ional Patio Day

# Vorking<br/>towards<

Impact Report 2019-2020

**Cancer Council 13 11 20 Nurses,** here for all South Australians.



# Contents.

Supporting us to support you	1
Year in review	
Putting your generosity to work	3
Research	4
Leading us towards a cancer free future	4
Beat Cancer Project Fellowships	6
Support	8
We're here for every South Australian	8
Answers to your cancer questions	10
Sam's story	10
Norma's story	11
Aboriginal Programs	12
Empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	13
Carolynanha's story	

Prevention	16
Prevention is the best medicine	16
It all starts with diet	19

Fundraising	20
Supporting us to support you	21
Collaborating to make a difference	22
Your year!	24
Corporate partners	25
Volunteers	26
Your support today makes a difference tomorrow .	26
Our volunteers	27
Organisation Overview	28
Changing the way we work	28
Our Board	30
Executive Team	32
Committee Reports	34

We believe **that no one should go through a cancer journey alone**. Our vision **is a cancer free future**.

Our mission is to lead, empower and mobilise the community.

#### Vision, mission and values

Every day, 28 South Australians hear the words, "you have cancer".

It means that too many of us have a cancer story—of someone we've lost, a loved one who's going through their own journey, or perhaps you have your own personal experience. It also means that everyone has a reason to push for something better.

Thank you to all the South Australians who have supported us in the past year to lead us towards a cancer free future.

This Impact Report has been made possible by Guardian Insurance Group, proud community supporters of Cancer Council SA. **guardian.net.au** 



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# Supporting us to support you

There is no denying that this year has been a challenging one for all South Australians. The bushfires and the COVID-19 pandemic impacted us all in real and challenging ways.

However, despite the challenges we faced, we continued to be there for all South Australians impacted by cancer all because of the unwavering support of our staff, volunteers, and people like you

A key focus this year has been the ongoing work to assess the feasibility of upgrading our supportive accommodation lodges on Greenhill Road and Dequetteville Terrace by re-developing our existing office site at 202 Greenhill Road, Eastwood and combining all operations into a single, integrated building. Prior to COVID-19, our Board made the decision to pursue the redevelopment; a decision that was temporarily put on hold in March 2020 to re-assess the long-term impact of COVID-19 on the organisation.

In the new economic environment, we remain committed to pursuing this once in a generation investment for Cancer Council SA and to grow the organisation to benefit all those who seek our services. The building will be the state's leading integrated cancer centre, bringing together research, prevention and support to lead us towards a cancer free future for all South Australians, and to provide a contemporary home away from home for anyone who needs to travel to Adelaide for treatment. I look forward to sharing more information about this exciting new project with you as plans progress.

The past year has also been one of change—whether it was looking at new ways to work in a changing environment, adapting our programs and services or investing in the future of our business this year saw us grow as an organisation like never before.

By supporting Cancer Council SA this year, you have not only enabled us to fund research, prevention and support programs that save South Australian lives, you have also enabled us to be there for South Australians when they needed us most.

On behalf of everyone at Cancer Council SA, and the 28 South Australians diagnosed with cancer every day, thank you. We can't do our life-saving work without you.

**Lincoln Size** Chief Executive, Cancer Council SA In February, it was my pleasure to join Cancer Council SA as the new Board Chair, taking over from retiring Board Chair Rear Admiral The Honourable Kevin Scarce, AC, CSC, RANR (Ret'd).

I was deeply honoured to be chosen for the role and have been incredibly proud to see the organisation adapt and change to the challenging 2020 environment, while always putting South Australians impacted by cancer at the forefront of their decision making.

We simply couldn't do the work that we do without the support of the community. Even in my short time with the organisation, I have seen outstanding gestures of generosity from South Australians across the state committed to a cancer free future.

I'm looking forward to working with you through an exciting period of change and growth that will lead us closer to that future than ever before.

**The Hon. Karlene Maywald** Board Chair

# Year in review.

Thanks to you, we've been able to recognise key achievements throughout the year.

#### August 2019

On Friday 23 August hundreds of volunteers and staff came together at more than 150 locations across the state for Daffodil Day, raising \$336,000 to fund vital cancer research.

#### November 2019

This year, we delivered Quitskills education sessions to prisoner mentors and staff in preparation of all SA prisons going smoke-free by the end of 2019.

#### December 2019

We joined with Stratco to launch Stratco National Patio Day and raised \$250,000 for Cancer Council's research, prevention and support services and educated Australians on the importance of protecting their skin whenever the UV is 3 and above.

#### January 2020

We awarded 13 new research grants to talented South Australian researchers through Cancer Council's Beat Cancer Project, a collaboration between Cancer Council SA, SA Health, SAHMRI and the South Australian Universities.

#### February 2020

We teamed up with Country SA PHN to roll out our regional Skin Cancer Awareness Roadshow, educating regional South Australians on how to cut their skin cancer risk.

#### March 2020

COVID-19 changed all our lives, impacting Cancer Council SA staff, volunteers, supporters and the community and changed how we delivered services and events for the rest of the year.

#### April 2020

South Australians answered our call for support and raised over \$100,000 through our emergency appeal.

#### May 2020

Despite COVID-19 restrictions, hundreds of South Australian hosts still had a virtual cuppa for a cause, raising \$255,000 for South Australians impacted by cancer and connecting with family, friends and loved ones during a challenging time.

# Putting your generosity to work.

Thanks to you, no South Australian has to go through cancer alone.

This year, thousands of South Australians supported Cancer Council SA through a donation, a gift of their time, or a fundraiser.

You raised an incredible \$7.3 million, which continues to help the South Australian community in a number of ways.

#### Research

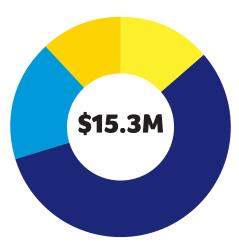
You helped to fund 13 new research grants through Cancer Council's Beat Cancer Project including six new research fellowships. Since its inception, Cancer Council's Beat Cancer Project has funded nearly 250 research grants.

#### Prevention

You helped to fund our community education and prevention programs, empowering community members of all ages to reduce their cancer risk. This year, Cancer Council SA together with support from SA Health, Adelaide PHN and Country SA PHN, were able to invest over \$1.3 million in life-saving prevention programs.

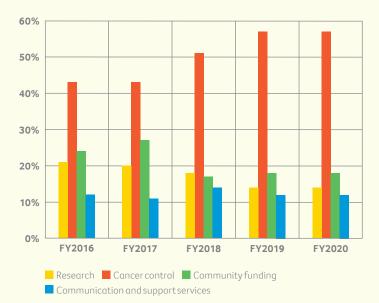
#### Support

You helped to fund our practical and psychosocial support services for people living with cancer, including **Cancer Council 13 11 20** and our supportive accommodation for rural South Australians staying in Adelaide for cancer treatment. This year, Cancer Council SA was able to invest \$2.1 million in vital support services.



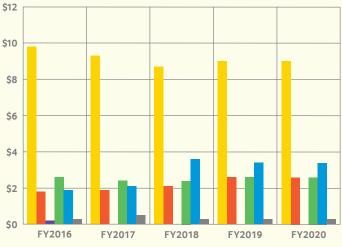
#### Expense breakdown updates:

- 14 per cent research
- 57 per cent cancer control
- 18 per cent community funding
- 12 per cent communication and support services



#### Dollars spent (percentage of every dollar spent)

#### Dollars raised (\$ in millions)



Fundraising and bequests
Investments
Retail
Administered program funding/grants
Other

# Leading us towards a cancer free future.

Research is key to helping us find new ways to better detect, treat and live beyond cancer. We know that by investing in the state's leading researchers today, we are working towards a cancer free future tomorrow.

Thanks to investment in research, amazing advancements have been made in cancer prevention, screening and treatment, with more people surviving cancer than ever before.

But until the survival rate is 100 per cent, there's still more work to be done.

Today, around **69** per cent of Australians are likely to survive five years after their cancer diagnosis an increase of almost **20** per cent since the **1990**s.

Through the support of the South Australian community we are able to fund the state's best and brightest research minds, while also collaborating with leading research institutions to develop programs and lead in-house research to inform our evidence-based programs and services.

#### Behavioural Research Team

Cancer Council SA's Behavioural Research Team conducts monitoring, applied research and evaluation to inform the development of our evidence based programs and services. Collaboration forms a big part of their work, with the team working with leading researchers from across the state. In 2020, our Behavioural Research Team is working with researchers from Flinders University on a new Citizen Research Project, which is looking at alcohol advertising on social media targeted at Australian women. The project aims to influence change in a largely unregulated space and is just one example of how our in-house researchers are working collaboratively on projects that will have a real impact.

### Funding the state's best and brightest cancer researchers

At Cancer Council SA, we believe that no one should lose a loved one to cancer. Since 2011, Cancer Council SA has partnered with SA Health, SAHMRI and South Australian Universities to lead Cancer Council's Beat Cancer Project, the largest source of cancer research funding in the state outside of the Federal Government.

The partnership is an Australian first in research collaboration and is supported by generous community donations and the Australian Government through the Medical Research Future Fund.

This collaboration ensures that for every Cancer Council Beat Cancer Project dollar, four dollars of research activities are undertaken. Our supporters made it possible for us to fund over 60 research grants during the past year, 13 of which were new in 2020, including six new research fellowships. The grants include projects, clinical trials, travel grants, fellowships, infrastructure grants and scholarships across a broad spectrum of cancer-related topics, all with one goal in mind—to provide continuity of funding to lead us towards the next cancer breakthrough.



#### Cancer Council's Beat Cancer Project has funded nearly **250** grants.

#### Showcasing cancer research

In the past year, Cancer Council SA supporters were given an opportunity to hear from some of the state's best and brightest cancer researchers through our Research Showcase Event Series.

MC'd by Cancer Council SA Ambassador and 'Mr South Australia' Keith Conlon, the Showcase Events enabled supporters to hear firsthand from Cancer Council SA funded researchers about their work, their research progress and why community support is so important.

"The showcase was a great chance to see where Cancer Council SA's fundraising is going and hear from some really bright researchers who are looking at ways to improve our ability to not only control cancer and cure it, but also how to prevent it."

—Mike Krause, showcase attendee

Cancer Council is the largest independent funder of cancer research in the country.

# You've help fund six Beat Cancer Project Fellowships.



**Professor Michael Sorich** Cancer Treatment Big Data: Predicting and understanding patient-specific treatment benefits, harms and prognosis

Through support from Cancer Council's Beat Cancer Project, our research will develop online tools that will help patients work through difficult decisions about how, and when, to use an anti-cancer medicine for treatment of their cancer. Utilising innovative methods to comprehensively analyse a large amount of clinical and medical data, this analysis will allow high-quality predictions to be made regarding a patient's specific likelihood of benefits and harms from using an anticancer medicine. This research will help overcome barriers, communicate key information and empower patients by providing doctors with a toolkit to present different treatment options and key outcomes to the patient in a manner that is personalised to their specific circumstances and characteristics.

By having this personalised information, patients can feel more confident and empowered to make the most appropriate decision for them regarding their specific treatment and be better prepared by having more accurate expectations for their treatment outcomes.

Additionally, the research will provide insight into the patient and disease characteristics influencing treatment success. These insights provide opportunities to better understand why some medicines work well and others don't and how this may be overcome.

Administering Institution: Flinders University



Associate Professor Luke Selth Understanding and overcoming therapy resistance in lethal prostate cancer

More than 350,000 men die from prostate cancer each year worldwide.

In Australia, it caused the death of 3,452 Australian men in 2017 and is second only to lung cancer in terms of lost healthy years of life. The lethal phase of this disease is referred to as castration-resistant prostate cancer (CRPC), which occurs after failure of hormonal therapies ('androgen deprivation therapies').

CRPC is currently treated with new and more potent androgen deprivation therapies and also chemotherapy, but the survival benefits associated with these treatments is often just a few months and all can cause severe side-effects in patients.

Better treatments for CRPC are urgently required, a reality strongly endorsed by our team's consumer advocates, all of whom are prostate cancer survivors.

Through support of Cancer Council's Beat Cancer Project, my vision over the next three to five years is to use the latest technological advancements in cancer research to better understand how lethal prostate cancers become resistant to therapy. This information will be harnessed to discover new therapeutic strategies, with a longer term goal of developing new drugs that will save lives and be better tolerated than the current treatment strategies.

Administering Institution: Flinders University



Dr Ilaria Stefania Pagani Identifying and exploiting metabolic dependencies for improved therapeutic outcomes in chronic myeloid leukaemia patients

Chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML) was a universally fatal disease until the development of tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI) therapy. TKIs transformed the outlook for CML patients with the 10-year survival now over 80 per cent. However, patients need life-long therapy to maintain disease control and avoid fatal disease progression. This approach leads to serious chronic sideeffects, impaired quality of life, and high rates of kidney, lung and heart toxicities.

A primary goal is therefore to identify patients who could stop therapy and achieve treatment-free remission, which is effectively a cure.

Currently, only 15-20 per cent of CML patients achieve treatment-free remission in Australia. The persistence of the disease in most patients is driven by the survival of cancer stem cells which are not completely eradicated by the TKI therapy. With over 6,000 CML patients dependent on life-long therapy in Australia and CML set to become the most prevalent leukaemia globally, understanding the mechanisms of persistence is of primary importance.

Through support from Cancer Council's Beat Cancer Project, I will use cutting-edge technologies to understand how leukaemic stem cells survive TKI therapy. My vision is to develop new personalised targeted therapies targeting the survival signals and the metabolic vulnerabilities of the resistant leukaemic stem cells with the aim to achieve disease eradication. This innovative approach will enable rapid translation into clinical practice, with an immediate impact on the lives of CML patients and their families.

Administering Institutions: SAHMRI and The University of Adelaide



#### Dr Madelé van Dyk

Evaluating the capacity and benefit of precision medicine strategies to account for inter-patient variability with anti-cancer drugs used for advanced cancers

Since the discovery of kinase inhibitors (KIs), a class of targeted therapy against terminal cancers, overall survival has greatly improved.

However, KIs undergo complex metabolism which is known for its substantial variability. Due to the wide inter-individual variability, KI concentrations have varied up to >10 fold. Despite knowing this, variability between patients are inadequately addressed and a 'one-size fits all' prescribing is used. This clinical issue is widely recognised but still we do not account for this variability, with some patients experiencing therapeutic failure or toxicity because the dose is not enough or too much.

Therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) can address this, measuring drug concentrations and changing the dose until the patient's concentration is in the 'target concentration'. Based on my previous work I have shown that, with the implementation of TDM, we can prolong progression free survival significantly and improve patient quality of life. I have also shown that patient characteristics can be used to account for this inter-individual variability.

Through your support, I will evaluate the capacity and benefit of TDM to optimise KI dosing and determine which patient characteristics can help to predict a better dose, personalising treatment to each individual and maximising treatment and minimising side effects.

Administering Institution: Flinders University



#### **Dr Krzysztof Mrozik** Novel drug delivery approaches to improve the quality of life and survival of patients with multiple myeloma

Multiple myeloma (MM) is an inoperable blood cancer that grows within bones. Drug therapy is integral to the treatment of patients with MM; however it frequently results in debilitating side effects, negatively impacting quality of life. For instance, while the standard-of-care MM drug bortezomib (VELCADE®) is effective at treating the cancer, many patients are plagued by peripheral neuropathy, a painful and highly debilitating nerve condition affecting the hands and feet. This condition frequently necessitates dose reduction or even treatment cessation, which adversely affects patient survival.

One approach to minimise the risk of drug side effects is to improve drug delivery to sites of tumour.

In this project, I will investigate novel approaches to selectively increase the delivery of commonly used MM drugs to sites of MM tumour, and the utility of these approaches to effectively treat the cancer and reduce drug side effects will be assessed. Firstly, I will utilise agents that transiently disrupt tumour vasculature, enabling the selective enhancement of drug delivery to sites of MM tumour and thereby an increase in effectiveness of low doses of drugs. Secondly, I will utilise state-of-the-art nanoparticles to selectively deliver drugs to sites of MM tumour, thereby minimising the exposure of normal tissues to drugs.

Ultimately, this project has the potential to reduce the incidence and severity of drug side effects, leading to significantly improved quality of life and survivorship in many patients with MM.

Administering Institutions: SAHMRI and The University of Adelaide



#### **Dr Stephanie Reuter Lange** Optimising Cancer Therapy through Development of Evidence-Based Dose Individualisation Strategies

While there have been substantial improvements in the treatment of cancer, it remains that three out of 10 patients will not survive longer than five years, a result of either cancer progression or death from severe treatment-related side effects.

Cancer medicines must be administered at a dose that is enough to treat the cancer, but not too much to cause toxic side effects. While this is well known, most cancer treatments are given as a 'one-size-fits-all' amount. Given the large variability in response seen with many cancer medicines, this means that for the same dose some patients are likely to be under-treated and others a likely to be over-treated.

The concept of dose individualisation is tailoring the amount of drug administered to each individual patient to maximise tumour response and minimise side effects. Through support from Cancer Council's Beat Cancer Project we will use computer-based modelling methods to identify dose individualisation strategies for best treatment practice.

This will be conducted for a range of diverse projects that will illustrate the value in this approach to cancer treatment and provide a framework for determining the best use of new and existing cancer medicines.

Administering Institution: UniSA

This is just six of the 60 research grants funded this year through the support of the South Australian community.

# We're here for every South Australian.

Supporting people affected by cancer is at the heart of everything we do. Across all stages of their experience from hearing those three words, to coping with treatment, to life beyond cancer our support services ensure no one ever has to go through their experience alone.

Because of you, this year South Australians impacted by cancer were able to access trusted, evidence-based cancer information, free counselling, subsidised accommodation when they had to travel for treatment, childcare, and financial and legal aid to help plan for the costs of cancer.

Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, support from the South Australian community enabled us to continue to offer services and supports to all South Australians impacted by cancer when they needed us most.

Today and every day, 28 South Australians hear the words "you have cancer".

## Providing essential information and support

**Cancer Council 13 11 20**, together with our Cancer Information Centre Volunteers, provided essential information and support to those South Australians who needed it most.

> 5,212 South Australians were provided with information and support through Cancer Council 13 11 20.

Through support of the South Australian community, Cancer Council SA was able to extend its support services further in 2019 through the launch of the Outreach Nurse Program.

Based at Flinders Medical Centre and Flinders Private Hospital, the Outreach Nurse provided face to face support to those accessing Flinders for treatment, connecting them with essential support services in their community.

#### In the past year, our Outreach Nurse helped 166 people.

We continued to run Cancer Information Centres at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and Lyell McEwin Hospital, with a new centre opening at the Flinders Centre for Innovation in Cancer in February 2020, enabling those going through treatment to have access to evidence based information and support.

### A home away from home during cancer treatment

The support of the South Australian community enabled the Flinders and Greenhill Lodges to continue to provide a welcoming home away from home for regional South Australians travelling to Adelaide for treatment.

The lodges are more than just a place to stay—guests are invited to find their second family in the welcoming lodge community, with social workers providing lodge guests with comfort, support and a friendly face.

Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, when many South Australian businesses were forced to close, community support enabled our lodges to remain open to ensure that regional South Australians were provided with essential accommodation when travelling to Adelaide for cancer treatment. While our lodges operated a little differently during the pandemic, our focus on support remained. The on-site restaurants switched to take-away meals, staff took on additional roles to support the Transport to Treatment service, reception services were accessed via phone and social work staff continued to support guests via phone or video chat.

Our new Lodgechat program, implemented during COVID-19, enabled guests to have regular phone conversations with staff, helping them to feel connected and supported during peak times of social isolation.

### Easing the financial burden of a cancer diagnosis

Cancer treatment can place significant strain on finances, with medical bills, travel costs and time off work just some of the common financial challenges.

Cancer Council SA's Pro Bono Program continued to provide essential legal and financial planning support to those facing the many financial challenges a diagnosis can bring.

For those struggling to pay a particular bill our Financial Assistance Program provided one-off Financial Assistance Grants of up to \$250. With the generous support of the community, we were able to offer 321 grants to those who need it most.

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This year we provided **546** hours of home help/ cleaning, **180** hours of gardening, and **10** hours of childcare. Cancer Council SA Impact Report 2019-2020

**Melanie Schmidtke** General Manager, Services, Research and Education

> In the past year, **104,065** publications were distributed to South Australians impacted by cancer.

9



This year, we provided more than **30,000** nights of accommodation to those travelling to Adelaide for cancer treatment and support.

Cancer Council SA



**735** sessions of counselling provided to individuals to support them through their cancer experience.

# Answers to your cancer questions.

• Are these symptoms normal? • What are my treatment options? • How do I support my children?

#### Sam's story

Mother of two Sam Smithson faced all those questions and more when she was diagnosed with stage 4, terminal cervical cancer in 2018. Initially, treatment saw her cancer disappear, only to see it return again in August last year, with Sam starting a new immunotherapy treatment trial in November 2019.

Faced with all the uncertainties a cancer diagnosis can bring, she reached out to **13 11 20** for information and support.

#### This is her story...

I visited my doctor after feeling run down, tired and weak, having accepted that what I was feeling was 'unhealthy'—I knew something was not right, but I never in my wildest imaginations thought it would be cancer. After undergoing a routine Pap smear I was sent for testing on other areas of my reproductive system including blood tests. It was during a specialist appointment that I was told everything was NOT fine. They had found a tumour.

The first day of June in 2018 was the day I will never forget. A day that changed my life forever and brought complete fear into my life. A day of darkness, disbelief and sadness. My head spun as the doctors said, *"You have cancer,"* followed by, *"It is terminal and you have about a year to live"*.

My first thought was "I'm not going to see my boys grow up—my boys are going to grow up without their Mummy". It was that thought the thought of my boys living a life without me in it—which changed my thinking.

It was during this time that I first turned to **Cancer Council 13 11 20**. I didn't know how to tell my boys. Because of the nurses at the other end of the line, I was able to tell my kids that yes, I had cancer, but I was going to do everything I could to stay here and be with them.

I started radiotherapy immediately—10 rounds in total. This treatment was followed with chemotherapy. After six months of treatment my follow up scan had 'significantly' good results the tumour had shrunk beyond expectations and the cancer that had spread could no longer be detected. However that wasn't the end of my story. On 19 May 2019, I received the news, with tears, that my cancer had decided to grow again. Like a weed. After, my oncologist asked if I wanted to hear about my future and I said, 'no thank you'. I don't ever want to hear the words 'you have a year to live' ever again. Instead, I can't wait to let my oncologist know on 1 June 2021 that I am still here and give her a big hug.

After meeting with my new oncologist, I have learnt that my new journey is to resume chemotherapy. My determination for my children is to live, but my determination is also to help them live if I don't... this is the scariest time of my life, but the time I need to live to my fullest and that is what I am going to do for my beautiful boys.

Throughout my entire experience, the **Cancer Council 13 11 20 Nurses** have been my lifeline. Their support, together with family and friends will help me overcome yet another challenge, another obstacle, another hurdle in my path.

I know that I can always rely on these supports to answer my calls for help and be there for me when I need it most.

Right now, I am so grateful to know that I don't have to go through this alone. I have my boys, my family, friends and, of course the incredible **13 11 20** nurses who continue to support people like me through cancer every day.

#### Norma's story

In January, 77 year old Norma Faulkner, from Angus Valley, was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

For the next three weeks she underwent chemotherapy and radiotherapy treatment, while staying at Flinders Lodge.

#### This is her story...

I'd been having a bit of pain in my arm for a while, which my doctor originally thought was a pulled muscle. However, it kept getting worse and during a trip to Portland to visit my husband, I noticed a lump under my right arm the size of a mandarin. When I got back, I went to Woodside Country Practice to see what was wrong, the doctor there referred me to Royal Adelaide Hospital to have samples taken immediately.

Shortly after that I was told the news—I had aggressive non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and needed treatment pretty quickly. I was lucky, as the lump was still relatively small, however three rounds of chemotherapy were still recommended.

When you've never really had dealings with cancer, or close friends who have been through it, you don't really know where to turn.

I'm a tough old chook and was keen to take care of things myself, however knew that I would have to travel to Adelaide for treatment. My ex-husband recommended Flinders Lodge to me, and I'm so glad he did.

I underwent three rounds of chemotherapy treatment, 21 days apart, with my husband Kevin driving me to and from Adelaide for my treatment at the RAH.

Kevin had to go back to work, so I underwent the last three weeks of radiology without him there. I hate driving around Adelaide so to have a place to stay, that took me to and from appointments, was a godsend.

Even though there had been some changes at Flinders Lodge due to the



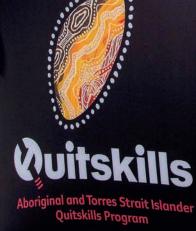
Coronavirus, such as the kitchen and recreation room closing and personal contact being limited, never once did I feel like I was shut in.

When I wasn't at appointments, I crocheted in my room and watched tele. When I didn't feel like cooking, I got meals delivered to my room. I always felt very supported. The staff at the lodges are just wonderful. From the friendly bloke at reception and the volunteers who do the driving, to the social workers Jo and Michelle—each one made me feel so supported.

Jo was my main contact, she's such a bubbly lady and explained things in a way that was really helpful to me. She also organised support from organisations to help us pay a couple of our bills, which was just fantastic. Being away from home and having treatment is a scary thing and the support I got from every single person at Flinders Lodge made a huge difference.

At the end of my last round of treatment I received some wonderful news—the chemotherapy had worked, and my cancer could no longer be detected. I returned home after 25 days at Flinders Lodge. I'm incredibly grateful to be home, but also incredibly grateful to Cancer Council SA for their support. I can't fault it. In my eyes, it's the best thing since sliced bread.







# Empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to cut their cancer risk.

Cancer Council SA is committed to making meaningful impact in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities through a strengths-based approach; empowering, educating and supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to make positive changes to their health and ultimately, reduce their cancer risk.

#### Tackling smoking

#### **Quitline Enhancement**

Funded by the Tackling Indigenous Smoking Initiative, the Quitline Enhancement Program supports the creation of a culturally appropriate and safe space for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People to engage with Quitline, in addition to increasing awareness about Aboriginal Quitline through a presence at Aboriginal community events.



This year, Quitline Enhancement Staff continued to connect and engage with Tackling Tobacco Workers through online meetings, discussions and promotion. Discussions focused on new ways of referring and working together along with education and promotion of Aboriginal Quitline. Quitline Enhancement staff also supported Quitskills to deliver COVID-19 and World No Tobacco Day promotion and activities.

Prior to COVID-19 the staff attended a range of events including Gynburra Butterfish Festival, the Southern Deadly Fun Run, the Northern Territory Regional Challenge and the State Aboriginal Football Carnival in South Australia.



In **2020**, despite the interruption of COVID-19, **18** Aboriginal community liaison events were conducted across South Australia and Northern Territory to promote awareness of and facilitate referrals to the Aboriginal Quitline service.

#### Quitskills

An evidence-based, nationally recognised program, Quitskills equips Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers with the confidence to effectively and appropriately support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in their quitting journey.

In the wake of COVID-19, the Quitskills team transitioned their traditional face-to-face smoking cessation training to online platforms, which enabled the continued provision of smoking cessation education to Tackling Tobacco Workers and Aboriginal Health Professionals nationwide. The new platform combined recorded webinars and live video conferencing sessions with Educators, with interest in this delivery method far exceeding expectations.

This year, the Quitskills team delivered **29** trainings to **204** participants nationally prior to the onset of COVID-19.

#### Promoting Cancer Screening

This year, Cancer Council continued to deliver yarning circles through the Aboriginal Cancer Screening Program, funded by Adelaide PHN.

The Yarning Circles are run by trained Aboriginal Community Ambassadors and touch on topics including cancer screening and cancer risk factors, as well as correcting common cancer myths and answering questions.

"The Yarning Circles are really great, we are able to sit and talk about our experiences. A few of us have had battles with cancer or a family member or friend going through it and the Yarning Circles really help us to share those experiences."

> — Ned Koolmatrie, Cancer Council Ambassador

#### Developing a cultural strategy

Cancer Council SA is committed to empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff to be leaders within their communities and the organisation, while also educating all staff through cultural awareness training sessions.

This year saw the development of the Aboriginal Network Group, a key action from Cancer Council SA's Reconciliation Action Plan. The group has the dual purpose of meeting the cultural support needs of Aboriginal staff while also providing expert cultural advice and leadership to the organisation.

To date the group has developed terms of reference, which includes underpinning values and principles, with their focus over the next year to lead the development of cultural protocols for the organisation.



This year, Cancer Council engaged with **62** participants through yarning circles.

The Ambassadors for this program attended **11** community events where they delivered messaging on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cancer screening.



#### Carolynanha's story

Carolynanha Johnson is an Adnyamathanha Elder and Quitskills Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Educator.

This is her story...

My parents both smoked and all my brothers and sisters took up smoking. For some reason I chose not to. I guess I made a decision back then that it was something that wasn't natural and was harmful. Somehow, I must have got that information from somewhere, and I chose not to do it.

With all the information out there now, I can be 100 per cent sure that both my parents had smokingrelated illnesses.

My dad had emphysema, diabetes, high blood pressure. My mum had high blood pressure and diabetes. So I was adamant that I wasn't going to do it in front of my children or my grandchildren.

My family's experience made me passionate about working in Aboriginal Health and led me to work at Cancer Council SA as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Educator, connecting with members of my community and sharing the importance of taking care of your health. I was passionate about what I did, but never in my wildest dreams did I think cancer would impact my own life like it has.

I returned home from a trip to New Zealand and couldn't shake a feeling of tiredness. Then one night I kept waking up with reflux, vomiting and a fever. My throat was terribly sore and I could hardly breathe. I called the ambulance which took me to the Royal Adelaide Hospital where I had a chest x-ray and CT scan. I was told that I had a really bad case of



pneumonia, but that there was also cancer there. Not long after, it was confirmed that I had ovarian cancer.

My people don't use the word cancer, they use another word Ngarlakan Minga, or 'the big sore'. You have to say it really quietly, you're not allowed to say it out loud because it might give it life.

I think culturally, Aboriginal people don't want to talk about cancer. That's the biggest thing I've found, first through my work and then through my own experience. I honestly believe that if people talked about it more, we'd be able to share information and break down some of the stigma.

If people are willing to talk about cancer, then they're more likely to see a doctor when they experience symptoms. Cancer can be incredibly lonely, which is why it's so important to share your experiences and reach out for help.

I underwent chemotherapy and am now on the other side of my treatment. Now I want to share my experience to help others in my community.

Whether it's reaching out to Quitline for support to give up smoking, going to a doctor if you experience symptoms, or just sharing your experience through yarning circles, talking is an incredibly powerful thing. The more we talk, and the more information we share, the more we can help each other.

# Prevention is the best medicine.

Finding cancer early and taking steps to prevent it occurring are two of the most effective ways to reduce the impact of cancer in our community.

At least one in three cancers diagnosed in Australia can be prevented through a healthy lifestyle. Evidence shows that regular participation in national bowel, breast and cervical cancer screening programs reduces the rate of cancer mortality through early detection.



**1** in **3** cancers are preventable.

Your generous support allows Cancer Council SA to develop and deliver a range of education programs, advocacy projects and mass media campaigns that empower more South Australians to cut their cancer risk and ultimately, save lives. Thank you.



#### Protecting future generations

Melanoma is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in people aged 12–24.

When you combine that knowledge with the fact that UV damage is cumulative and irreversible, it's easy to see why protecting children and educating them on the importance of sun protection at an early age is so important.



Up to **95** per cent of melanoma, and **99** per cent of nonmelanoma skin cancers are preventable by adequate sun protection.

Cancer Council's SunSmart Schools and Early Childhood Program is the only program in the country that embeds sun protection policy, practice and resources in the education setting, protecting children when it matters the most.

Established in 1999, the Program now supports nearly 800 schools and early childhood centres to implement best practice sun protection, supporting them to teach and educate the next generation on how to protect themselves from overexposure to UV radiation.

This year a total of 114,790 children and their educators were protected through the SunSmart Schools and Early Childhood Program in South Australia.

The success of the program is only possible through generous donations

from the South Australian community. On behalf of everyone at Cancer Council SA and every SunSmart School in South Australia, thank you.

"From what our SunSmart policy looked like 10 years ago, to what it looks like now, you can see the work that has gone into it, even down to our uniform options. Support from Cancer Council SA's SunSmart Program has played a huge role in that transformation."

> —Damien Judd, Principal Samaritan College

We've seen 148 schools, early childhood centres and OSHC services successfully gain or maintain their SunSmart status by reviewing their sun protection policies and practice against Cancer Council SA's guidelines, showing their continued commitment to skin cancer prevention.

#### No hat, play in the shade

Research shows that registered SunSmart Schools are more likely to have comprehensive policies and practices that better protect students from skin cancer, including the enforcement of wearing SunSmart hats during at risk times of the year.

This year, Cancer Council SA launched the 'SunSmart Hat Wearing Toolkit' range of resources, which provides a step



by step guide for schools to achieve 100 per cent of students and staff wearing Cancer Council approved hats.

Supported by free workshops in regional schools and communities, the toolkit was another example of how, through your support, the SunSmart Program is leading the charge in protecting future generations from skin cancer.

#### Collaborating to protect South Australians

This year, Cancer Council SA was proud to collaborate with SA Health and the South Australian PHNs to reach even more South Australians with life-saving prevention messaging.

Through our partnership with SA Health, Cancer Council were able to deliver additional and localised promotion of the Cancer Council National Bowel Cancer Screening Campaign, funded by the Federal Government, to even more South Australians, encouraging them to take part in bowel cancer screening and cut their bowel cancer risk.

Support from Country SA PHN enabled Cancer Council to build on the successful Skin Cancer Regional Awareness Roadshows from last year, with the team visiting Strathalbyn, Victor Harbour, Keith, Naracoorte, Mount Gambier, Kingston SE and Yankalilla from December to March. While additional visits to the Far North, Mid North and Riverland were cancelled due to COVID-19, support from County SA PHN enabled us to develop videos and webinars which will be delivered virtually to regional locations in the new year.

With South Australians living in rural areas at a higher risk of developing skin cancer compared to those living in metropolitan Adelaide, the sessions were vital in delivering skin cancer prevention and early detection messages to those at highest risk.



**69** people attended awareness sessions during the Skin Cancer Awareness Regional Roadshow (cut short due to COVID-19).

### Educating workplaces and community organisations

Educating the community is a key part in reducing cancer risk.

Through your support, we were able to empower even more South Australians on how to cut their cancer risk, to find cancer early and to look out for signs and symptoms.



This year, Cancer Council's Community Education team attended 36 community events to raise awareness of cancer prevention strategies, delivered 115 education presentations, equivalent to over 100 hours of education and training, reaching around 5,000 members of the community directly.

#### Adapting to change

The COVID-19 restrictions from March 2020 meant many of the Community Education Team's face-to face interactions could not go ahead as planned. The team adapted and continued raising awareness, delivering important and life-saving presentations via video conference and continuing to implement campaigns online.

#### Supporting South Australians to quit smoking

Quitline 13 7848 is a free, confidential information and support service for anyone interested in quitting smoking.

Run by trained Quitline counsellors, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander counsellors, Quitline supports thousands of South Australians every year to quit smoking. Cancer Council SA's individual smoking support cessation programs are complemented by our broader advocacy work which provides trusted, expert information to government, urging policy advancement and legislative change that is helping to minimise the impact of cancer in South Australia.



There were over **4,500** South Australian contacts to Quitline for free and confidential information, counselling and support to quit smoking.

A new CALD Project Officer commenced during the year, a role dedicated to connecting Cancer Council SA with CALD communities.

### Smoking cessation training and support

Funded by the Department of Corrective Services, Cancer Council SA delivered Quitskills education sessions to prisoner mentors and staff in preparation of all SA prisons going smoke-free by the end of 2019. Activities and events included attendance at Prison health expos, referral support to Quitline and use of the Smokerlyser, a Carbon Monoxide Breath Test, to engage with smokers.



run in South Australian prisons with **63** participants.

#### It all starts with diet

Cancer Council SA Dietitian Nat von Bertouch is passionate about educating the community on how a healthy lifestyle can help cut your cancer risk.

We know that one in three cancers are preventable through healthy lifestyle changes—add in regular screening and that statistic becomes one in two. As a dietitian, I know just how important lifestyle choices are in improving your overall health, and diet is a huge part of that.

We know that a diet high in fibre can not only help to boost your happiness levels but will also help you maintain a healthy weight, boost immunity and reduce your risk of cancer. We know that high red meat and processed meat consumption is linked to an increased risk of cancer, specifically bowel cancer. And we know that carrying excess body weight increases the risk of 13 different types of cancer.

Diet isn't the be all and end all, and a healthy diet doesn't prevent you from getting cancer. But it's a good start. We can all make small, lifestyle changes that will make a huge difference.

#### Through your support, I am able to share this

message to reach even more South Australians, educating them with vital prevention messaging and empowering them to make healthy lifestyle choices."

> ---Nat von Bertouch, Dietitian and Community Education Project Officer at Cancer Council SA



Thank you to those South Australians who supported Cancer Council SA via gifts in Wills this year, leaving a powerful legacy that will support South Australians for years to come. Fundraising

# Supporting us to support you.

2020 was, and continued to be, a challenging year for all South Australians with the bushfires and COVID-19 pandemic impacting many of us in different and significant ways.

Even though we faced challenges, South Australians stood together to support those impacted by cancer with more than \$7.3 million raised through fundraising and donations.

I would like to say a huge thank you to every South Australian who supported Cancer Council SA during 2020. You allowed us to be there for those impacted by cancer, ensuring they could be supported when they needed us most.

On behalf of everyone at Cancer Council SA, and the 28 South Australians diagnosed with cancer every day, thank you. Your support has been invaluable—we couldn't do what we do without you.

> —Russell Schrale, General Manager, Marketing, Fundraising and Relationships

### Best friends host virtual morning tea

2020 has been the year for virtual catchups, with hundreds of Australia's Biggest Morning Tea hosts having a cuppa for a cause online to support Cancer Council SA.

Best friends Melanie and Kym have been hosting morning teas for the past six years and were determined to not let COVID-19 get in their way. Both have had family members impacted by cancer and seen it devastate the lives of those they love.

The passionate duo normally host an event at a local hotel, with morning tea, raffle prizes and a dress up theme. In 2020, they brought morning tea to their guests in their own home instead, making deliveries from Riverton to Noarlunga and as wide as Murray Bridge to make sure that no one missed out. "With so much going on, and so much uncertainty, it's easy to feel overwhelmed and disconnected. For us, hosting a virtual event was a chance for us get people together, connect, share stories and forget about our troubles for a little while. The fact that we raised money for a really special cause was the icing on the cake!"

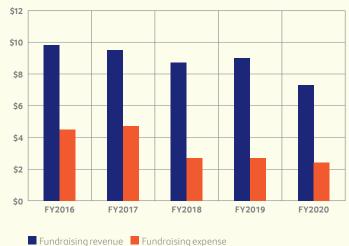
-Melanie



# For every dollar invested in fundraising, how much is raised?



#### 2016-2020 fundraising performance Revenue versus Expense (\$ in millions)



# Collaborating to make a difference.

In 2019, Cancer Council SA joined forces with Stratco to launch Stratco National Patio Day. A campaign held on the first Saturday of summer, Stratco National Patio Day raises funds for Cancer Council while also educating Australians on the importance of sun protection whenever the UV is 3 and above.

In its first year, Stratco National Patio Day raised over \$250,000 for Cancer Council and saw the installation of numerous Stratco Patios in homes across the country, providing valuable sun protection to Australian families. Stratco Group Chief Executive Officer Ben Miels shares why Stratco National Patio Day was such a success.

We originally came up with Stratco National Patio Day as a day of celebration, where Australians can gather under their Stratco Patio to mark the first Saturday of summer by celebrating with family and friends. We were also keen to partner with a charity as we wanted to establish a day that was not only important in the Stratco calendar, but also a chance for Stratco as an organisation to give something back to the communities that support us.

Given that we manufacture and install beautiful Patios that provide shade to Australians we thought that a charity with skin cancer prevention at its core was the logical charity to collaborate with. Cancer Council seemed like the obvious choice. Not only do they support all Australians across every stage of their cancer journey, they also lead the way in sun protection behaviours and education.

As a South Australian company, we reached out to Cancer Council SA and from the get-go, they were incredibly receptive and fantastic to deal with. Every single person we've dealt with since that initial discussion has been incredibly passionate about the cause, which has galvanised our decision to work with Cancer Council and has also been a big factor in the campaign's success.

Not only have Cancer Council SA been integral in supporting the campaign, they have also helped us to educate our people and our Authorised Outback Dealers on the importance of sun protection on the job. We have a responsibility to ensure that all of the people that work with and for us understand the importance of



sun protection, so the education element was really important for us and the acknowledgement of sun protection behaviours is something that has continued long after the campaign finished.

We were delighted with the campaign's success in its first year—it definitely exceeded our expectations. To see our whole business come together to support a worthwhile charity like Cancer Council is truly inspiring. It was particularly impressive the way our people and the network of Authorised Stratco Outback Dealers got on-board and raised money through their own initiatives. They were all only too happy to participate in such a worthwhile cause.

To know that all money raised through Stratco National Patio Day will fund critical research, prevention and support programs for all Australians impacted by cancer makes us proud as an organisation and we're looking forward to continuing this successful partnership for years to come.



#### '220 for Tammy'

17 year old Kylan Beech came up with the idea to ride 220 kilometres from Adelaide to Barmera with his brothers, Jono, Nick and Jordan. His motivation was his mum Tammy, who was diagnosed with lung cancer and passed away a few years ago. Known as '220 for Tammy', the ride raised funds for Cancer Council's Beat Cancer Project.

During their two day ride, the four Beech brothers—originally from Barmera faced bushfire smoke, dust and cramps, but made it through with the help of their mum's favourite quote *"It may be stormy now, but it never lasts forever,"* which was never far from their minds.

In a true show of community spirit, the town of Barmera rallied their support around the boys and their cause.

The Beech brothers were amazed to see their initial \$10,000 fundraising goal triple to more than \$30,000—a figure that will go a long way in funding cancer research and saving future lives.

#### St Peter's Girls rock the chop

In 2019, St Peter's Girls School became our Ponytail Project pioneers, with more than 70 students rocking the chop for a cancer free future. The students turned their school into a pop-up beauty salon, with hairdressing salons coming onto site and donating their time to help the students chop for change.

Through donations in the lead up to and on the day, the passionate students raised more than \$28,000 for Cancer Council SA and also donated their ponytails to make wigs for those going through cancer treatment. "This year, I'm 'rocking the chop' for my mum. I didn't know how to support her through her chemotherapy treatment and the Ponytail Project gives me a platform to do so. Rocking the chop is my way of saying 'I'm doing this for you'."

> —Hattie, St Peter's Girls Year 11 student

### Pam's incredible 20-year commitment

This year we celebrated 20 years of Relay For Life, with Cancer Council SA volunteer Pam there every step of the way. Pam lost her brother and sister to melanoma, with her and her younger sister both having melanomas removed.

Passionate about raising funds to support others, Pam has taken part in every Adelaide Central Relay For Life and, together with family and friends, has raised an incredible \$250,000 to support South Australians impacted by cancer.

Pam, together with 65 teams, raised \$144,000 at the 20th Anniversary of Relay For Life, taking the Adelaide Central Relay For Life total to more than \$1 million raised for South Australians impacted by cancer.

"Every year I go, I see familiar faces which is so lovely. It just has such a wonderful atmosphere having so many people, all in one place, keen to make a difference. It's pretty special." —Pam

#### Record-breaking Marilyn Jetty Swim

In February 2020, the incredible women behind the Marilyn Jetty Swim celebrated their seven-year itch in style, breaking a world record for the largest gathering of women (and men!) dressed as the starlet in one location and celebrating \$500,000 raised for Cancer Council SA since the swim started in 2013.

254 Marilyns gathered on Brighton Jetty Road for the official count before heading into the water for the annual swim, held as a part of the Channel 7 Brighton Jetty Classic.

Congratulations to every single Marilyn who helped break a world record. Together with your help, we are one swim closer to a cancer free future.

"At the heart of every Marilyn is one common drive—to make a difference in the lives of people living with cancer. United by a shared cancer experience, the Marilyns are a sisterhood of support who are determined to do something positive and raise funds that will change the future of cancer."

—Sarah Tinney, Founder Marilyn Jetty Swim



Beech Boys 220 for Tammy



Hattie—Ponytail Project



Pam—Relay for Life



Marilyn Jetty Swim

# Your year!



#### August 2019—Daffodil Day

This year, more than 150 location across Adelaide sold 15,000 bunches of fresh daffodils, with all the money raised going towards funding South Australian cancer research.



#### October 2019—Girls' Night In

Throughout October, incredible women around South Australia hosted almost 110 home and workplace events to raise awareness of women's cancers and donated the funds they would have spent on a night out to women's cancer research, prevention and support programs. Well done to everyone who helped to raise just over \$85,000!



#### December 2019—Stratco National Patio Day

Across the country hosts gathered to celebrate the first Saturday of summer and mark the inaugural Stratco National Patio Day. Thanks to our hosts, together with support from Stratco's dedicated dealer network, more than \$250,000 was raised for Cancer Council.



#### January 2020— Ride for a reason

206 cyclists made their Tour Down Under ride count by raising funds for Cancer Council SA. 121 cyclists rode ahead of the pros in the Westpac Challenge Tour, 47 riders participated in the January Distance Challenge and 37 did the January Distance Challenge and Westpac Challenge Tour combined. Thank you to every rider and every supporter who helped raise an outstanding \$221,800 for cancer research, prevention and support programs. Thank you also to the South Australian Tourism Commission for their continued support.



### February 2020—Marilyns break a world record

254 Marilyns took to Brighton Beach for the seventh annual Marilyn Jetty Swim, raising just over \$100,000 for Cancer Council SA and breaking a world record for the largest gathering of people dressed as starlet Marilyn Monroe in one location.

#### March 2020— The March Charge

Throughout the month of March, 937 South Australians took part in The March Charge, a 31-day personal fitness challenge fundraiser. By raising over \$113,500 for Cancer Council, and by committing to reach their own individual exercise goals, every single March Charger helped tell cancer where to go.



#### May 2020—Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea looked a little different this year with COVID-19 restrictions in place. Instead of bringing the community together through morning teas and celebrations, our hosts found new and innovative ways to hold or support a morning tea. 1,384 individual, community and workplace hosts raised their cuppa for a cause during an incredibly challenging time, raising \$255,000 for cancer research, prevention and support services.

#### All year—Direct Mail Appeals

This year, 3,375 kind-hearted donors showed their support to Cancer Council SA's direct mail appeals, raising \$385,785. This included more than \$100,000 raised through our Emergency Appeal, sent following the devastating bushfires and COVID-19 economic downturn, which affected many of our fundraising events. Thank you to all the South Australians who donated and enabled our services to continue during this time.



#### All year-Relay events rocked

This year 2,218 dedicated Relayers took part in 11 events across the state, walking thousands of kilometres to celebrate, remember and fight back against cancer and raising a combined \$554,177. The biggest event of the 2020 season was Adelaide Central Relay For Life on the 29 February which marked 20 years of relay. 798 people of all ages came together to show support for each other's experience of cancer and raised an outstanding \$144,000.



#### All year—Community Fundraising Stars

Throughout the year, 309 South Australians found creative and fun ways to fundraise, raising an amazing \$406,317 for South Australians impacted by cancer—thank you!

# Corporate partners.

We couldn't do the work that we do without the dedicated support of our Corporate Partners. Thank you to the following South Australian businesses who have supported us in the past year.

#### Foodland Supermarkets

A long-term and committed Cancer Council SA partner, Foodland again helped out our South Australian community by selling fresh daffodils and merchandise across all of their South Australian stores on Daffodil Day. Thank you Foodland.

#### South Australian Power Networks Employee Foundation

SA Power Networks Employee Foundation celebrated a significant milestone, reaching \$1 million donated to Cancer Council SA across many years of support. A huge thank you to everyone at SA Power Networks for their generous support over the years, which has made a huge difference to the lives of every South Australian impacted by cancer.

#### GenesisCare

Long-standing Cancer Council SA corporate partner GenesisCare, again fundraised on our behalf through Australia's Biggest Morning Tea, Daffodil Day and *Ride for a reason*—going above and beyond their sponsorship of the Transport to Treatment bus. Thank you GenesisCare.

#### Guardian Insurance Group

Our wonderful friends at Guardian Insurance generously donated \$50 from every broker fee received to support cancer research and services. They also continued to sponsor our supporter newsletter, The Daffodil, sent out to help keep you up to date on your stories of support. Thanks for your continued support Guardian Insurance.

#### Tony's Flower Market

For the last 16 years Tony's Flower Market have supported Daffodil Day and it simply would not be the same without them. A huge thanks to everyone at Tony's Flower Market for their continued support.



# Your support today makes a difference tomorrow.

We couldn't do the work that we do without the support of our generous volunteers. This year, 980 South Australians from all walks of life donated their time, energy and passion to support Cancer Council SA work towards a cancer free future.

Cancer Council's volunteers are a community united in their passion to support South Australians impacted by cancer. Volunteers work across many teams and pathways across the organisation, proving that there are so many ways to lend a hand and give back.

Our volunteers are some of the best advocates for Cancer Council SA's work in the community, helping to connect as many people as possible to our programs and services.

Thank you to every volunteer who supported Cancer Council SA this year—you are helping us make a real difference to the lives of every South Australian impacted by cancer.



This year, Cancer Council SA's volunteers contributed **18,800** hours of service to Cancer Council SA.



#### **Event volunteers**

This year, 830 event volunteers helped at community events, keeping event goers safe from UV radiation, collecting donations and connecting people to the work of Cancer Council SA.



#### **Ongoing volunteers**

We enjoyed having 106 of our loyal ongoing volunteers on board with us this year, either in our Eastwood office or warehouse, at one of our lodges, working in our Cancer Connect Program, at our Cancer Information Centres (Lyell McEwin, Royal Adelaide Hospitals and Flinders Centre for Cancer Innovation) or volunteering to sew soft clothe breast prostheses.



#### Corporate volunteers

Through our corporate volunteering pathway, businesses and employees are able to give back to the community—either through donating time, skills or resources.



#### Ambassadors

This year, 77 Cancer Council SA Ambassadors attended 50 events as the community faces of Cancer Council SA, helping more supporters understand the impact their donations make and linking them to the broader work of Cancer Council SA.

# Our volunteers.



Peter Dunn is a Cancer Information Centre volunteer at the Lyell McEwin Hospital, providing hospital visitors with a cuppa and a listening ear.

I've been volunteering for a fair while—around five years now. I do two mornings a week, but it often rolls into three. I offer tea and coffee to those visiting the information centre and we get chatting. We talk about anything that might be troubling them and I help where I can by directing them to Cancer Council booklets, information and **Cancer Council 13 11 20 Nurses**.

Being able to be present at the Cancer Information Centres to let people know what Cancer Council can do to help them—whether it's a little Wallaroo getaway or over the phone counselling—I'm sure it's a huge help to all the people who go to any of the hospitals for treatment. A lot of people don't know what is available to them. Just informing them of what we have available and letting them know that there is always someone there and that they don't have to go through cancer alone can help. The Cancer Information Centre is a place to have a chat, a laugh, a coffee and let me try and make their day a bit easier and a bit brighter.

I love being a familiar face for them during a very unfamiliar situation, I think it's nice to have that. I love the people there, I love doing what I do. I love the satisfaction that comes with people getting well and the staff around who appreciate volunteers like me for what we do. Because what we do makes a lot of difference to some people.



Helen Cant has been a volunteer at Cancer Council SA's lodges for over 10 years, providing support and a listening ear to those who need it most.

I volunteer every Thursday, starting the day at Greenhill Lodge and helping out with the morning tea, before doing some admin work and finally collecting guests from Greenhill and Flinders Lodges to go on a shopping trip.

Often, the shopping trips are about more than just running errands. For some of the guests who don't have a car or anyone staying with them, it's the only chance to get out and about. We might just sit and have a coffee and enjoy the sunshine.

I particularly love being involved with Lodge guests because of my rural roots. My mother's family was from the mid-north, and one of my best friends—who died of cancer—lived in Jamestown. I have so many happy memories and relationships from that part of South Australia, but I also know how hard it can be to access services and/or support. It can be quite isolating, so I try to be that connection wherever I can.

The best part about being a Lodge volunteer to me is knowing that you're making a real difference to how someone feels at such a difficult time in their life. That's such a precious gift you can give.

# Changing the way we work

Organisation Overv

This year challenged all of us, with COVID-19 changing how Cancer Council SA staff worked together to deliver their mission of a cancer free future.

Staff worked from home, meetings were held online, fundraising events went virtual and staff found new and innovative ways to stay connected when they weren't in the office.

Staff Recruitment as well as inductions also moved online to further ensure that Cancer Council SA was meeting COVID-19 requirements. With staff returning to work from the office from June onwards, the insights gained from the sudden shift to work from home helped to inform a new, ongoing strategy to support staff and address the future strategic plans of the organisation.

#### Staff health and wellbeing

Throughout the year, wellbeing of staff was top of mind, with mental health seminars, flu vaccinations, healthy food options available and support for staff to prioritise health by supporting men's and women's health weeks. During the pandemic, regular check ins and catch ups held via video-conference were a priority.

A desktop review of work health and safety policies and procedures was undertaken and representatives attended updated training. Just over \$41,000 was invested into ongoing training to upskill staff and ensure that the organisation was working effectively and efficiently to support every South Australian impacted by cancer.

Cancer Council SA's volunteers remained a key focus with Volunteer Responsible Officers keeping in regular contact and a new online training module for ambassadors and volunteers launched This new training module ensured that volunteers were supported with updated training and opportunities to further improve their engagement with the organisation.

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act Report 2019-2020



This year, **91** staff helped to bring a cancer free future closer.

A CALLER D

# Our board.



#### The Hon. Karlene Ann Maywald 14 February 2020 BOARD CHAIR

Karlene Maywald is a Non-Executive Director and Chair with over 20 years of experience. A respected small businessperson, Karlene entered parliament in 1997 and was the representative for the seat of Chaffey in the South Australian House of Assembly from October 1997 until March 2010. During her tenure, she held the position as South Australia's Minister for Water and Security from 2004 to 2010.

Karlene has served on numerous national ministerial councils including the Murray Darling Basin Ministerial Council, the Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council, the Primary Industries Ministerial Council and the Regional Development Ministerial Council.

Karlene also holds numerous executive positions, including the Chair of the International Centre for Excellence Water Resources Management, Chair of ModMed and a Director of the Goyder Institute.



**Mr Greg Boulton** AM BA (Accountancy) FCA, FCPA, FAICD 13 February 2015 **DEPUTY CHAIRMAN** 

Greg Boulton is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, CPA Australia and the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Greg was Managing Director of IPEC Transport for seven years. After 20 years' experience in senior management roles, he consulted on change management implementation, strategic planning, best practice programs and transport. He is on the Board of a number of private and public companies and has broad experience in capital raising, acquisitions and commercial negotiations and management. Greg is also on the Boards of Statewide Superannuation Fund, Kangaroo Island Plantation Timbers Limited and Southern Gold Ltd.

He was also President of the Port Adelaide Football Club from 1992 to 2008.



**Fran Baum** AO, BA (Hons) History 16 October 2019 **DIRECTOR** 

Fran Baum is Matthew Flinders Distinguished Professor of Public Health and Foundation Director of the Southgate Institute for Health, Society and Equity at Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia. She was named in the Queen's Birthday 2016 Honours List as an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for 'distinguished service to higher education as an academic and public health researcher, as an advocate for improved access to community health care, and to professional organisations'. She is a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia, the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences and of the Australian Health Promotion Association. She is a past National President and Life Member of the Public Health Association of Australia. She is Chair of the Global Steering Council of the People's Health Movementa global network of health activist (phmovement.org). She also served as a Commissioner on the World Health Organisation's Commission on the Social Determinants of Health from 2005-08.

Fran is one of Australia's leading researchers on the social and economic determinants of health. She holds grants from the National Health & Medical Research Council and the Australia Research Council which are considering health inequities and public policy, social determinants of health and Health in All Policies. For the past decade she has worked closely with SA Health on their HiAP initiatives. These grants include an NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence on Policies for Health Equity of which she is one of the two co-Directors. Her book, The New Public Health (4th ed. published January 2016 Oxford University Press), is widely cited and used in many public health courses. Her new book Governing for Health (Oxford University Press, New York, January 2019) examines how a society can be organised to best promote health and equity.



#### Mr Jim Birch AM, BHA, FACHSM, AAICA 30 November 2012 DIRECTOR

Jim Birch is currently an independent consultant and Non-Executive Director of a number of Boards. He was formerly Ernst & Young's Global Health Leader and Government and Public Sector Leader, Oceania. Jim has been Chief Executive of the Human Services and Health Department (South Australia), Deputy Chief Executive of Justice, and Chief Executive of major health service delivery organisations, including teaching hospitals. Jim is currently Deputy Chair of the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority, Chair of the Australian Red Cross Blood Service, Chair of the Australian Digital Health Agency, a member of the Board of the Australian Red Cross Society, Chair of Clevertar Pty Ltd, a member of the Board of the Little Company of Mary Health Care and Chair of the Women and Children's Local Health Network (SA) Taskforce.



**The Hon Catherine Branson** AC QC BA LLB (Adel) Hon LLD (Flin) Hon D Litt (Macq) 25 March 2015 **DIRECTOR** 

Catherine Branson is a former Judge of the Federal Court of Australia, past President of the Australian Human Rights Commission and the current Chair of the University of Adelaide. Earlier in her career she held the positions of Crown Solicitor of South Australia and CEO of the Attorney-General's Department (SA) before leaving public employment to practise as a Barrister. Catherine is presently Deputy Chancellor of The University of Adelaide, an Adjunct Professor of the Adelaide Law School and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law. She Chairs the Board of the Human Rights Law Centre. Throughout her career she has served in a voluntary capacity on the governance or advisory bodies of a significant number of organisations and charities involved with the arts, health, education or human rights.



Mr Con Michalakis BSc (Ma) MSc 24 March 2011 DIRECTOR

Con Michalakis is responsible for managing Statewide Super's \$8 billion in funds under management. Prior to joining Statewide, Con was Director of Marketing and Client Services for Manhattan-based boutique investment firm Pzena Investment Management, where he was responsible for marketing the firm's products and services in Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong and Singapore.

He was previously the Director, Head of Institutional Business, for Merrill Lynch Investment Managers based in Sydney.

Con has also worked in London with Alliance Capital Management and was the first Australian practice leader of investment consulting for Watson Wyatt.

Con has a Bachelor of Mathematical Science from the University of Adelaide, a Masters of Science from the University of London and a Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Strategy from Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford.



#### **Ms Jennifer Richter** AM, GAICD, FACHSM, FACN, MBA GradDipHAdmin, BA (Comms) 16 October 2019 **DIRECTOR**

Jenny Richter is currently an independent consultant and a Non-Executive Director on a number of Boards. Jenny's previous executive roles include Deputy Chief Executive for SA Health, a position she held for five years and more recently as CEO of Central Adelaide Local Health Network. Jenny's experience in the health sector commenced as a Registered Nurse. Throughout her careers she has gained significant leadership experience as an administrator and executive in the public and private hospital sectors, within community nursing, in the private financing sector through public private partnership projects and within the SA public health system.

Before joining SA Health, Jenny was an Executive Director with the Plenary Group advising on health service planning and infrastructure projects. Jenny currently holds directorships with the South Australian Health & Medical Research Institute and the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network where she also chairs the Clinical Governance Board Sub-Committee.



Professor David Watson MBBS, MD, FRACS, FAHMS 14 October 2015 DIRECTOR

Since 2002, Professor David Watson has been Head of the Flinders University Department of Surgery and is an Oesophageal and Gastric Surgeon at Flinders Medical Centre. Before joining Flinders University, he worked as a Consultant Surgeon at the Royal Adelaide Hospital for nine years. He also leads research groups at Flinders University to improve early detection and prevention of gastrointestinal cancer, has published more than 400 research papers and textbook chapters, and has held continuous funding from the National Health and Medical Research Council for more than 20 years. He led the development of clinical guidelines for the management and prevention of oesophageal cancer for Cancer Council Australia.

David is a Senior Editor of the ANZ Journal of Surgery, and Associate Editor of the World Journal of Surgery, and a member of the Editorial Boards for many other leading international journals including the British Journal of Surgery and the Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery.

In 2006, David led the establishment of the Australia and New Zealand Gastric and Oesophageal Surgery Association, and he served as the foundation President until 2010. He currently serves as the Vice-President for the International Society for Diseases of the Esophagus, and serves on the National Council for the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences.

# Executive team.



#### Lincoln Size CHIEF EXECUTIVE 8 May 2015

Having had relatives touched by cancer, Lincoln is passionate about reducing risk factors associated with the disease and making sure that South Australians affected by cancer do not walk through a cancer journey alone.

Although he once swore never to wear Lycra, life has changed considerably for Lincoln since joining Cancer Council SA as Chief Executive in May 2015. Not one to sit on the sidelines, he's become an enthusiastic cyclist joining the Beat Cancer Tour team and even dared to run in front of 100,000 people at the People's Choice Undies Run for Bowel Cancer two years in a row. Determined to keep pushing himself, Lincoln geared up for Ride for a reason in 2016 and even rode with the Premier's Peloton in January 2017 to raise money for the cause he passionately believes in.

Lincoln is driven by the desire to make a difference by ensuring that Cancer Council SA can reduce the impact of cancer on lives of all South Australians. His strong business background makes him an accomplished leader. Lincoln is committed to applying his expertise to ensure that every dollar that is donated to Cancer Council SA will be investing in the maximum impact for each South Australian affected by cancer.

He is an experienced CEO and MBA qualified professional with over 20 years of senior and executive management experience across diverse industry sectors. Lincoln's leadership experience was founded in industries including financial services, manufacturing and distribution, not-forprofit, health, welfare and the Arts.

Combined with a passion for ensuring that everything we do brings us closer to a cancer free future, Lincoln is inspired by both the mission and the people he is leading in reducing the impact of cancer for all South Australians.



#### Melanie Schmidtke GENERAL MANAGER, SERVICES, RESEARCH AND EDUCATION 18 February 2020

Melanie has dedicated her career to helping others, driven by a desire to make a positive impact in a person's life and the broader community. Commencing with a Bachelor's degree in Speech Pathology, Melanie's professional career as a clinician spanned working with children to the adult acute and rehabilitation sectors. Her first encounters with cancer patients came when working in a swallowing disorders clinic for people impacted by mouth and oesophageal cancers.

Undertaking a Master's degree in Health Service Management, Melanie moved to leadership and management roles within the community aged care sector, leading large teams of allied health staff in the delivery of in-home therapy services.

Melanie's first interaction with Cancer Council was in 2015 when her husband signed up for the Beat Cancer Tour in memory of his father, who passed away from cancer when he was just 10 years of age. Whilst he did the gruelling hours of preparation on the bike, Melanie managed the fundraising, door-knocking her local streets, organising raffles and holding a number of events. Three tours later, and with their own children nearing the ages when Matt and his sister lost their dad, Melanie felt the need to have a stronger connection to helping others through a cancer experience.

As General Manager, Services, Research and Education since January 2020, Melanie is results oriented and outcomes focussed, passionate about ensuring effective and efficient delivery of Cancer Council's operations and programs to support all South Australians impacted by cancer. A strong people investor, she dedicates her time to creating a team which is connected and committed to the organisation's strategy and vision of a cancer free future.



#### Russell Schrale GENERAL MANAGER MARKETING, FUNDRAISING AND RELATIONSHIPS 27 March 2017

The devastating impact of cancer on families was hit home for Russell with the tragic passing of a talented and well-respected colleague in a previous role. This experience has made him passionate about connecting South Australians with the work of Cancer Council SA on a daily basis to ensure that no one goes through a cancer journey alone.

Russell is inspired by the personal stories of supporters and knowing the difference that our organisation makes on individual lives. Working next door to Cancer Council Lodge is a daily reminder of the multitude of challenges facing those with cancer and the significant role we play in supporting them.

Having spent the last six years working in not-for-profits, Russell has a sound understanding of the challenges and opportunities that face the sector. His expertise spans fundraising, marketing, business development, and retail operations, with the experience based on his formal qualifications of a Bachelor of Commerce, MBA, and Certified Practising Marketer accreditation. Prior to his work with not-forprofits, Russell gained extensive experience in the Manufacturing and Renewable Energy sectors, giving him a diverse skill set to help lead Cancer Council SA.

With the support of a high-quality team of specialists under his leadership, Russell is committed to developing and inspiring the team towards the achievement of a cancer free future.



#### Tony Seibert GENERAL MANAGER, CORPORATE SERVICES 10 September 2012

As a melanoma survivor himself, Tony knows first-hand the difference that early detection can make. Tragically, a close friend who was diagnosed at the same time was not as lucky. This has inspired Tony to ensure that Cancer Council SA is a strong and dynamic organisation that leads the way in minimising how cancer impacts the lives of all of our loved ones.

Initially taking up a bike as part of rehab for knee surgery, Tony has well and truly established himself within the cycling community, averaging 100 km a week and joining Ride for a reason over the past four years. He has raised an incredible amount and has been inspired by both the professional and amateur riders he has met, all united by their passion for cycling and the goal of beating cancer for all South Australians.

Tony is an experienced business manager who has held executive management positions since 1995 in a range of industries including retail, banking, higher education and media. In addition, Tony has provided specialist advice and services for two accounting firms. He is a Fellow of the Australian Society of Certified Practicing Accountants and the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Tony is driven by using his expertise to continuously improve the way in which Cancer Council SA operates. He is passionate about meeting the challenges of an ever-changing environment and maximising the impact of every dollar that is donated towards a cancer free future in South Australia.



#### Kerryann White MANAGER, HUMAN RESOURCES 30 September 2013

Kerryann has felt the devastating effect of cancer with the loss of her much loved grandmother, her parents-in-law, and friends and family members. She works with a committed team of people and is driven to help reduce the impact of cancer on other South Australian families.

Having spent many years working in human resources in mining, manufacturing and retail, Kerryann joined Cancer Council SA in September 2013 before becoming a member of the executive team in January 2015.

With a professional Diploma in Human Resources Management and as a member of the Australian Human Resources Institute, Kerryann's experience in this field is extensive. Her background includes workforce planning, recruitment, performance management and employee relations, which, combined with a practical approach make her an effective leader. Kerryann leads by building strong relationships across the organisation. She partners with both managers and employees to ensure we uphold our core values and remain committed to our strategy of a cancer free future. She strongly believes in the values of transparency, honesty and equity, is passionate about our greatest asset (our team), and ensuring our workforce is respected, valued and challenged.

# **Committee reports.**

#### Audit and Risk Committee

The role of the Audit and Risk Committee is to assist the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities in relation to the identification and mitigation of areas of significant business risk, including:

- effective management of financial risks;
- reliable management reporting;
- compliance with statutory laws and regulations across all facets of the business;
- maintenance of an effective and efficient audit, including the appointment of auditors;
- protection of the company's financial and physical assets; and
- monitoring the inherent business risks in the operating environment and recommending governance related policies to the Board of Directors.

The Committee reviews the business risk environment and ensures Cancer Council SA has policies to effectively manage material risks. The governance related policies of the Board are:

- Conflict of Interest
- Corporate Governance Statement
- Delegations of Authority
- Intellectual Property for Funded Research
- Investment\*
- Performance Planning and Review\*\*
- Public Health Policy Approval Process
- Remuneration\*\*
- Risk Management
- Work Health and Safety
- Whistle-Blower Policy.

The Committee's business is arranged to review the policies in a systematic manner to ensure they remain relevant and effective.

As part of its ongoing work, the Committee considered Cancer Council SA's risk management policy and considered the indemnity levels maintained for insurable risks. Cancer Council SA has reviewed its information technology and communications environment and the risk management and mitigation practices to ensure our system protections are robust and our recovery plans are effective.

Each year the Committee reviews the annual financial statements and the report of the external auditor. The Committee met with the auditor to discuss emerging financial reporting requirements, the financial reports and statements and the conduct of the audit.

#### **Mr Greg Boulton**

Chairman

#### Cancer Research Committee

The role of the Cancer Research Committee is to assist the Board to fulfil its responsibility to monitor and assess Cancer Council SA's investments in cancer research.

To perform this role, the Committee reviews Cancer Council SA investment across the following key areas:

- Beat Cancer Project 2: Assess the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute's (SAHMRI's) performance and management of the \$17 million Beat Cancer Project 2 against a set of key deliverables;
- 2016-2021 South Australian Cancer Research Strategy: Monitor investments in cancer research against the strategy;

- Peter Nelson Leukaemia Research Fellowship: Monitor the performance of the Fellowship recipient, Dr Laura Eadie;
- Lin Huddleston Ovarian Cancer Research Fellowship: Monitor the performance of the Fellowship recipient, Dr Carmela Ricciardelli; and
- Provide advice to the Board on matters regarding cancer research.

#### Cancer Council SA's Beat Cancer Project—Summary of Annual Review

In November 2019, the Committee received a report from SAHMRI and considered the following areas:

- Commitment to the funding agreement for Beat Cancer Project 2;
- Mentoring and capacity-building of early career researchers to promote long-term research capacity in South Australia;
- Identifying and committing to areas of focus and strength for cancer research in South Australia including workforce, infrastructure and projects;
- Strategic investment in population health and health services research; and
- Continuing to invest in infrastructure to address gaps in capacity.

\*Review conducted by the Investment Committee

\*\*Review conducted by the Nomination and

**Remuneration Committee** 

#### Cancer Council SA's Beat Cancer Project and the South Australian Cancer Research Strategy

The second iteration of the Beat Cancer Project is now underway. The 2016-2021 South Australian Cancer Research Strategy was delivered by an appointed steering committee led by an independent Chair, Professor Jim Bishop AO. This comprehensive strategy is supported by the South Australian cancer research community and will inform the development and implementation of the Beat Cancer Project 2.

#### Reports: 2018-2019

The Committee noted the work of the Peter Nelson Leukaemia Research Fellowship fund recipient, Dr Laura Eadie.

The Committee noted the work of the Lin Huddleston Ovarian Cancer Research Fellowship, Dr Carmela Ricciardelli. Dr Ricciardelli received \$100,000 in funding from Cancer Council SA in the year under review with an additional \$50,000 from the University of Adelaide towards ovarian cancer research of international importance.

Jim Birch AM

Chairman

#### Investment Committee

As an advisory committee to the Board, the Investment Committee is responsible for:

- recommending investment policy and monitoring its administration;
- reviewing financial risk in respect to investment management;
- reviewing and monitoring investment mandates, including allowable investments;
- reviewing the appointment of fund managers and their performance; and
- receiving and considering large and/or non-standard investment-related transactions.

Cancer Council SA's investment portfolio comprises of direct portfolio investments and investment portfolios managed by professional external fund managers. During the year the committee met with and monitored the performance of both the external fund managers and the direct portfolio advisers.

Cancer Council SA's investment portfolio generated investment income of \$1.8 million for the financial year. The capital value of our equity and managed investments decreased by \$2.3 million in the year, reflecting both the performance of the investment markets and of the individual managers.

Cancer Council SA continued an orderly migration from growth assets to defensive assets in line with the Board's decision to assess the feasibility of constructing a new multi-level, mixed purpose building to house our entire operations. Total investment in equities and managed investment decreased \$5.3 million from \$22.1 million to \$16.8 million in the financial year, term deposit investments increased \$1.6 million to \$17.5 million during the same period. Cancer Council SA maintains an investment portfolio to provide liquidity and financial security against the financial risks of declining community fundraising and the longterm liabilities arising from research funding commitment. The Investment Policy incorporates prudent financial management elements to ensure a diversified portfolio profile. Income from the investment portfolio more than covers Cancer Council SA's corporate governance costs, with the excess being directed to cancer research, prevention and support activities.

#### **Mr Con Michalakis** Chairman

### Nomination and Remuneration Committee

As an advisory committee to the Board, the Nomination and Remuneration Committee is responsible for:

#### **Staff remuneration**

- recommending the Remuneration Policy for endorsement by the Board;
- reviewing the performance of and setting the Chief Executive's remuneration;
- monitoring remuneration of General
- Managers and staff within Board approved budgets; and
- audit compliance of remuneration practice within the approved Policy.

#### **Board nominations**

- advise the Board on policy issues relating to Board composition;
- set core competencies for Directors;
- develop a pool of future Director candidates;
- manage the Director selection process and recommend a shortlist of Directors to the Board for consideration; and
- manage the Director and Board performance evaluation process.

#### Remuneration

Cancer Council SA bases its employee remuneration on the 25th percentile of the market-based salary data taking into account the ability to salary package and Fringe Benefits Tax exemption.

The Committee reviewed the performance of the Chief Executive against agreed key performance indicators, determined that all the requirements were met, and after taking into account the softening market for Executive remuneration, maintained the Chief Executive's approved salary.

The Committee received a report from the Chief Executive on the General Managers' performance against an agreed set of key performance indicators and a similar maintenance of approved salary without increase.

#### **Board nominations**

The Committee considered the composition of the Board in light of:

- the changing strategic operating environment of the company over the next three to five years, as defined in the strategic plan;
- the future skill base requirement of the Board;
- current Board skill base; and
- expected Director rotation and appointment policy.

The Committee noted that two Directors are set to retire by rotation at the October 2020 Annual General Meeting and all indicated their intention to step-down from the Board and not seek re-election. The Committee reviewed a number of potential candidates and recommended a short-list to the Board for consideration.

#### **The Hon. Karlene Ann Maywald** Chair



# **GUARDIAN** The 2019-2020 Impact Report has been made possible with the support and generosity of Guardian Insurance Group.

# We're here for all South Australians.

#### People with cancer

We provide practical and emotional support, financial and legal assistance, information services and more.

#### **Regional groups**

We provide resources and support to help build regional and rural community engagement.

#### **Future generations**

We work to create a future where cancer is no longer feared but seen as a preventable and manageable disease.

#### **Cancer researchers**

We raise the funds that make research breakthroughs possible.

#### **Health professionals**

We have information and support services where health professionals can refer those affected by cancer.

#### **Carers and families**

We have a wide range of information and support programs, including the **13 11 20** phone and webchat service.

#### Government

We help advance policy and legislation by being a source of expert information and the voice of the community.

For confidential information and support about cancer, Monday to Friday 9.00 am – 5.00 pm:

- call Cancer Council **13 11 20**°
- chat online at cancersa.org.au
- email askanurse@cancersa.org.au

Interpreting service available **131 450**<sup>°</sup>.

\*Cost of a local call



Every minute Every hour Every day