.5 million to open Queensland’s first Bone Marrow Transplant Unit in 1987; the establishment of our Support Services division; the opening of four purpose-built patient accommodation villages; and the establishment of the Leukaemia Foundation Research Unit at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research in 1992.

The Leukaemia Foundation has never been timid in our resolve to achieve the best possible outcomes for patients and their families regardless of how insurmountable the problems may have seemed at the time.

Our vision was and still is to provide better outcomes that will increase survival and provide a better quality of life for people with a blood cancer and their families.

The partnership between the Leukaemia Foundation, healthcare professionals, researchers, government and the community has been one that has made—and continues to make—a tangible difference.

Since 1975 many thousands of people have donated money, participated in events and fundraisers, provided a gift in their Will, and volunteered their time. The generosity of each and every one of our supporters has changed and saved lives.

We have achieved so much through the love, sweat and tears of so many.

Today, beating blood cancers and improving the lives of patients and their families remain our top priorities.

Despite the many breakthroughs in treatments, our work is not done and we urgently rely on Queensland’s communities to continue to support the growing number of patients and families who still desperately need our care.

We are determined to never accept the status quo when there are still so many people who need our support and will not stop working until we have beaten blood cancers.

Beverley Mirolo OAM
President
Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland
This year we made great progress in our efforts to beat blood cancers, with innovation at the heart of our achievements. As we celebrate our 40th anniversary we’re reminded that while we face a different set of challenges than we did in the 1970s, the purpose of our organisation remains unchanged.

We want to make a positive difference to the lives of the six Queenslanders diagnosed with a blood cancer every day – a number that unacceptably continues to climb.

One of the challenges of living in a vast state like Queensland is ensuring, no matter where people affected by blood cancers live, they can access support when they need it most.

The highlight of our research investment this year was the launch of our Trials Enabling Program, ensuring more patients here in Australia can participate in internationally-run trials.

It means patients don’t have to face the enormous travel and medical expenses involved in going overseas, or not being able to access them at all.

We established the program in partnership with the nation’s leading blood cancer clinical trial group, the Australasian Leukaemia & Lymphoma Group (ALLG).

The innovative program is enormously exciting because it’s the first time a charity had established a funding program to bring to Australia breakthrough blood cancer medicines being tested in clinical trials overseas.

The first trial to be brought to Australia through the program aims to improve treatments for elderly patients with acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) and high risk myelodysplastic syndrome where chemotherapy is not considered suitable. Often the only option left for these patients is palliative care. We plan to fund additional trials that will benefit patients with other blood cancers.

We are also excited to see construction of our new Village Green apartments in Brisbane. We already have four accommodation villages in Brisbane and Townsville, and this new development will help us cope with growing demand.

Increased building costs and a lack of suitable land close to treating centres mean we can’t continue to meet demand by building purpose-built villages.

This shared value model, an Australian first, offers an innovative yet simple approach that will provide a cost-effective way of helping more regional and rural families find a home-away-from-home during treatment at nearby hospitals.

While more people are being diagnosed with blood cancers, greater numbers are surviving these diseases. We see a vital part of our work as improving quality of life for patients not only through treatment but for the months and years following treatment as they rebuild their lives. We continue to develop programs and support mechanisms which cater to the physical and emotional issues which are commonly faced.

Due to its overwhelming success, we have rolled out our Fit to Thrive exercise program to Townsville, Cairns and the Gold Coast, giving patients access to a free 12-week program tailored to their individual needs.

A Fit to Thrive video was also produced to give regional and remote patients access to this important program.

We are embracing change and taking a progressive and proactive approach which will ensure that we can continue to succeed, deliver and grow our core services and most importantly make a positive difference in the lives of the six Queenslanders who are diagnosed with a blood cancer every day.

Bill Petch
Chief Executive Officer
Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland
Celebrating 40 years of the Leukaemia Foundation

1975
The Lions Leukaemia Foundation forms in Brisbane. The Foundation aims to provide medical care, patient support, research and education.

1976
The Foundation’s first major fundraising effort results in the purchase of a blood cell separator machine, a ground-breaking piece of technology for Queensland.

The first research grant for $2000 is awarded to investigate the long-term side effects of drugs used in leukaemia.

1977
The $1.7 million Royal Brisbane Hospital Bone Marrow Transplant and Leukaemia Treatment Unit is officially opened.

1979
The first Leukaemia Foundation support course for patients and families is held.

1985
Equipment is purchased to establish a bone marrow culture laboratory at the Royal Brisbane Hospital. The Foundation also purchases land at Herston to establish the first purpose-built patient accommodation complex.

1987
The University of Queensland Senate approves a Chair of Experimental Haematology.

1989
The Herston Accommodation Centre officially opens. The Foundation employs its first full-time support services coordinator.

1991
The Foundation provides a $500,000 grant to establish a bone marrow transplant unit in the Royal Children’s Hospital, Brisbane.

1992
The Leukaemia Foundation Daikyo Research Unit at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (now QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute) in Brisbane opens.

1993
The first Professor of Experimental Haematology to head the Foundation’s research program commences at QIMR Berghofer, a position that the Foundation will fund for more than 20 years.
The Foundation members purchase and renovate ‘Hollydene’, an old Queenslander that contains three residential flats. Hollydene is a ‘home-away-from-home’ for hundreds of patients and their families until it is sold in mid-1999.

A floor is provided at the Queensland Radium Institute on the Royal Brisbane Hospital campus for the bone marrow transplant and leukaemia treatment facility.

A major fundraising appeal is launched for Queensland’s first bone marrow transplant and leukaemia treatment facility at the Royal Brisbane Hospital. The ESA Princess Quest is born.

Mount Isa became one of the first communities along with the Sunshine Coast to establish a Foundation-linked fundraising group, which later became known as Foundation Branches. Over the next three decades, a further 17 branches and fundraising groups were established.

A 21 unit patient accommodation and support facility called ESA Village opens in South Brisbane. The Greg Johnson Memorial Trust is established in memory of the Foundation’s first Professor of Experimental Haematology. A drug to assist in the treatment of people with chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML), Interferon, was listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) thanks to advocacy work by the Foundation.

The Foundation establishes the Leukaemia Foundation of Australia.

The Lions Leukaemia Foundation is renamed the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland.

A television microscope for diagnosis and training is donated to the Royal Brisbane Hospital, purchased with funds raised by the Mount Isa Leukaemia Fund.
Celebrating 40 years of the Leukaemia Foundation

1996
The Foundation provides $100,000 in seed funding to establish the Queensland Cord Blood Bank at the Mater hospital.

Australia’s first private bone marrow transplant facility, The Wesley Leukaemia Foundation Bone Marrow Transplant Unit, officially opens.

Psychosocial research project receives funding from the Foundation to identify the unique needs of patients surrounding survivorship.

1997
Established collaborative links with psychosocial researcher Dr Pam McGrath – her pioneering research played a critical role in the vision for and planning of patient services.

2007
A 30 unit patient accommodation and support facility called The Clem Jones-Sunland Leukaemia Foundation Village officially opens in Coopers Plains, Brisbane.

The Foundation’s annual investment in research reaches $1 million for the first time.

2010
Extensions completed at Queensland Freemasons Village in Townsville for an additional eight units.

The new ESA village opens in Dutton Park, Brisbane, relocated due to construction of the new Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital.

2012
The Foundation commits $1 million over five years to appoint the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland Chair in Blood Cancer Research at The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute to establish a world-leading research program in near-patient research of blood cancers and coordinate the growth of this program across greater Brisbane research entities and hospitals.
Shave for a Cure and Lunch for Leukaemia fundraising programs are launched.
The Foundation pledges $5 million towards the establishment of the new Comprehensive Cancer Research Centre at QIMR Berghofer.
A full-time support services coordinator is appointed for North Queensland.

The Foundation signs a 30-year lease with the Queensland Government for 10,500 square metres of land adjacent to the QEII Hospital in Nathan for the establishment of a third patient accommodation and support village.

A new accommodation model is supported by the initial purchase of 14 new apartments currently being built at The Green as part of the RNA development in Brisbane. The Foundation will take ownership of the first stage of apartments in mid 2015.

Head of the Leukaemia Foundation Research Unit at QIMR Berghofer and UQ Professor of Experimental Haematology, Andrew Boyd, sees decades of his work investigating leukaemia-associated Eph proteins lead to the completion of a Phase 1 trial of a new clinical drug (KB004) for leukaemia patients.

Fit to Thrive exercise program introduced in partnership with Aspire Fitness.

Inaugural Adem Crosby Haematology Nursing Award is launched.

In partnership with the Australasian Leukaemia & Lymphoma Group, the Foundation will launch the first clinical trial funded through the Trials Enabling Program. The program will allow patients to participate in international trials without leaving Australia, providing access to new drugs and technologies not currently available.
Year at a glance

Cooking for chemo

*Cooking for chemo* was a new program introduced this year. Well-known chefs cooked several dishes for attendees, with an emphasis on creating easy and nutritious meals that are palatable for someone experiencing the typical side effects of chemotherapy.

Chair in blood cancer research

As part of our commitment to getting research to the bedside and benefiting patients, a new senior research position was established at the UQ Diamantina Institute, with a focus on moving research closer to patients and strengthening collaboration across the research community in Brisbane.

Research overview

This year we invested $1.5 million in a range of research projects that are taking us closer to beating blood cancers, offering hope to the increasing number of Queenslanders facing a diagnosis.

Supporting patients and families

3430 people accessed our support services across Queensland. The number of new referrals to our support services increased by 18.7% from last year, helping improve the quality of life of even more Queenslanders.

Our support team made 19% more hospital visits than last year, and 25% more out-of-office visits.

Boosting clinical trial access

Through our new Trials Enabling Program, more blood cancer patients will have an opportunity to access promising and potentially life-saving treatments through their participation in internationally-led clinical trials – without leaving the country.

Tissue Bank

As part of our commitment to supporting innovation and vital research infrastructure, we increased funding to the Discovery Bank at Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane to ensure blood cancer research continues.
Village Green Apartments

Rural and remote patients and families will have a new home when they travel to Brisbane for blood cancer treatment – usually for many months. Our 14 new units at the Village Green, part of the Brisbane Showgrounds development, moved towards completion and will be essential in supporting patients during their treatment.

World’s Greatest Shave 2015

At our largest fundraising event, 5543 participants raised a fantastic $4,055,900 across Queensland.

Light the Night

Each year, thousands of Queenslanders walk together at dusk to raise the money that will help beat blood cancers. This year, more than 11,200 people raised their lanterns at 16 locations across the state, raising $230,000.

Beating blood cancer appeal

We ran our Beating Blood Cancer Appeal this year to raise $1 million for patient support and research. The appeal also aimed to increase awareness of what we do and the 34 Aussies who are diagnosed with a blood cancer every year.

Fit to Thrive expands

Our successful 12-week exercise program, *Fit to Thrive*, was rolled out in Cairns, Townsville and the Gold Coast giving more patients access to its health benefits. A *Fit to Thrive* DVD was also produced to give patients valuable exercise advice in the comfort of their own homes.
Research

There is no doubt we’re in exciting times for blood cancer research with huge steps being taken towards improved treatments for patients.

We’re getting a better understanding of how blood cancers develop and converting this knowledge into new ways to treat patients. Progress is also being made with targeted treatments tailored to individuals and the gap is closing between the laboratory bench and the patient’s bedside.

But we must keep up the momentum to drive new discoveries in the lab and more effective treatment options for all blood cancer patients.

Research is central to our commitment to improve health outcomes for the growing number of people diagnosed with a blood cancer.

Our research is not just about finding a cure. Our researchers are focused on improving treatments and increasing survival. We want patients to get the best drugs, the best treatments and the best care.

Thanks to the generous support of those in the community who share our commitment to beating blood cancers, we are able to continue to look at innovative and more cost-effective ways to make a difference to the lives of those affected by blood cancers, including leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma.

We invested $1.5 million in funding for world-class blood cancer research at key research institutes focused on improving health outcomes for blood cancer patients.

Research Highlights

Trials Enabling Program

We launched our Trials Enabling Program providing Australian blood cancer patients with the opportunity to participate in internationally-led clinical trials without the associated costs of leaving Australia. Through this program, patients will access potentially lifesaving treatments currently unavailable to them.

The first trial to be funded is a UK trial aiming to improve treatments for elderly patients with acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) and high risk myelodysplastic syndrome for whom conventional chemotherapy is not considered suitable. The Leukaemia Foundation plans to fund additional trials which will benefit patients with other blood cancers.

This program will run in partnership with the Australasian Leukaemia & Lymphoma Group (ALLG).

New research position

We commenced funding for a senior research position at the UQ Diamantina Institute in Brisbane. The Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland Chair in Blood Cancer Research, Professor Maher Gandhi, is focused on translating research into meaningful outcomes for patients. In this position, to be funded over five years, Professor Gandhi will also foster greater collaboration across the Brisbane research community.

Funding crucial infrastructure

We also continued to fund key research infrastructure through our operational support of the ALLG Discovery Centre in Brisbane, formerly the Tissue Bank. This unique biobanking facility stores tissue samples for use in blood cancer research across Australia, with holdings totalling 86,007 samples from 3554 patients as at 30 June 2015. The Discovery Centre serves as an important link between patient outcomes, clinical trials and laboratory research.

Psychosocial impact of blood cancers

Our support for patients extends from diagnosis, through treatment and beyond. We continued to support a program of psychosocial research examining the financial and social impact of relocation for patients requiring specialist treatment. The findings of this research, conducted by Associate Professor Pam McGrath from Griffith University, will be considered in policy and service delivery planning.
Research grants

Promising research projects continued to be supported through our National Research Program including the provision of PhD Scholarships and Grants-in-aid for researchers.

2014 research grant awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant recipient</th>
<th>Type of grant</th>
<th>Area of research</th>
<th>Per annum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Steve Mattarollo,</td>
<td>Grant-in-aid (2014)</td>
<td>Treating blood cancers by boosting the immune system response</td>
<td>$99,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UQ Diamantina Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Steven Lane,</td>
<td>Grant-in-aid (2014)</td>
<td>New ways to optimise stem cell transplantation</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QIMR Berghofer Medical</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Katie Lineburg,</td>
<td>PhD Scholarship</td>
<td>Identifying the cells and pathways that contribute to chronic graft-versus-host</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QIMR Berghofer Medical</td>
<td>(2014-2016)</td>
<td>disease (GVHD)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2015 research grant awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant recipient</th>
<th>Type of grant</th>
<th>Area of research</th>
<th>Per annum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms Rebecca Austin,</td>
<td>PhD Scholarship (2015-2017)</td>
<td>What factors drive immune response in acute myeloid leukaemia?</td>
<td>$27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QIMR Berghofer Medical</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Stephanie Grabow,</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Fellowship</td>
<td>Harnessing the cell death pathway to develop novel therapies for leukaemia and</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walter and Eliza Hall Institute</td>
<td>(2015-2016)</td>
<td>lymphoma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of Medical Research (VIC)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Pasquale Fedele,</td>
<td>PhD Scholarship (Clinical)</td>
<td>Investigating the role of BLIMP1/PRDM1 and XBPI as potential tumour suppressors</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of Medical Research (VIC)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Dean Tyler,</td>
<td>PhD Scholarship (2015-2017)</td>
<td>Visualising the mechanism of action of cancer therapies in MDS</td>
<td>$14,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University of Melbourne and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(VIC)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Several projects initiated in previous years continued to receive funding support from the Foundation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant recipient</th>
<th>Type of grant</th>
<th>Area of research</th>
<th>Per annum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms Therese Vu,</td>
<td>PhD Scholarship (2013-2015)</td>
<td>Investigating factors which may cause genetic changes in leukaemia</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QIMR Berghofer Medical</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Melody Cheong,</td>
<td>PhD Scholarship (2012-2014)</td>
<td>Enhancing graft versus leukaemia effects post stem cell transplant</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QIMR Berghofer Medical</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Danielle Tindle,</td>
<td>PhD Scholarship (2012-2014)</td>
<td>Conceptualising meaning in life: The experiences of young adult cancer survivors</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUT Institute of Health and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomedical Innovation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Farewell Professor Boyd

This year we farewelled Professor Andrew Boyd, a key contributor to the field of blood cancer research, who retired from his position as Head of the Leukaemia Foundation Research Unit at QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute and UQ Professor of Experimental Haematology.

Professor Boyd’s partnership with the Foundation has spanned almost 20 years, with the Foundation proudly supporting his investigations of the role of leukaemia-associated Eph proteins in tumour growth and progression.

His work led to the development of anti-cancer agents to target these proteins with a Phase II clinical trial underway in leukaemia patients following a successful Phase I study. Further testing may pave the way for the antibody’s use as a treatment.

“Professor Boyd has devoted his career to improving outcomes for blood cancer patients and I thank him for his vision and commitment to making this goal a reality,” Foundation CEO Bill Petch said.

“We are pleased that Professor Boyd will continue to have a close association with the Leukaemia Foundation for which he was recently awarded the well-deserved honour of Life Member.”

Looking ahead

Research forum

In 2015-16 we will co-host a free public research forum in Brisbane in partnership with The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute to share with our supporters the latest advances in blood cancer research that are offering hope to patients and their families. Not only will we have insight from leading experts in blood cancer research, we will also hear a young father’s personal account following his diagnosis with a rare blood cancer.

Trials Enabling Program expansion

We look to expand our Trials Enabling Program to ensure even more patients have an opportunity to be part of a clinical trial. Clinical trials are a way for participants not only access potentially life-saving treatments but also to contribute to the advancement of medicine and help others who may develop their condition in the future. If a clinical trial is successful, the drug can go on to become a new treatment option for patients in the wider community.

New mobile app

As part of our ongoing commitment to continually innovate to improve outcomes for patients, we are working with Haematology Clinical Research Network NSW to create a free mobile application that will enable Queensland doctors and blood cancer patients to access up-to-date information about the latest breakthrough treatments at the press of a button on their mobile phone or tablet.

The easy-to-use app, called ClinTrial Refer Qld, will connect patients and doctors to clinical trials across Queensland, vastly simplifying the process of finding an appropriate clinical trial and giving more patients the option of accessing potentially life-saving medicines.

The app will also connect users to the clinical trials we’re funding through our new Trials Enabling Program, making it easier for Queensland patients to find them.
The Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland could not achieve its goal of delivering new and improved treatments to blood cancer patients without the ongoing dedication of a select band of researchers.

One such researcher who has been supported by the Leukaemia Foundation over the years is Dr Steven Lane from QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute. A clinician researcher, Dr Lane’s area of expertise is acute myeloid leukaemia (AML).

In December 2014, Dr Lane and his team had a significant breakthrough in the lab, showing how a promising new drug may help treat acute myeloid leukaemia and even prevent relapse.

Pre-clinical trials by Dr Lane’s team, led by Claudia Bruedigam, found the drug imetelstat kills or impairs leukaemia progression.

Imetelstat targets a gene found in high levels in myeloid leukaemia stem cells called telomerase which appears to enhance the cancer cells’ long-term survival. This makes the cancer cells resistant to current chemotherapy treatments and enables them to reactivate after treatment, causing a patient to relapse.

Imetelstat is a small drug that gets into the bone marrow where the leukaemia stem cells live, binds to the gene telomerase and shuts it down, killing the cancer cell.

Dr Lane has shown in his lab that the drug can prevent the leukaemia coming back after chemotherapy, with the best results seen when the drug is used in combination with chemotherapy.

This is a significant breakthrough for patients with AML and the Foundation is proud to have supported this important research.

The drug is in clinical trials in the US for another myeloid blood cancer, myelofibrosis (one of the myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPN)) where it is also proving to be effective.

This news is exciting for both AML and MPN patients, particularly those who haven’t had a favourable response to other currently available treatments.

Dr Lane’s findings have been published in the major international journal, *Cell Stem Cell*. He hopes to commence a clinical trial for AML patients in Brisbane within the next year or two.
Allowing more patients access to trials

Our new Trials Enabling Program is a vital step towards beating blood cancers, allowing more patients to participate in internationally-led trials here in Australia, rather than facing the enormous travel and medical expenses involved in going overseas, or not being able to access them at all.

We established the Trials Enabling Program in partnership with the nation’s leading blood cancer clinical trial group, the Australasian Leukaemia & Lymphoma Group (ALLG).

This is the first time a charity has established a funding program to bring to Australia breakthrough blood cancer medicines being tested in clinical trials overseas.

There are many exciting blood cancer clinical trials operating all around the world but unfortunately only a small proportion of them are available in Australia because of the high cost of bringing them here.

We want to right that wrong and ensure Australian blood cancer patients, including those from rural and regional areas, have easy access to the very best treatments available.

Through the Trials Enabling Program, blood cancer patients will potentially have access to new therapeutic drugs years ahead of the expected availability on the Australian market, at no extra cost to them.

We aim to initially give 125 people the opportunity to participate in clinical trials through the program, investing more than $600,000.

Clinical trials gave Danny precious time with his family

Danny Widdicombe is reminded every day how lucky he is to be alive.

Now a proud father of two young children, Danny Widdicombe’s leukaemia diagnosis at just 19 years of age seems a lifetime ago.

He attributes his survival, and the ability to have children, to a clinical trial he participated in more than 10 years ago that was testing a new drug.

“The last 20 years have been a whirlwind of highs and lows. I’ve enjoyed a fantastic music career, married my beautiful wife, Carolyn, and become a dad.

I have also battled leukaemia. I have no doubt I am alive today because of treatments made available to me through clinical trials.

In 1997 I was included in a trial for a new drug called Glivec. It changed my life.

Glivec stabilised my leukaemia and allowed me to delay a bone marrow transplant that would have taken away my chance of ever having children. I became the proudest man alive in 2001 when my beautiful boy, Oliver, was born, and later my joy was doubled with the arrival of my daughter, India.

I went on to have my transplant and I was able to spend wonderful times with my family and get on with my music career.

I love every second I spend with my family and the clinical trial has given me those moments.”
Support services

With the numbers of people being diagnosed with blood cancers increasing every year, our role in improving the quality of life for patients, carers, and their families throughout Queensland is more critical than ever. This year we continued to offer emotional and practical support to families following a blood cancer diagnosis, including accommodation, financial support, disease and treatment information, and advocacy. We also introduced several innovative new programs and expanded our current programs and services to reach more people in regional and rural areas of Queensland.

New initiatives

This year we launched two new Support Services programs: Cooking for chemo and 20/30 Chat. Cooking for chemo gives patients and carers ideas for creating easy, tasty and nutritious meals that suit their changing tastes and lifestyles during treatment. The first session of Cooking for chemo saw chef Ben O’Donoghue, cook Ben Macdonald, and dietitian Peter Rhodes run a busy cooking demo in Brisbane in April.

20/30 Chat is a special support group for people in their 20s and 30s who are affected by a blood cancer. While our support groups have always been open to people of all ages, we know Generation Y blood cancer patients face some unique issues and may feel comfortable sharing those with their peers. The group first met in June and, due to overwhelmingly positive feedback, we will now run 20/30 Chat every three months.

Growing regional support

Responding to the needs of regional and rural patients we expanded our successful Fit to Thrive exercise program beyond Brisbane to Townsville, Cairns and the Gold Coast. At the end of the year, 43 people had completed Fit to Thrive in Brisbane, Cairns and the Gold Coast, while another 12 people had commenced programs in Townsville and the Gold Coast.

We also released a Fit to Thrive exercise DVD, which allows blood cancer patients to access the benefits of an exercise program no matter where they live in Queensland.

And, in keeping with our commitment to reach more Queenslanders, our first Support Services Coordinator for Cairns joined the Leukaemia Foundation in August. She provides vital support to patients and families in the area from Tully to Cape York.

New resources

As part of our commitment to giving patients the information and resources they need beat their blood cancer, we developed our Sexuality and intimacy brochure, and a Getting my affairs in order fact sheet.

Seminar success

We ran 109 seminars and support groups across Brisbane, Gold Coast, Toowoomba, Townsville, Cairns, Mackay, Mount Isa, Bowen, Atherton, Hervey Bay, and Ingham. Some of these seminars acknowledged national and world awareness days, such as Myeloma Day in May, Lymphoma Day in September, and MDS Day in July.

Our Coffee, cake and chat program also expanded to include a myeloma group for patients under 50.

We also ran four webinars this year on a variety of topics that covered a range of blood cancers: Sam Hall, an Exercise Physiologist from Aspire Fitness and Rehabilitation gave an overview on Fit to Thrive; our Support Services Coordinator Kathryn Huntley discussed common misconceptions around a blood cancer diagnosis; Dr Peter Wood covered chronic leukaemia treatment; while Dr Tony Mills talked about MDS management.

We welcomed 14 people to our seventh annual Bereaved Parents’ Weekend in October, a special two day retreat for parents going through the difficult journey of losing a child.

We also developed a Memorandum of Understanding with the new Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital in Brisbane. This agreement will enable us to reach out to more young patients and their families, to provide information and support.

Find us online

To show our commitment to providing updated and relevant online disease and treatment information, at the start of 2015 we began a major content review of all disease pages on our website.

We work hard to offer useful and interesting information to patients when they need it at leukaemiaqld.org.au. This year we undertook a complete review of our online disease information, which resulted in a substantial increase in both the number of visits and the time people spent on our website.
The average time visitors spent on disease information pages increased by an average of 18%, while page views were up by 247%.

Another important component of our online presence is our videos on YouTube and our website. This year, we produced 20 new Support Services videos. These included patient stories, recordings of special presentations given by health professionals, and practical videos giving patients tools for coping with their diagnosis.

Our Support Services videos were viewed a total of 4792 times, compared to 909 views in the previous year. These videos are extremely helpful for regional and rural patients who are unable to travel to our support seminars.

**Future direction**

As Queensland regional hospitals expand their haematological services, we will be diversifying our services to meet the needs of patients in these areas and expand our services and staff where required. We are also looking forward to supporting patients at our newest Brisbane accommodation village, the Village Green Apartments, in 2015/16.

We have been developing further links with community groups to strengthen support for patients returning to work, and next year we are hoping to partner with Centrelink and OpenMinds to deliver education sessions to patients and their families.

---

Lizzie finds a new home

Lizzie’s mum Melissa packed a bag and left their life in Atherton on 21 August 2014 when she received the devastating news her daughter had leukaemia. It was a month before Lizzie’s 2nd birthday.

“I remember sitting at the hospital in Brisbane, feeling totally overwhelmed and thinking about how quickly we’d had to leave home.

“The bin was full and needed emptying, my half-finished glass of wine was still on the coffee table and the dirty dinner dishes were in the sink. We have not been back since,” Melissa said.

“Lizzie was in hospital for 10 days before we moved to accommodation close to the hospital. Before long the Leukaemia Foundation offered us a unit at its ESA Village – completely free of charge.

“We arrived from Atherton with just a few clothes and basics, but ESA Village provided everything we needed in a home. It was brilliant.”

Melissa and Lizzie have now moved out of ESA Village and will settle in Brisbane as Lizzie needs treatment for the next 18 months. Melissa has rented an apartment and started a new job at a local hospital.

“When people talk about your life being turned upside down, that is so true with leukaemia. Everything changes, there is no routine. I work around Lizzie’s treatment and try to get on with some sort of normality.”

Melissa said the Atherton community has been absolutely fantastic in raising funds for Lizzie.

“I will never be able to thank the Atherton community and the Leukaemia Foundation enough for their support and encouragement through this tough time. It has made the world of difference!”
Support services

3430 patients assisted

28.4% increase

2625 Support calls made

Top 3 utilised support services

Practical support
Treatment information
Emotional support

8844 passengers transported
124,190 kilometres by our patient courtesy vehicles
$14,723 provided in transport assistance

37,714 nights of free accommodation, saving families $4.52 million

664 families provided homes during treatment

$126,852 provided in financial assistance for Queensland families

4914 Face-to-face meetings and counselling sessions

109 Support seminars run
We know patients and carers need easy, tasty, and nutritious meals that suit their changing tastes during treatment, so we developed Cooking for chemo. The first Brisbane session was held in April, with patients and carers gathering at The Golden Pig Cooking School in Brisbane for an afternoon of learning more about nutrition and meal preparation during blood cancer treatment.

Masterchef 2014 finalist Ben Macdonald and Brisbane chef and restaurateur Ben O’Donoghue cooked several dishes for those in the audience, with an emphasis on creating easy and nutritious meals that are still tasty to someone experiencing the typical side effects of chemotherapy.

Ben Macdonald could identify with many of the issues some of the attendees were facing. In 2002, while living in the UK, he was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia. While Ben has been in remission for more than 10 years, he remembers how his taste buds and feelings about food changed while he was in treatment.

It meant he was able to offer a unique perspective when designing the Cooking for chemo program, part of our commitment to health and wellbeing.

Dietitian Peter Rhodes co-hosted the cooking session, giving participants handy tips for adding more nutritional punch to their meals in the form of whole foods.

“Often patients are told to just eat whatever they can, but we wanted to also give them options for enjoying food and getting adequate nutrition, while still meeting the unique needs of a patient and carer going through treatment,” Barbara Hartigan, Director of our Support Services, said.

Our thanks go to ICON Cancer Care and Chris’ IGA for supporting Cooking for chemo.
Our commitment to beating blood cancer can only be achieved with the generous support of Queenslanders who give money and time to ensure patients get access to the best services and treatment which will give them the best chance of survival.

With no direct funding from the Government we rely on the Queensland community to invest in this important cause so we can deliver our vision of beating blood cancers.

Queenslanders want to help in so many ways so we offer a range of options for giving. Increasing diversification of our fundraising means the Leukaemia Foundation can be more sustainable into the future.

We receive contributions through regular and one-off donations, gifts in Wills, support through state and local events, volunteering – the options are endless.

This year tens of thousands of our generous Queenslanders raised more than $8.1 million and volunteered 7253 hours.

We are grateful to each and every individual and business who contributed to the success of this fundraising effort – together we cannot rest until we have beaten blood cancer.

Thank you for your investment in this important cause.
In 2014, 37-year-old underground coal miner Shannon Friedrich experienced what he thought was a pinched nerve in his groin. But when the pain continued to get worse to the point where he couldn’t walk, Shannon knew that something wasn’t right.

After two MRIs in Rockhampton, followed by bone and liver biopsies in Brisbane, Shannon was given the news he never expected to hear: he had a blood cancer, specifically aggressive stage-four non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

“I was floored. I had come down to Brisbane with just a small overnight bag to find I would have to stay for months of chemotherapy,” Shannon said.

Although it was a huge shock, I was glad to finally know why I had been in pain for so long. One of the hardest things I had to deal with was what I was going to do about my life back in Emerald.

“Thankfully someone told us about the Leukaemia Foundation and within moments of my brother, Nathan, calling them someone was back in contact offering me, my fiancé and family support and a place to stay.

“It was just incredible. There is no way we could have made it through those early days without that help.”

Shannon and his family stayed at our Clem Jones-Sunland Village while he underwent treatment and in March Shannon shaved Nathan’s head in support of World’s Greatest Shave. With lots of love, sweat and tears, these brothers in arms ended up raising in excess of an incredible $6,000 for the Leukaemia Foundation.
Gifts in Wills

Generous supporters who chose to leave us a gift in their Will in 2014-15 contributed over $1 million towards patient support and cutting-edge research.

We are also having more conversations than ever about this very special way of giving, which has resulted in increased enquiries for Gift in Will information.

While many who choose to include the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland in their Will have had a direct connection with blood cancer, others do so simply in recognition of the valuable work the Leukaemia Foundation does in supporting blood cancer patients and their families.

A portion of these funds came from Trusts that were set up in perpetuity. We give special thanks to the following Trusts for their contribution this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trusts in perpetuity</th>
<th>Donation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Derek Martin Muller Bequest</td>
<td>$6391.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estate of Ian Neil Galletly</td>
<td>$15,076.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joan Landgren Trust (QCF)</td>
<td>$4092.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gordon &amp; Jessie Gilmour Charitable Trust</td>
<td>$16,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensland Community Foundation</td>
<td>$6832.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Alf &amp; Winifred Murgatroyd Charitable Trust</td>
<td>$2015.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Thomas and Vera Condie Trust</td>
<td>$24,750.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas &amp; Coral Williams Memorial Trust</td>
<td>$3575.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elsa Norma Vedder Trust</td>
<td>$3593.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about leaving a gift in your Will please contact our Donor Liaison Officer Emma Quigley on 07 3318 4459 or email equigley@leukaemia.org.au.

Gift of beloved Harley to benefit other patients

Gregory Boyd loved his wife, playing and refereeing rugby, and riding his precious Harley.

After retiring in 1988 from a successful rugby league refereeing career in Far North Queensland and New South Wales, where he was the youngest-ever first grade referee and cohort of Bill Harrigan, Greg decided to move back to Brisbane for work, living at Jimboomba.

In September 2010 he was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia. Following a successful bone marrow transplant he went into remission in February 2011. During this time Greg stayed in the Leukaemia Foundation’s Clem Jones-Sunland Village and received emotional support.

Life took yet another tragic turn for Greg when his wife, Jan, was killed in a car accident in February 2013 on her way to a work appointment.

The grief hit Greg and his family hard and impacted on his recovery. Our staff were there for him, providing grief support to help him through.

In November 2013 his leukaemia returned and he underwent chemotherapy, remaining in hospital until January 2014, before again going into remission.

A highlight during his remission was racing in the ‘Barry Sheen Memorial Classic’ at Eastern Creek.

Sadly, in August last year Greg lost his battle with leukaemia.

“The last four years were a tough battle for him, fighting leukaemia and also losing the love of his life,” said his brother Glen.

“I know my brother greatly appreciated all the support provided by the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland and we believe the proceeds from the sale of the Harley Davidson motorcycle he bequested will be put to good use to support other families struggling with blood cancers.”

Gifts in Will allow us to continue to provide a range of essential patient support services and education programs, and to maintain our investment in research seeking better treatments and cures as well as access to clinical trials.
## Trusts and Foundations


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>June</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Chee Foundation</td>
<td>General donation</td>
<td>$1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Cory Charitable Foundation</td>
<td>Replace mattresses at Clem Jones - Sunland Village</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The John Villiers Trust</td>
<td>$45,000 to fund replacing the single bed ensembles &amp; curtains in the Townsville Village</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>August</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation</td>
<td>Part of $120,000 grant payable over 3 years to help fund Fit to Thrive program</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>December</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The William Angliss Charitable Fund</td>
<td>Funding two couples to attend 'Bereaved Parents Weekend'</td>
<td>$1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$97,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fit to Thrive helping patients find their strength

Thanks to the Sylvia and Charles Viertel Trust, many patients are enjoying better health after our 12-week *Fit to Thrive* exercise program.

We introduced the new program in partnership with Aspire Fitness and Rehabilitation (AFR) in response to growing evidence of the benefits of physical activity for people living with a blood cancer.

Due to the success of *Fit to Thrive*, it has been rolled out in Townsville, Cairns and the Gold Coast to give regional patients access to this free program. It is also available on DVD to help even more people impacted by blood cancer.

Patients at different stages of their treatment have said exercise physiologists gave them the kick-start they have needed to regain their strength and fitness thanks to a tailored program to meet their individual health needs. Featured is a letter from Scott Foote, a lymphoma patient who completed *Fit to Thrive*.

---

I have recently completed the 12-week *Fit to Thrive* program. I wanted to write to tell you of my appreciation and immense gratitude to the Leukaemia Foundation and particularly the Sylvia and Charles Viertel Trust for making the program possible.

After being diagnosed with stage two lymphoma I went through six months of chemotherapy and then a stem cell transplant. Following that I ended up with a viral infection, turning to Myocarditis which affected the muscles in my heart.

In my younger years I played A grade rugby and also did a lot of rowing. For 16 years I worked in a very physical profession as a commercial deep sea diver on the oil rigs in the North Sea. All of this kept me at a very high level of fitness. So following the chemotherapy and post viral fatigue I had been really struggling for some time with exhaustion after any exercise.

*Fit to Thrive* has been the perfect thing for me. Aspire Fitness is the ideal partner—they ran an excellent tailor-made program and were efficient and very professional. It was great to be training with and meeting people who had been through similar and often far worse experiences than me. Sam the exercise physiologist accessed me and worked out a program to gradually build me up over the 12-week period.

The result has been extraordinary. I have recently returned from an 11,500 kilometre motorcycle journey through the centre of Australia with a group of mates. I have just been asked by a couple of friends to join them in doing a team half ironman triathlon. I have started training to do the 1.9km swim leg, something I would never have been able to contemplate before *Fit to Thrive*.

A HUGE thank you to everyone involved in putting the program together. It has turned my life around. I had my 60th birthday in January and I’m striding forth into life with a very positive attitude, so thank you all most sincerely for what you have done for me and so many others!

**Cheers**

Scott Foote
Project:Home

For many, a blood cancer diagnosis means immediate relocation to the closest treatment centre. Blood cancer treatment usually takes an extended length of time and means patients must uproot their life to move to a foreign environment.

We currently have four accommodation villages for patients and families but they’re not enough to ensure everyone has a home when they need it.

To keep up with demand, we have purchased 14 units in Brisbane called the Village Green apartments.

While the units were being built, we had to find funding to fit out the units with everything patients and their families would need during a stay in Brisbane for treatment.

Our Project:Home appeal helped raise the funds needed to transform the units into homes. Everything from cutlery to sofas were needed.

Chemotherapy significantly reduces the immune system so it is extremely important that patients have a clean, hygienic place to stay so they aren’t exposed to germs.

There are some items that play an important part in everyday home life for patients. A low-irritant fabric is chosen for lounges, chairs and linen because during treatment patients experience highly sensitive skin.

We are extremely grateful to everyone who contributed to the appeal, which raised $151,308, and to Westpac and Lend Lease for their important contribution.

For the majority of people living in rural and regional Queensland, a blood cancer diagnosis means they have to immediately move to Brisbane or Townsville to begin treatment. To relieve the stress and financial burden, we offer them free accommodation.

We have accommodation villages in Brisbane and Townsville, but increased building costs and lack of suitable land means we can’t continue to meet demand by building purpose-built villages.

The Village Green Apartments, which are close to hospital to reduce the cost of travel and parking, are an innovative yet simple shared value model that will provide a cost effective way of helping moreQueenslanders. On-site support staff will help ensure patients feel safe and secure.

Thanks to the ongoing support of the community and valuable partnerships with Lend Lease and Westpac, more families will be able to stay together at a time when it matters most.

Imagine experiencing the joy of welcoming your new baby into the world, followed by the news that your other child has a blood cancer.

This was the confronting reality faced by Katharine and Jason Aquilina when their 18-month-old son, Ryan, was diagnosed with leukaemia in 2013, soon after the birth of their daughter.

The shock of diagnosis was accompanied by the realisation that Ryan would need to commence treatment immediately in Brisbane—around 1500km away from their home in Innisfail.

“It happened so quickly. The day after Ryan’s diagnosis we flew down to Brisbane, leaving our family, friends and home behind,” Jason said.

It was at this point we were able to help by providing the Aquilina family with a free home-away-from-home at one of our Brisbane accommodation villages.

“The Leukaemia Foundation has been so incredibly supportive and we’ve seen first-hand where the money raised for the charity goes,” Katharine said.

Happily, after 10 months of treatment, the family was able to return home.
Business partnerships

Our business partnerships have continued to grow and strengthen this year. Long-standing corporate supporters including Followmont Transport, Aon, Hewlett Packard, IGA, Hoshizaki Lancer, GM Holden and Bridgestone have continued their support, while important new relationships with Lend Lease, Westpac, Zealifi and Parry NQ have been forged.

The support from our business partners has allowed us to introduce new patient support programs, like Cooking for chemo sponsored by Icon Cancer Care. And our partnership with Lend Lease and Westpac means more rural and regional families will have access to free accommodation while they go through treatment in Brisbane in our new Village Green Apartments.

We once again had fantastic corporate participation in our major fundraising events. We saw many corporate teams enter Light the Night 2014, including participants from Icon Cancer Care, Hitachi, Hilton, Mercure and Ibis, Westpac, NAB, Bendigo Bank and Goodstart Early Learning.

Zarraffa’s Coffee, Yellow Cab Co. and Laing O’Rourke were just some of the new faces to World’s Greatest Shave 2015 and the resources sector once again threw their weight behind the World’s Greatest Shave Mining and Energy Challenge.

This year we focused on improving the way we communicate with our business partners and the introduction of comprehensive new resources on our website was one of the highlights.

This new online hub provides businesses with information on the many ways they can get involved and help beat blood cancers, including our new-look Giving at Work program.

Giving at Work is a simple and easy way for businesses to invest in social responsibility, and an area we plan to develop further to increase our engagement with organisations and their employees.

Next year we will continue to work closely with the business community in Queensland, developing stronger, mutually beneficial relationships and engaging more with employees.

National Partners
Aon
BHP Billiton
Bridgestone Australia Ltd
GM Holden
Hewlett Packard
Hoshizaki Lancer
Toll

Collaborative Partnerships
Aspire Fitness
Centrelink
Griffith University
Haematology Clinical Research Network NSW
Lend Lease
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre
QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute
QUT Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation
The Australasian Leukaemia & Lymphoma Group (ALLG)
The University of Melbourne
The University of Queensland
The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute
Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research
Westpac

Thanks to Queensland Reds and Wallabies player James Hanson for his continuing support of the Leukaemia Foundation this year. We appreciate all he has done during his time as our ambassador and wish him luck at his new club.

State and Local Partners
Australia Wide First Aid
Brisbane Marathon Festival
CVIAQ
Icon Cancer Care
Far North Queensland IGA Committee
Followmont Transport
GHD
Queensland Freemasons
Seven Network
Team Adem
Zealifi
In 1998, a local Cairns girl, Carley Duncombe, lost her sister to blood cancer and began fundraising for the Leukaemia Foundation. IGA stores from Far North Queensland rallied together to support her and her fundraising efforts.

Since then, IGA Far North Queensland has continued to support us, raising an incredible total of $2.4 million!

The first major event, the IGA Car Rally, was soon followed by the IGA Annual Race Day – both events becoming hugely popular in the North Queensland fundraising calendar.

The car rally and race day are both organised by the IGA committee but their success is largely due to the IGA store managers and owners from across the state, Metcash and their major suppliers such as Schweppes, Coca-Cola, Aurizon, Parmalat and Peters Ice-cream who all regularly make the journey to Cairns to support these fantastic events.

This year saw IGA’s dedication to supporting blood cancer patients and their families continue. This year’s car rally saw a record number of people make their way to Cape Tribulation, raising $34,706.

When the live racing was cancelled at the 17th annual IGA race day due to bad weather, the community rallied and still raised an amazing $74,626.

Since 1998, a wonderful and long-lasting relationship has developed that has grown to state-wide support.

From Cairns and Townsville, down to Brisbane and the Gold Coast, we have seen IGA organise car rallies, race days, gala dinners, and Christmas hampers for patients staying in our accommodation villages.

IGA has also supported patient support programs including Cooking for chemo. We would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to IGA for their continued support and dedication over the years and the part they have played in helping us beat blood cancers.

We look forward to continuing our relationship in the future.

A special thanks to the FNQ IGA committee:

Terry Casey (Chairman),
Peter Piccone (Piccones Supa IGA Edmonton and Manoora),
Bill Stewart (Piccones Supa IGA Edmonton and Manoora),
David Lynch (IGA Holloways Beach, Campus and Innisfail),
Lionel Brooks (IGA Freshwater and Forest Gardens)

and to Chris’s IGA Carina in Brisbane who has donated to the Leukaemia Foundation for nearly 40 years.
Volunteers

We feel very fortunate to work with a team of dedicated, compassionate volunteers who freely give their time and skills to help us beat blood cancers. Our volunteers come from all backgrounds and range in age from 16 through to their 80s. Many of our volunteers are regular helpers, while others join us for one-off projects. Although most find that it is such a positive experience, they can’t help but return.

It is fantastic to see our volunteering program continue to grow in number and diversity, with each volunteer bringing something unique and special. We pride ourselves on offering a growing range of volunteering opportunities for members of the community and businesses, as well as ensuring a professional and positive experience for each volunteer.

Volunteers are involved in a range of activities such as business development projects, fundraising events, administration, village maintenance, patient transportation and on going skilled placements.

Improving patient transport

We provide free transportation on our courtesy buses for patients and their families staying in our accommodation villages who need to go to medical and other appointments. This year a number of volunteers with logistical backgrounds designed an improved bus schedule following the opening of the Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital. The new schedule has been very well received and ensured the smooth running of the patient transport services.

Doorknock volunteer assistance

This year volunteers took on extra tasks leading up to our Doorknock such as pre-folding collection bags, packing kits, mail-merging, printing and folding letters. The volunteers’ hard work saved us $45,000 – funds which have been redirected to patient support programs and research projects.

Project volunteering

Recent research has identified that a growing number of professional workers are keen to volunteer their skills, and we have certainly benefited from this trend. Some of the skilled volunteer placements we have been fortunate to arrange have included research assistants, administration assistants, graphic designers, website assistants, event assistants, storemen, financial counsellors and photographers, film producers, counsellors, staff mentors. Over the next 12 months we would like to see our volunteer program continue to expand particularly in regional Queensland.

Volunteer profile

“I began volunteering with the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland in February 2015 as a Research Assistant. When that job was complete I helped out packing kits for Doorknock as well as providing clerical support.

Through these months I’ve learned so much about the amazing work the Leukaemia Foundation does in caring for patients and families, and investing in research.

As a volunteer I really enjoyed the cooperative and supportive work environment and was happy to have the opportunity to work on a range of projects.

I have had the privilege of meeting other wonderful volunteers of all ages and backgrounds, and together we have worked hard to make a difference in the lives of people with blood cancers.”

Rennette Feracho
Project Volunteer
Marketing and communications

Our marketing and communications help us to raise awareness about the Leukaemia Foundation and connect with stakeholders and communities across the state.

Publicity

This year, the Leukaemia Foundation featured in over 1000 pieces of media in Queensland, valued at over $4.8 million. This included coverage of our major fundraising campaigns like World’s Greatest Shave, Light the Night, and U.G.L.Y. Bartender competition. Excellent coverage of our Trials Enabling Program announcement was also achieved alongside other research news.

In the new financial year, we hope to devise and implement a wider communications strategy to continue to create greater brand awareness and to solidify the position of the Leukaemia Foundation as a sector leader for information, support and research into all blood cancers.

#31Aussies

Throughout June and July, the Leukaemia Foundation held its Beating Blood Cancer appeal, aiming to raise $1 million and raise awareness about the Leukaemia Foundation’s brand.

We developed a theme around the number of Australians diagnosed with blood cancer each day, creating #31Aussies. We reached over 650,000 Queenslanders with our PR and social media activity in June.

Online growth

This year, we launched our new look website at leukaemiaqld.org.au, designed to make it even easier for our supporters to discover more about blood cancers and our work.

It’s filled with expert disease information, exciting research news, details about all our patient services, as well as the many ways Queenslanders can support our vital work.

A revamped blood cancer information section provides important information about leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma and related blood disorders, including booklets and factsheets, stories from brave patients, and advice about living with a blood cancer.

The research section highlights how our scientists and clinicians are making life-saving breakthroughs in the lab, while our new Beating Blood Cancers Blog is regularly updated with helpful advice, news and views, and inspiring stories.

Newsletters

One important way we kept our supporters informed about our work was through our newsletter, Leukaemia Foundation News, formerly known as The Carer. Around 80,000 copies were distributed last year featuring updates on how our supporters are working to beat blood cancers, personal stories from patients and their families, and research news.

Our regular newsletters for those impacted by blood cancer - Leukaemia News, Myeloma News, Lymphoma News, Amyloidosis News and Living Well with Grief - were each published twice in the last year, keeping nearly 6,000 patients and their families up-to-date about the support services we offer, as well as practical information about their disease, treatments and lifestyle.
About us

We are proud to be the leading Queensland charity dedicated to improving the lives of patients with all types of blood cancer, including leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma.

Our priority is to deliver the best possible health outcomes for patients. We want more people to survive a blood cancer diagnosis and go on to live a full life. To achieve this we invest in research and deliver the best possible range of support services for patients from diagnosis, through treatment and beyond. Through our investments in research we aim to identify the causes of blood cancer, improve patient diagnosis, develop new and more effective treatments for patients, and find cures.

When someone is diagnosed with a blood cancer they are not alone. We give patients and their families whatever they need to support them throughout diagnosis, treatment and as they move forward with their lives. All programs and services for patients are free and include accommodation, counselling, transportation to medical appointments, educational resources, and practical and financial assistance. Our goal is to arm patients and their families with information, resources and support to help reduce stress throughout this difficult time.

Our organisation relies on the generosity of individuals, communities and businesses to work with us to achieve our vision to cure blood cancers and support patients when they need it most.

Corporate governance

Our vision to support all blood cancer patients and our investment in lifesaving research is underpinned by a governance framework that enables the organisation to meet the needs of our stakeholders, while managing risk and complying with federal and state legislation.

The framework ensures we are effective and efficient and that stakeholders feel satisfied we are meeting and exceeding their expectations.

Board of directors

The Board is structured to provide a balanced skill set of financial oversight, commercial experience, clinical and research practice and marketing expertise. Our Board members generously give their time and expertise on a pro-bono basis. The Board ensures the Leukaemia Foundation’s resources are used effectively to meet the needs of patients with blood cancers including leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma and related blood disorders.

Developing the strategic plan with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and senior management, the Board ensures sustainable use of donor funds through review and oversight, and makes decisions about the allocation of resources including staff and volunteers. Reporting to the Board are the CEO and two committees to ensure broad insight into strategy development.

Advisory committee

The Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland is affiliated with a number of national advisory committees that are facilitated by the Leukaemia Foundation of Australia including the National Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee, Grants Review Committee and Ethics Review Committee.

The following Queensland-based committees report directly to the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland Board:

Audit and risk committee

The Board ensures adequate policies exist in relation to risk management, compliance and internal control systems with assistance from the Audit and Risk Committee.

The Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland’s policies are designed to ensure that strategic, operational, legal, reputation and financial risks are identified, efficiently managed and monitored.

The Audit and Risk Committee provides additional support to ensure that the Foundation makes timely and balanced disclosure to its stakeholders. An example of how this is done is the review and approval of budgets and statutory accounts prior to Board approval.

Research committee

The Research Committee is comprised of practicing haematologists, clinicians, medical researchers, nursing professionals and consumer advocates. This committee oversees research funding recommendations. The research funding recommendations must meet the goals and priorities identified in the strategic plan.
Organisational chart
Current as of 30 June 2015
Our Board

**President**
Beverley Mirolo, OAM RN

Beverley Mirolo OAM has over 35 years’ experience working in the area of blood cancers in both the public and private health sectors. During that time she has held senior management positions.

Beverley joined the Foundation in 1980 when working as a registered nurse at the Royal Brisbane Hospital. With her medical and nursing colleagues, she played a major role in the planning and development of the Leukaemia Foundation Bone Marrow Transplant Unit at the Royal Brisbane Hospital. She was also responsible for the introduction of the first day-only services for patients with blood cancers that include leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma and related blood disorders.

Beverley has held a number of positions on the Board since 1983 including nursing representative on the Foundation’s Medical Advisory Committee, Secretary and was elected President of the Foundation in 2007. Beverley continues her interest in the provision of better outcomes for people with blood cancers and their families.

She was awarded an Order of Australia Medal at the 2010 Australia Day Honours.

**Vice President**
Adj. Assoc. Prof. Maryanne Hargraves RN, Onc Cert., B. Hlth Sc (Nurs); MBA (Hons)

Maryanne Hargraves has over 30 years’ of experience in cancer care.

Her interests include improving quality of life outcomes for people with cancer and their families during and after treatment, engaging with consumers to improve the cancer experience and management of lymphoedema.

Maryanne is Adjunct Associate Professor in the School of Nursing & Midwifery at Queensland University of Technology and a member of the Medical and Scientific Advisory Sub Committee of the Cancer Council Queensland and has been a member of the Leukaemia Foundation Board since 2007.

**Treasurer**
Darren Laarhoven

Darren Laarhoven is a partner of UHY Haines Norton Chartered Accountants and is the primary contact for all the firm’s audits and audit/governance-related assignments.

As Treasurer, Darren brings to the Board skills gained from providing audit and accounting services to clients who include organizations within the not-for-profit sector.

Further, Darren was responsible for the audit of the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland for the financial years prior to 30 June 2002, which has provided him with an extensive understanding of the Foundation’s operations.
Elaine Gamer is a retired business owner having owned H&R Block in Mount Isa. She spent her career in the field of taxation and accounting and became a Justice of the Peace (Qualified) at that time.

Elaine joined the Leukaemia Foundation following her daughter’s diagnosis and treatment for leukaemia. She became a member in 1979 and was instrumental in the formation of the Mount Isa branch.

Sixteen months after its formation the Mount Isa branch presented the Haematology Department of the Royal Brisbane Hospital with a $36,000 Video Microscope.

Elaine was elected to the Board in 1988 and has remained a Board member since that time.

Keith Ledger joined the Lions Club of Holland Park in 1969 where he was a member for approximately 10 years.

In June 1975 he became President he heard Dr Trevor Olsen talk about the lack of facilities for the treatment of leukaemia patients, mainly children.

At this stage Dr Olsen was treating one of the Lions Club Member’s (Bernie Stevenson) son and as a result of Dr Olsen’s talk, the Club decided to form the Lions Leukaemia Foundation. Keith was elected inaugural Chairman.

He held this position for two years during which time the Lions Leukaemia Foundation managed to raise $87,000 which allowed them to make various grants and buy a block of flats at Annerley.

In 1989 Keith rejoined the Board of the Leukaemia Foundation but resigned some time later due to work commitments. He was elected to the LFQ Board once again in 2008.

Ten years ago he rejoined the Holland Park Lions Club as a member.

Arthur Alexander has more than 30 years’ of executive, senior management, and consultancy experience in private and public sectors across mining, energy, water, engineering, construction, manufacturing, health, education and consulting industries in Australia.

Arthur has been involved with the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland for over 25 years, particularly in the area of support services for patients.

He established and remains actively involved with the Foundation’s Taking Control workshop which addresses the health and wellbeing of patients, families and carers.
Christopher Murray has 30 years’ experience in the energy, resources and manufacturing sectors in various roles including Principal, Managing Director and Executive General Manager.

His expertise includes strategy, business development, research, finance and operations. Chris has a Bachelor of Engineering with Honours, is a graduate member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, a graduate of the Harvard Business School and a member of Engineers Australia.

In 2006 Chris was diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukaemia from which he is now in remission.

In 2013 his father passed away as a result of conditions caused by acute lymphocytic leukaemia. He understands first-hand the importance of the Leukaemia Foundation’s work.

Ian Bunce graduated in Medicine from the University of Queensland in 1967. He completed post graduate training and research at Princess Alexandra Hospital and subsequently at St Bartholomew’s Hospital in London, returning to Australia in 1978.

He was appointed Director of Clinical Haematology and Haematology Pathology at The Royal Brisbane Hospital, a position he held until 1988 when he resigned as a full-time specialist to go into private practice with his colleagues Trevor Olsen and Paul Eliadis.

With Ian Donaldson, Trevor Olsen and Beverley Mirolo, he worked to provide funding for and to create the first Bone Marrow Transplant Unit in Queensland. In private practice, with his colleagues, he founded private day hospitals now known as ICON Cancer Care with centres across Australia.

He joined the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland Board in 1979 and became Medical Advisor to the Foundation in succession to Trevor Olsen. He held this Board position until 2003.

He was the founding Medical Advisor to the Leukaemia Foundation of Australia and is a life member of the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland, as well as the Mount Isa branch.

Tony Formica is a professional company director currently working with start-up companies in the Cleantech sector.

Tony is a Chartered Accountant, has an MBA from University of Queensland, is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and a member of the Australian Institute of Management.

Tony has over 25 years of commercial experience spread across chartered accounting firms, private sector businesses, and facilitation of training courses for company directors.

Tony’s key skills include governance and risk management, strategy, mergers and acquisitions, and financial management and reporting.
Joanne Keen is a solicitor with over 16 years’ experience and is currently the General Counsel at Energex Limited.

She holds a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) from the Queensland University of Technology, a Masters of Laws from Temple University in Philadelphia and is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Joanne’s husband Tim was diagnosed with acute promyelocytic leukaemia in 1999. He is currently in his third complete remission having relapsed in 2001 and 2005.

During his illness, Tim and Joanne and their family received unyielding support and care from the Leukaemia Foundation.

Paula Marlton is the Head of Leukaemia and Lymphoma Services at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. She graduated from the University of Queensland with first class honours and a University Gold Medal.

Her professional experience includes three years at the MD Anderson Cancer Centre in Houston, where she was immersed in both clinical and research activities.

Paula has maintained an ongoing commitment to research into leukaemia, lymphoma and related blood disorders. She served on the Executive of the Australasian Leukaemia Lymphoma Group (ALLG) for six years establishing and chairing the Laboratory Science Committee.

She founded and continues to direct the Discovery Centre established through the support of the Leukaemia Foundation.

She serves on the QIMR Council and is involved in a broad range of other academic and advisory services as well as maintaining a busy clinical practice.

It is with deepest sympathy that we record the passing of our Board member and friend, Gil Wright.

Gil passed away on Friday, 26 June 2015. While Gil was one of our newest Board members he was passionate about the Leukaemia Foundation and made a significant contribution in his brief time with us.
Our people

Our people goal this year was to continue to deliver our organisational strategy whilst improving recruitment and retention.

This was achieved by:

» Organising an external audit of our existing human resources (HR) practices
» Continuing to participate in the Travel ’n’ Well project through ongoing grant payments
» Maximising opportunities with overseas employees to fill knowledge and skills gaps

Improving communication

We completed an external audit of our human resource practices across the employment lifecycle benchmarked against current best practice and legislative minimum requirements.

Appropriate short, medium and long term action plans and timelines were implemented and completed during the financial year using the detailed analysis of the audit and its recommendations.

We have this year seen a substantial reduction in voluntary turnover compared to the previous financial year.

Developing our people

Learning and development is foremost at the Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland and all available formal and informal training information including webinars, short courses and educational sessions, whether internal or external, are circulated to management. The collection of data, documents, costs and duration of completed training for each individual is now recorded centrally.

One of our main objectives this year was to raise awareness of and educate our people about the benefits of having a healthier lifestyle. To achieve this we created a health and wellbeing Travel ’n’ Well (TrW) program that could be embedded into our workplace culture.

The key focus of TrW was to promote active travel, increase physical activity and healthy eating, reduce smoking and alcohol intake and maintain a healthy weight (SNAPO). A total of 29 SNAPO activities were implemented by us this year, with an attendance/participation rate of at least 85%.

In August 2014, we were successful with an application to become a Temporary Business Entry Standard Business Sponsor through the Department of Immigration and Border Protection. It means we have been able to attract nominations from applicants or holders of a subclass 457 visa who are skilled and experienced overseas employees, helping to enhance our workforce into the future.

Improving connectivity

One of the key recommendations from our HR audit saw the development of our first staff survey that focused on staff engagement, and learning and development. There was an outstanding response with at least 94% of our people participating. The analysis of the survey indicated 97% of our people feel proud to tell people where they work, and they understand how their roles contribute to achieving business outcomes.

An Advisory Committee was also formed with at least one nominated member from each departmental team. The committee, by using the analysis from the survey, plus input from their Departmental teams, identified a number of our people were sometimes subjected to difficult people, difficult situations or difficult issues. The appropriate solution was for us to partner with the Leukaemia Foundation of Australia (LFA) in using the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), which provides staff with access to free professional counselling and assistance.

Looking ahead

Our first awards and certificates for continued service were held in May 2014 at one of our Town Hall meetings. Whilst our coverage of our Town Hall meetings is now available to all staff throughout Queensland through modern technology, it has been decided to hold future awards services at our staff conferences in the latter half of each year where our metropolitan and regional staff will be present to witness this special occasion.

Our main focus for the next year will be to increase staff engagement, enhance our culture, and further develop our training and education to ensure our people are fully equipped to help beat blood cancers.
Financial overview

Financial performance

A challenging economic environment did not diminish our development or expansion of patient services. In the 2014-15 financial year we recorded a net deficit (total income less the costs of fundraising, administration, and fulfillment of our mission) of $246,816.

Revenue

The total revenue generated by fundraising this year was $8,150,018. This is a $1,243,047 decrease on last year. This can be attributed largely to decreased fundraising totals for the Doorknock and World’s Greatest Shave.

Expenditure

The total expenditure for Support Services in 2014-15 was $5,536,054 which was an increase on the previous year’s figure of $5,023,010. This was primarily due to some large maintenance items on our accommodation centres, and the expansion of support programs such as Fit to Thrive.

Our total research investment in 2014-15 was $1,501,063 which was a 6% decrease on the previous year.

Summary

Our cash holdings in the 2014-15 financial year increased by $1,046 million. In 2015 the net value of our property, plant and equipment decreased to $31,212,931 and this reflects the depreciation of this property.

The future

The cash balance will enable the Foundation to continue to develop a sustainable strategy towards pursuing our purpose, which is beating blood cancer.
# Statement of financial position

**AS AT 30 JUNE 2015**

## ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subcategory</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>14,789,797</td>
<td>13,743,248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other receivables</td>
<td>428,144</td>
<td>396,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>996,202</td>
<td>64,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>16,214,143</td>
<td>14,204,562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>822,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intangibles</td>
<td>2,343,767</td>
<td>2,499,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>31,212,931</td>
<td>32,077,622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>33,556,698</td>
<td>35,399,796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>49,770,841</td>
<td>49,604,358</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## LIABILITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subcategory</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other payables</td>
<td>1,362,124</td>
<td>1,019,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>440,210</td>
<td>380,926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>1,802,334</td>
<td>1,400,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>116,694</td>
<td>105,398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>116,694</td>
<td>105,398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,919,028</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,505,729</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subcategory</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retained surplus</td>
<td>47,851,813</td>
<td>48,098,629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EQUITY</strong></td>
<td><strong>47,851,813</strong></td>
<td><strong>48,098,629</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How you can help

Donate
A one-off or regular donation allows us to continue to offer free support services to all Queenslanders such as financial and practical assistance, education, counselling and accommodation, as well as investing in research. Large or small, your donations make a difference.

Gift in Will
After taking care of your loved ones, a gift in your Will is a direct and valuable way of contributing to the long-term financial strength of the Foundation.

Fundraise
We run many local and state-wide fundraising events such as *World’s Greatest Shave*, which you can get involved in. Why not join a sunset walk for *Light the Night* and raise funds and awareness for those living with blood cancers.

Volunteer
Volunteers are a crucial part of our success—from driving patients to and from treatment, maintaining our accommodation centres or providing administration support.

Partner with us
Find out how your organisation can share in our achievements. There are many ways we can work together to create a great future for blood cancer patients – from a single fundraising event, to workplace giving or a multi-tiered program.

Give blood, marrow and tissue