

THE GOOD NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Steve Francia

40
YEARS

Dear friends,

What a wonderful year it has been as we have recognised and celebrated 40 years of community generosity helping to improve the lives of others.

I have been so touched to hear the stories you have generously shared with us of how The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation and the work we have supported has had an impact on your life. So much has changed over the past 40 years, but people have continued to remain at the heart of it all.

I'm pleased to share with you that in the financial year just ended, the Foundation invested \$5.4 million in research, medical equipment and patient-care initiatives across The Prince Charles Hospital and Caboolture Hospital.

Quite simply, this wouldn't be possible without **you**.

As at end of June, we were supporting 259 active research grants, giving researchers the opportunity to pursue discoveries that could improve treatments and save lives.

It is also making a difference to the everyday experience of patients and families. This year, we supported new Child Life Therapists to help children manage fear, pain, uncertainty, and misconception during medical procedures, and progressed plans for new spaces for patients living with dementia at Caboolture Hospital and older patients receiving mental health care at The Prince Charles Hospital.

Our wonderful hospital volunteers also gave more than **38,500 hours of their time**, providing a friendly face and helping hand to patients, families and staff across both hospitals.

For many of our supporters, The Prince Charles or Caboolture Hospital holds a special place in their heart because they, or someone they love, have received care there. If that includes you, I hope you feel proud knowing that your ongoing generosity is helping make that same care even better for those who come after you, and I hope we can rely on your wonderful support in the years ahead.

Thank you for being part of our community – and part of our first 40 years.



Your
Impact
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From New
Investigator
to \$50M grant
recipient
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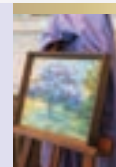
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Give Big
for Big
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Jacaranda
Circle
Launched
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YOUR IMPACT



Impact on research

Thank you to everyone who generously supported our end-of-financial-year appeal.

Together, you raised over \$170,000 to support research aimed at improving outcomes for critically ill patients who rely on Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) – an extraordinary technology that keeps people alive when their heart or lungs are unable to do so.

We were deeply moved by the many stories you shared with us about loved ones whose own health journeys have involved ECMO. They were a powerful reminder of just how much this research matters to patients and families.

While ECMO can be lifesaving, it also carries serious risks – including bleeding, blood clots and kidney failure.

Dr Jessica Benitez-Mendieta and her research team believe they can make ECMO safer and more effective by making it work more like a human heart.

Thank you to Rhys Hoole and his family, who shared their story as part of this appeal. Rhys, Community Ambassador for The Common Good, is The Prince Charles Hospital's 500th Heart Transplant recipient and survived thanks to ECMO technology.



Impact on patient care

We are also extremely grateful to our supporters like you who donated and helped fund comfort packs for older adults who find themselves in hospital without time to pack their personal belongings.

These packs include items that make a huge difference to patients who are unexpectedly admitted, such as toothpaste, a toothbrush, shorts, a t-shirt, and a puzzle book.

Muriel was grateful to receive a comfort pack, made possible by YOU!

The Woolcock Memorial Lecture

Prof Shaun Gregory

From little things, big things grow



THE PRINCE CHARLES
HOSPITAL FOUNDATION



From New Investigator to \$50million MRFF GRANT RECIPIENT

No one in Shaun Gregory's family had finished high school or attended university, but when his grandfather passed away when he was a teenager, the profound loss set him on a path that would see him break that trend and devote his life to helping others.

Although his initial goal was to find a cure for the type of cancer his grandfather had died from, he ended up studying biomedical engineering.

Now, twenty years after he first walked into The Prince Charles Hospital's Clinical Sciences building, he is Director of the Centre for Biomedical Technologies at Queensland University of Technology and has been a named investigator on 108 research grants, with investment totalling more than \$65 million dollars. His research has, on several occasions, changed clinical practice and assisted in obtaining Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) approval for medical devices.

Of those 108 grants, in which Shaun was a named investigator, a number were awarded by The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation. His first was a New Investigator Grant in 2010.

More recently, Shaun was named the co-director of the Artificial Heart Frontiers Program, which is funded by a \$50 million grant from the Medical Research Future Fund. Through this program, Shaun's main focus is on the design and translation of a mini heart pump for patients suffering from heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF), who currently have very limited treatment options and are often referred to palliative care.

The MiniPump is designed specifically for people with HFpEF to be implanted in a minimally invasive way that doesn't require open-heart surgery.

The hope is to have a prototype pump for human trials by 2030/2032 and then a full commercially available device a few years after that.

"We want to see these patients running around with their grandkids. At the moment, they can't. Giving them 10 years of better life running around with their grandkids – that possibility is what excites me," said Shaun.

"I am 100 per cent confident that I would not be anywhere near where I am today without the support of The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation", Shaun said.

Foundation Grant Recipients acknowledged at RESEARCH AWARDS

The Foundation's annual research awards at The Prince Charles Hospital and Research Showcase at Caboolture Hospital honoured dozens of exceptional researchers and clinicians who have received grant funding from The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation in the 25/26 financial year.

From researchers embarking on their first projects to experienced investigators working towards groundbreaking discoveries, the awards recognise the passion, innovation and commitment driving research across our network.

The special ceremony at The Prince Charles Hospital acknowledged 46 recently awarded grants totalling \$2.42 million, including 13 New Investigator grants, four Emerging Research grants, eight Innovation grants, four Research Fellowships and one PhD Scholarship.

At the Caboolture Hospital event, five research grants were awarded, totalling more than \$248,000 in support of innovative projects that address the health needs of this growing community.

"Together, these investments represent far more than research funding. They create opportunities to ask important questions, generate new evidence, and translate discoveries into better care for the community," said Dr Rebekah Engel, Research and Impact Manager at The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation.

"Just as importantly, they are helping to build research capability, ensuring our clinicians have the support to pursue research alongside the exceptional care they provide every day."





A MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON

His Majesty King Charles III



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Mr. Steve Francia,
Chief Executive Officer,
Mr. Christopher Morton,
Chairman,
The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation

Please convey my warmest thanks to the Board and Staff of The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation for their kind letter, sent on the occasion of their Gala Celebration to mark the fortieth Anniversary of The Foundation which is being hosted today.

As your Patron, I much appreciate your message and was truly heartened to be reminded of your long-standing commitment to providing care for hundreds of thousands of patients each year. I was deeply touched to hear that you are devoted to continuing your aims of making a difference to those in need. In return, I send my warmest good wishes to all those who are present for a most memorable event.

CHARLES R

16th May, 2026



A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM



GOVERNOR OF QUEENSLAND

Message from the Governor of Queensland

As Governor, and on behalf of Queenslanders, I congratulate The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation as it marks four decades of dedication to improving the health outcomes of people across our State.

During these 40 years, the Foundation — supporting The Prince Charles Hospital and Caboolture Hospital — has invested over \$78 million into life-saving research initiatives in the areas of heart and lung disease, mental health, and healthy ageing. Thanks to its investments in research, vital medical equipment and compassionate patient care, both hospitals have grown in scale and capability. The Prince Charles Hospital is now one of Australia's leading cardiac centres and has a global reputation for delivering excellence, expertise and innovation in healthcare, while together the two hospitals provide care to hundreds of thousands of patients each year.

Such outstanding success reflects the commitment and compassion of all those associated with this remarkable organisation, and the extraordinary generosity of ordinary Queenslanders — public-spirited donors and benefactors, and the dedicated hospital volunteers who last year alone contributed more than 40,000 hours to supporting patients, families and frontline staff.

As the Foundation looks to the future with a bold vision, in which no-one should die waiting for a heart or lung transplant, such generosity and dedication will only become more crucial.

As the representative of the Foundation's Patron, His Majesty King Charles III, in our State, I commend the Board, executive and staff for their service to health and to Queensland, and I applaud the extraordinary impact made by the organisation's champions and supporters. Well done and thank you all.

Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM
Governor of Queensland

GIVE BIG FOR BIG JON

Meet Jon Twartz, Community Ambassador for The Common Good. Jon has been living with chronic illness for over 14 years, and, during that time, he has experienced sepsis more than 20 times, been hospitalised over 400 times, and managed multi-organ failure, diabetes, and an autoimmune condition called Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP).

He receives plasma infusions every two weeks at The Prince Charles Hospital (DUI) for his CIDP. In 2024, Jon had a left below-knee amputation due to chronic infection from sepsis. As a Community Ambassador for The Common Good, he shares his story to raise awareness of chronic infection and sepsis while giving back to the hospital that cares for him.

"This place is my second home because the amazing team here has given me a second chance," he said.

Keep an eye out for Big Jon – he'll be encouraging you to give BIG this Giving Day, 28 October!



A lasting legacy for future generations

Leaving a gift in your Will is one of the most meaningful ways to support the future of healthcare in Queensland.

It allows you to extend the impact of your values beyond your lifetime – supporting life-changing and life-saving research, equipment, and patient-care programs.

For many people, it's a way to give back to the hospital that cared for them or someone they love, and help others who may need care in the future.

Leaving a gift in your Will is simpler than many people expect. If this is something you are considering, you can visit our website to learn more or contact Lucy Moore on 0417 343 618 for a confidential discussion.

Already left a gift in your Will to The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation?

We are so grateful to have supporters like you. Please let us know if you have made this decision, as we would like to personally thank you and welcome you into the Jacaranda Circle.

The Jacaranda Circle launched at Government House

The Jacaranda Circle recognises those who have chosen to leave a gift in their Will to The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation.

It represents a community of people who believe in the importance of research, exceptional patient care and the role philanthropy can play in shaping the future of healthcare.

The Jacaranda tree, which blooms across the grounds of The Prince Charles Hospital each year, symbolises renewal, resilience and the continuation of life – a reflection of the legacy created through gifts in Wills.

If you're considering leaving a gift, or would simply like to learn more, Lucy Moore would be delighted to have a confidential, no-obligation chat with you.

Please call Lucy Moore on 0417 343 618

