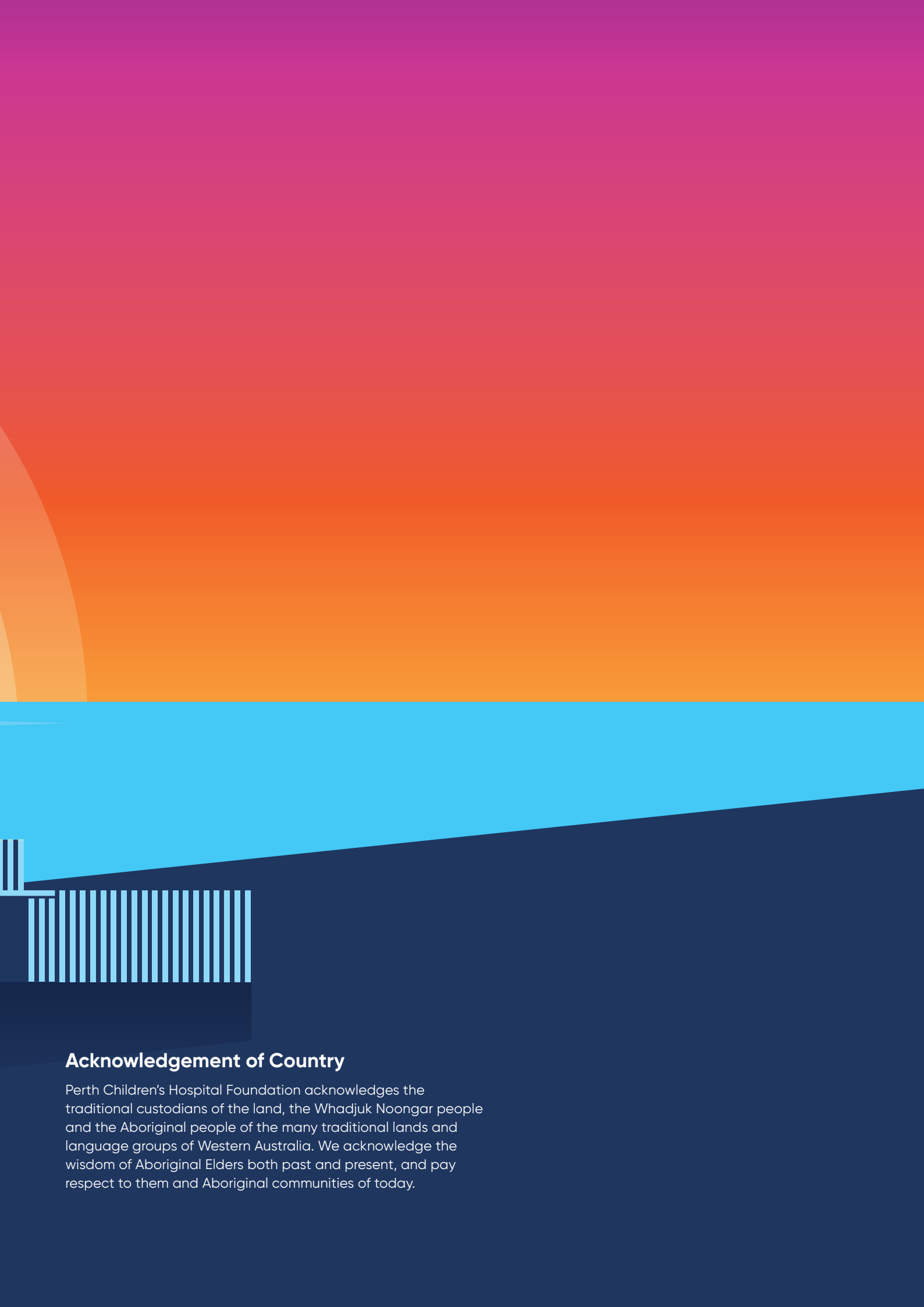


Perth Children's Hospital **Foundation**

Building a brighter tomorrow.

Annual Review 2025/2026



Acknowledgement of Country

Perth Children's Hospital Foundation acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land, the Whadjuk Noongar people and the Aboriginal people of the many traditional lands and language groups of Western Australia. We acknowledge the wisdom of Aboriginal Elders both past and present, and pay respect to them and Aboriginal communities of today.

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Message from the Foundation.



Every year we're proud to make a positive impact on children's healthcare and every year is worth celebrating. But this year stands apart.

The Hon.
Ian Campbell AM

Chairman



Carrick Robinson

Chief Executive Officer

Six years ago, we had a vision to provide WA with a new, landmark asset – a much-needed children's hospice for the 2,000 WA children with a life-limiting medical condition and their families. It would have all the warmth and essence of a home but with the care of a hospital for those facing the most difficult of times.

We embarked on this journey brimming with enthusiasm and buoyed by encouragement from families and donor supporters alike. We researched children's hospices interstate and across the UK and Ireland, collaborated widely and assembled the right professional teams for the complex scope of works.

Six years on, we're immensely proud to celebrate the construction completion of Sandcastles (Boodja Mia) – a sanctuary by the sea for children and families facing the unimaginable.

A building of beauty, widely lauded for the quality and thoughtfulness of its design, now stands proudly in Allen Park in Swanbourne ready to welcome its first families and those in the generations that will follow.

To our donors, we extend our eternal gratitude for accompanying us on this path and standing by us when the going got tough. Thank you for your unwavering support that will benefit WA's sickest children today and into the future.

On this journey we've learned that lives, no matter how short, are to be celebrated and we're honoured to play a role in offering families the opportunity to create precious and joyful moments at Sandcastles.

Whether their stay is for respite support or end-of-life-care, it is a privilege to help them **build a brighter day** and the possibility of a brighter tomorrow.

As we look back on another year, building a brighter tomorrow is the driving force behind everything we fund at Perth Children's Hospital and the wider Health Service.

We're delighted to share with you a selection of projects ensuring children's healthcare in WA remains world-class, allowing sick kids to have the very best care close to home.

A heartfelt thank you to all our donors, supporters, volunteers and our tireless staff whose dedication and generosity make everything possible, and whose commitment allows us to build a brighter tomorrow for WA's sick kids.

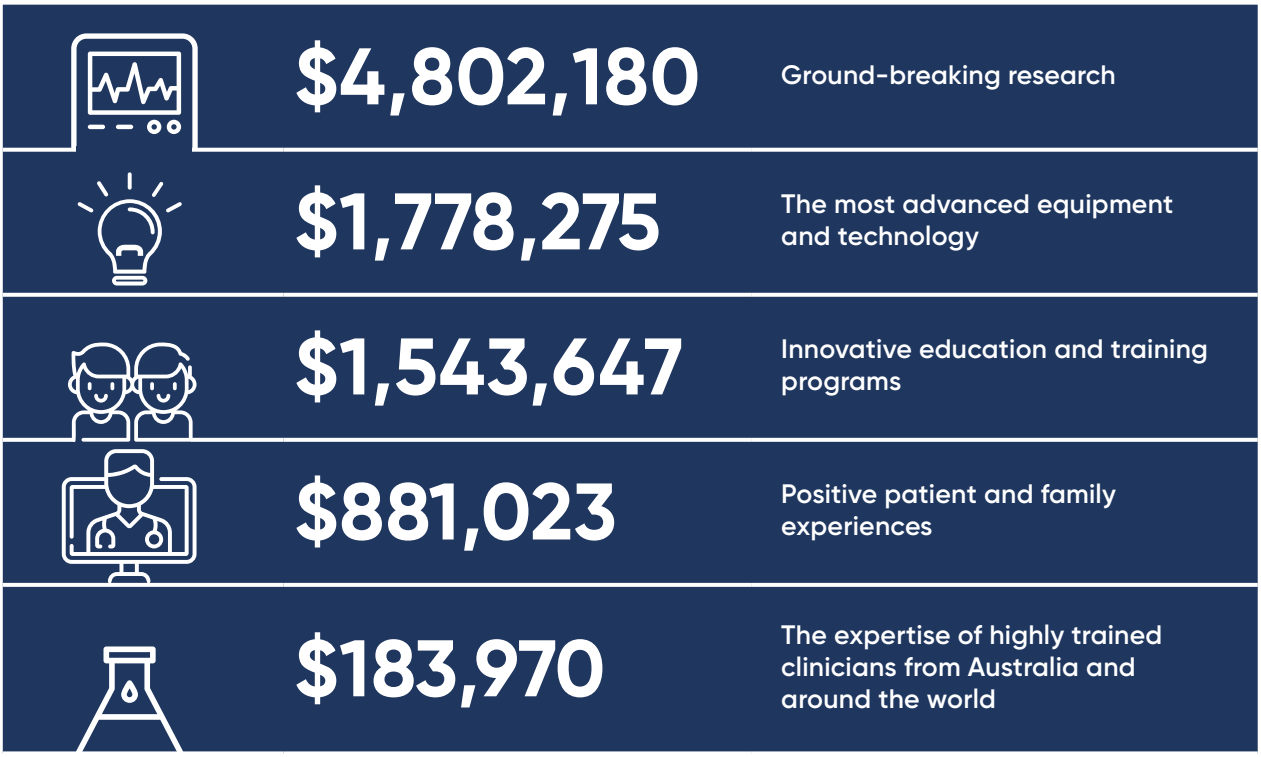
About us.

Perth Children's Hospital Foundation (PCHF) proudly fuels the fight on the frontline of children's healthcare, helping sick children get well and stay well.

By working closely with those on the frontline, the Foundation has an in-depth understanding of what clinicians, researchers and families need to ensure we make a tangible impact where it counts most.

We are the specialist children's healthcare charity at Perth Children's Hospital (PCH) and Health Service. In FY 2025-26 we had another successful year, funding $9.18 million in grants.

With the help of our generous donors, our efforts enable PCH and Child and Adolescent Health Service (CAHS) to continue to provide WA's sick children and young people with access to world-class care that comes from:



Note: Preliminary figures subject to audit.



Our difference.

The bravery and courage of WA's sick children inspire us every day and are at the heart of everything we do.

We've played a central role in funding advances in children's healthcare for more than a century with our origins traced back to the late 1890s, when the movement to establish a children's hospital began.

Our story is entwined with WA's children's hospital throughout history, first as the Children's Hospital which opened in 1909, then Princess Margaret Hospital and now, as Perth Children's Hospital.

With PCH and wider Health Service as our primary beneficiary, every donation we receive goes directly towards improving the lives of sick children through world-class healthcare

Specialist children's healthcare charity

We are the specialist children's healthcare charity at PCH. We're based on site at the hospital and have a close connection with the children's healthcare community, collaborating with PCH clinicians, researchers and families to understand the unique needs within the medical landscape. This ensures every donation is optimised to make the greatest impact.

Western Australia's spirit of generosity enables us to provide support over and above that of Government to improve and change the lives of sick children and their families.

Brighter futures

Together with our supporters and our strong connections to children's healthcare, rigorous governance processes and a thorough knowledge of what's needed most to make a difference, we're creating healthier, happier futures for sick kids in WA, across Australia and around the world.

Our governance.

The Foundation recorded another strong financial result in FY 25/26, providing $9.18 million in grants to Perth Children's Hospital and the wider Health Service.

We closely monitor all costs to ensure they are controlled as much as possible without compromising the Foundation's ability to deliver maximum support to children's healthcare.

Strong financial stewardship

We pride ourselves on ensuring that all funds generously donated are spent wisely to make a real and positive impact on children's healthcare.

To achieve this, every funding request goes through multiple levels of review and approval, ensuring we support the areas of greatest need with the most lasting impact. All grants are pre-approved by the relevant CAHS authority before being considered by our Foundation's executive and board.

The Foundation does not fund requests that should reasonably be covered by Government, such as routine equipment replacement. Instead, we fund solutions that the Health Service could not otherwise access. Through our commitment to ground-breaking research, advanced equipment and technology, world-class expertise, innovative education and training programs, and positive patient experiences, we aim to place WA children's health services among the best in Australia and the world.

We trust that our stewardship of your donations meets your highest expectations and gives you the confidence to keep supporting us.

Rigorous governance processes

Good governance is at the heart of everything we do. Our Board oversees the strategic direction of the Foundation, supported by committees that provide independent oversight and specialist guidance.

Our Grants Sub-Committee works alongside the funding process outlined above, while our Audit and Risk Committee keeps a close eye on financial performance and risk across the organisation. Clear approval processes ensure decisions are made by the right people, with proper checks in place at every step.

Our Scientific Advisory Committee plays a vital role in this process, undertaking rigorous scientific review of research funding applications and the appointment of research fellowships and professorial chairs, as well as providing independent advice to the Board on areas of strategic importance. The Committee is made up of 11 experts from across Australia, spanning fields such as medicine, nursing, epidemiology, physiology, psychology, physiotherapy, dietetics, public health, clinical trials and laboratory sciences, including several internationally recognised specialists.

Our accounts are also independently audited each year, giving our donors and community confidence that funds are managed responsibly and transparently.

A core funding area for PCHF is ground-breaking research and world-class expertise which ensures kids receive the best possible preventions, cures and care in WA.

Our impact: Building brighter futures.



Changing lives through the most advanced equipment and technology.

171

patient sessions with a state-of-the-art robotic arm, helping children rebuild arm movement, strength and hand control

5

children, some with sickle cell disease, have had better outcomes after undergoing red blood cell exchange using a specialised Apheresis machine

4

children with kidney issues have undergone renal imaging at the bedside each month, thanks to a new handheld ultrasound, helping speed up diagnosis and care

200

PCH staff have improved their ability to recognise and care for critically unwell babies after simulation training with an incredibly life-like, high-tech baby manikin

31

insulin pumps are improving health outcomes and quality of life for children with Type 1 diabetes, giving families facing financial hardship equitable access to automated insulin delivery (worth $8,500 each)



Funding the future through groundbreaking research.

59

families of children who can't easily communicate pain are able to spot and respond to it after receiving personalised tools developed through research

1222

babies have now been recruited into a world-first, international study led by PCH investigating if the safe anti-inflammatory drug Pentoxifylline can treat sepsis and bowel inflammation in extremely preterm infants, potentially reducing life-long disability

30

Indirect Calorimetry tests were performed on critically ill patients in intensive care at PCH to provide personalised, accurate nutrition, as part of a research program

1000

children across 60 sites globally have been recruited for a world-leading PCH study to understand chronic post-operative pain and its impact





Supporting innovative education and training programs.

60

trainee and registrar doctors are better skilled in the life-saving technique of endotracheal intubation, aiding resuscitation of fragile, critically ill newborn babies

3

clinicians accepted into the CAHS PhD pathway are supporting research contributing to future innovation in children's healthcare

100

children in regional WA are receiving timely echocardiography during outreach clinics thanks to a staff training program, reducing diagnostic delays for suspected congenital heart disease

26

regional medical and allied health clinicians are better equipped to identify the early signs of cerebral palsy enabling earlier therapy and better health outcomes for WA regional children



Investing in world-class expertise closer to home.

21

children have been accepted into the Pilbara Hub program, an extension of PCH's world-leading Rare Care Centre guided by Professor Gareth Baynam

56

new families have been welcomed into PCH's Rare Care clinical service for life-changing care and support in the last 12 months

21

patients demonstrated clinical benefit from a clinical trial for advancing treatment options for medulloblastoma, an aggressive brain cancer, under Professor Nick Gottardo's leadership

3

fellowship programs are enabling hands-on learning for early career researchers, putting them on a pathway to become leading experts across paediatric radiology, paediatric clinical research education and paediatric simulation education.



Funding positive patient and family experiences.

35

parents and caregivers of long-term sick children at PCH have reported reduced stress and improved wellbeing after engaging in a program supporting family emotional and psychological wellbeing through sound healing, meditation sessions and a sensory garden

12

adolescents are experiencing better wellbeing thanks to a range of activities and artworks introduced into a temporary ward while the main mental health inpatient unit undergoes refurbishment

59

adolescents living with chronic illness are benefitting from the ChIPS peer support program which aims to improve confidence, connection and wellbeing

100

children and their families are benefitting from a life-changing physiotherapy physical activity and exercise program to boost physical and mental health in kids with cancer

MAJOR PROJECTS

Sandcastles: A sanctuary by the sea.

After a six-year journey of hope, determination and grit, PCHF is proud to celebrate the completion of construction of WA's first children's hospice, Sandcastles (Boodja Mia).

Nestled in leafy bushland with the ocean in view, it offers children and families facing the hardest of times a warm and nurturing home away from home.

From soft and earthy tones to abundant natural light, every detail has been thoughtfully designed to evoke peace and calm.

Sandcastles makes the most of its natural bushland setting with extensive windows and glass doors bringing the calm, stress relieving powers of nature indoors.

PCHF CEO, Carrick Robinson, said: "With a lot of research worldwide about the therapeutic powers of nature, it was critical to take advantage of the natural surroundings, allowing Sandcastles to be a home away from home experience similar to those you find down south in a natural bush setting."

In WA there are more than 2,000 children and families carrying the weight of a life-limiting medical condition. At Sandcastles, they will find a sanctuary for respite, support and end-of-life care; a place for families to be together and create special memories; and a space to connect with others on a similar, heartbreaking path.

"For these families, life is all-consuming caring for their child and Sandcastles is designed to help give them an overarching experience that is memorable and joyful while having hospital-quality care on hand," Mr Robinson said.

There are dedicated age-appropriate play spaces: a soft play space for younger children; a sensory playroom providing calm and comfort and an adolescent area with beanbags, video game consoles, big screen TVs and musical instruments.

There are places for quiet reflection including two beautifully landscaped internal courtyards where families can sit, take a breath and enjoy time together.

A special feature is a large dining area, accommodating up to 20 people, encouraging community and connection.

"We hope these families, who often feel incredibly isolated and like they're on their own, can come together with other families to share experiences and advice."

Adding to the homelike experience will be resident labrador, Bella – a loveable, fully-trained therapy dog bringing moments of comfort and joy.

A multi-use hydrotherapy pool is available for clinical use and as a recreational pool for siblings and families to enjoy.

Occupants will never feel far from nature. Each of the seven ground floor guest bedrooms has its own deck overlooking the leafy surroundings, while two of the three family suites take advantage of the setting's million-dollar ocean views.

For those choosing Sandcastles for end-of-life care, a private, dedicated bereavement suite will allow families to come together at a distressing time to reflect on the passing of their precious child.

After practical completion in August, Sandcastles will go through a period of commissioning by the hospital to prepare for clinical operation, before a phased opening with a small number of families expected late in 2026.

Once the doors fully open, Sandcastles will welcome families from across Western Australia with a referral from PCH for an







average respite stay of four to 10 days. It is expected Sandcastles will be at 80% capacity within the first year, with demand building from there.

As building costs surged across Australia in recent years, construction and fit-out costs for Sandcastles increased to $38 million. We are deeply grateful for the incredible generosity of our donors who have helped fund a significant portion of these costs including the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation, Cancer Council WA via a generous bequest from the late John Street, Minderoo Foundation, Lotterywest, the Federal Government and the WA community.

"All our donors and supporters have our eternal gratitude as we couldn't have brought this much-needed landmark project to WA without them," Mr Robinson said.

"Their enduring passion, support and unwavering determination, in what have been some turbulent times, are a significant reason why Sandcastles is here today."

As the building owner, PCHF will remain involved in daily operations for maintenance and cleaning, as well as providing a range of experiences for families to make their time memorable and as joyful as can be with their cherished child. This could include birthday parties, Easter and Christmas celebrations







and excursions to give parents mini-breaks from the overwhelm of caring for a child with a life-limiting condition.

An endowment fund for these expenses has raised almost half of its $20 million target.

"We will ensure everything is delivered to the optimal level and any support would be received most gratefully to help families create special moments."

As Sandcastles prepares to open its doors, the Parkland next door is taking shape with its signature boardwalk, a sheltered seating area and 7,500 new plants set to transform a previously barren area into a leafy oasis.

Landscaping will increase the tree canopy by 40%.

Thanks to the generosity of donors, fundraising for the Parkland has hit just under half the $3.5 million required.

"It will provide a beautiful, natural aspect and is very much a gift to the community to be enjoyed by the public, as it is an extension of the hospice landscape."



INNOVATIVE EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

One small step for children, one giant leap for rehab.

Perth Children's Hospital has become the first paediatric hospital in Australia to install the ZeroG 3D, a world-leading rehabilitation robot system, marking a major milestone in care for Western Australian children.

Thanks to a $1.2 million investment by the Foundation, the ZeroG 3D is already helping children take confident steps towards recovery.

Imagine learning to walk, not for the first time, but all over again.

For some children recovering from brain injuries, spinal conditions or cancer that is exactly the challenge they face. But at PCH, a remarkable new robotic rehabilitation system is opening pathways once thought out of reach. And for WA families, that means everything.

The ZeroG 3D is a dynamic body weight support system that allows children to walk, balance and practise everyday movements while suspended in a harness attached to a ceiling-mounted robotic track. Suitable for children aged two and up, it can support recovery across a wide range of conditions like cerebral palsy and other neurological or orthopaedic disorders, giving more WA kids access to specialised, intensive rehabilitation.

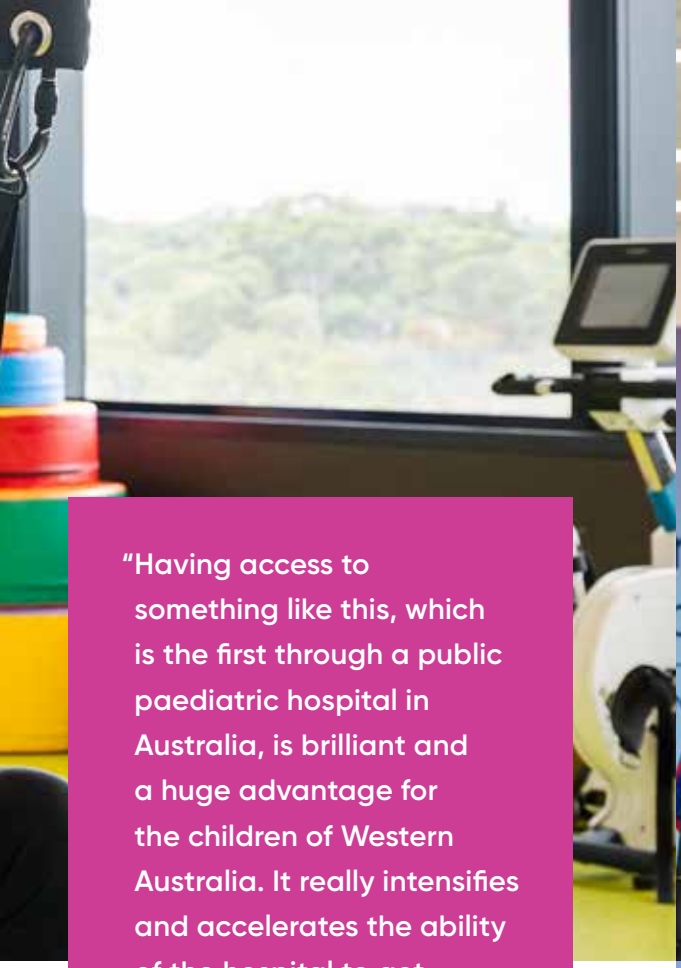
What makes the ZeroG 3D such a game changer isn't what it does, but how it does it. By reducing the effects of gravity, children can safely attempt movements that would otherwise be too difficult, too dangerous or simply too exhausting. Crucially, the system allows far greater repetition, the very foundation of neurological recovery.

Dr Hedva Chiu, Medical Lead of the Rehab Technology and Robotics Program at PCH, explained, "Repetition and confidence is what's actually going to help build those recovery pathways. The best part is that it can adapt to kids with different issues or different abilities. And so we can use this for a wide variety of kids throughout Western Australia."

For physiotherapists it's equally powerful. "It's an extra pair of hands. It means I can take my hands off and engage children in other ways," says Dan Prigmore, Coordinator Physiotherapist at PCH.

The system also tracks data in real time, allowing therapists to measure exactly how much support each child needs, and reduces it gradually as strength and confidence grow.

"It's a device that teaches kids the art of walking and moving again in a very safe environment. If they fall over, it self-rights itself, and they feel like they're very well





"Having access to something like this, which is the first through a public paediatric hospital in Australia, is brilliant and a huge advantage for the children of Western Australia. It really intensifies and accelerates the ability of the hospital to get rehabilitation into kids that really need it fast."

Dan Prigmore, Coordinator Physiotherapist, PCH

supported as they get their journey back to their full mobility. And for a lot of kids that's a significant issue when they're going through this kind of treatment," said PCHF CEO, Carrick Robinson.

Beyond immediate recovery, the team are already looking to new possibilities. Plans are underway to develop new rehabilitation protocols and broaden the technology's application nationally and internationally.

For the children who arrive at PCH facing the long road back to movement, strength and independence, the ZeroG 3D represents something profound. It's the result of years of dedication from the clinical team, the generosity of our donors and commitment to ensuring WA children receive the world's best care when they need it most.

Standing tall

Bruce's journey back to walking.

At nine years old, Bruce carries a quiet determination that's hard to miss.

Living with cerebral palsy and fresh from corrective leg surgery, he spent two weeks in hospital recovering before beginning the slow work of rebuilding his strength and movement. For Bruce, the ZeroG 3D has been a significant part of that journey.

After four sessions with the ZeroG 3D he was already finding his feet. "It helps me walk by myself faster," he says. For a child who uses a wheelchair, those words carry enormous weight. "I like being in it because I feel safe."

The corrective procedure was designed to make Bruce's leg straighter when he walks, and the ZeroG 3D is helping him get there, allowing him to practise movement in a supported environment that builds both strength and confidence. "It's really important and helpful for kids like me and future kids like me."

Bruce aspires to be a teacher or a journalist one day. And with the ZeroG 3D helping to put one foot in front of the other, he is well on his way to a brighter future.



Finding her stride

How Harper is running towards a brighter tomorrow.

What began as leg pain dismissed as growing pains turned out to be something far more serious.

In mid-2023, eight-year-old Harper was diagnosed with metastatic osteosarcoma, a rare bone cancer that had not only taken hold in her left femur but had spread to her lungs. As her mum Jennifer recalls, "I don't think she even had a sick day off school beforehand. Our lives definitely changed dramatically after that phone call."

What followed was nine months of high-dose chemotherapy and complex surgery, including a full knee and femur replacement. Fortunately, chemotherapy shrunk the tumour enough to avoid amputation. Now in remission, Harper still uses a wheelchair due to ongoing pain, attends physiotherapy regularly and goes for scans every three months. But she hasn't let any of it slow her spirit. She plays adapted netball, loves swimming and has taken to the ZeroG 3D with enthusiasm.

The ZeroG 3D lifts some of the load from Harper's leg, allowing her to move in ways that would otherwise be too painful or too risky. "It takes off some of the pressure and makes stuff a bit easier," says Harper. "It's quite fun, because it feels like you're about to be lifted up."

"I used to never get enough airtime," she says, "But with the ZeroG, it's really helped."

Mum, Jennifer, has seen the change firsthand, noting it has already improved Harper's running and reduced the compensatory movement in her leg. With another significant surgery on the horizon, the ZeroG will be central to her recovery once again.

"It is imperative that if you can afford to, definitely donate. It does make a massive difference to these wonderful kids' lives and the ability for them to have some sort of normality in such a horrible situation." says Jennifer.

Harper is proof of exactly that.



INNOVATIVE EQUIPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

Zooming in on nation-leading tech.

PCH is leading the way with next-generation surgical technology, becoming the first children's hospital in Australia to acquire the most technologically advanced neuro-microscope for surgeries of the brain and spine.

The Neuro Microscope KINEVO 900 S is the gold standard for surgical safety and optimises patient outcomes, while improving surgeon efficiency and comfort.

Powered by AI and robotics, the new technology allows surgeons to see more clearly while built-in diagnostic tools improve efficacy and precision. A significant feature is the ability to use a contrast green dye with fluorescence imaging, allowing real-time visualisation of vascular structures.

Repetitive microscope adjustments are automated, improving comfort and allowing surgeons to keep both hands focused on their patient. Traditional microscopes require surgeons to manually adjust focus and visualisation angles throughout procedures, consuming their time which affects efficiency and surgical performance.

PCH Neurosurgeon, Dr Snigdha Saha, said the illumination and magnification the microscope delivers is excellent and helps provide optimal surgical outcomes.

"We've already used it for a brain tumour resection and the additional features such as voice command and robotic assistance, automating adjustments and visual workflows, were highly useful and facilitated a good outcome for the child," Dr Saha said.

Over the past year, surgeons at PCH have performed more than 130 neurosurgeries, some of the most complex operations, demanding exceptional precision and care.

The state-of-the-art microscope is expected to be used in more than 50% of neurosurgeries at PCH including all neurovascular cases (where the blood vessels require better visualisation), neuro-oncology and spinal cases.

The technology will make a significant difference to surgeries for aneurysms and AVMs (tangled blood vessels), revascularisation techniques to restore blood flow to tissues and organs, and STA-MCA bypass surgery for Moyamoya disease (narrowing/blockage of arteries at the base of the brain).

"This technology provides better visualisation of neurosurgical pathologies making surgery safer and more accurate for patients."

Surgeons can capture and share detailed recordings of procedures, enhancing surgical education and making a greater impact across the surgical community.

Offering extreme precision and a host of groundbreaking advancements, the neuro-microscope will facilitate optimal patient safety and outcomes, and improve surgeon comfort and satisfaction.

RESEARCH

World-leading trial giving fragile babies a better beginning.

For vulnerable newborns with life-threatening medical or surgical conditions, the treatments that save and improve their lives can come at a cost.

Critically ill babies in Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICU) often end up with gut dysbiosis – where pathogenic, harmful bacteria outnumber beneficial bacteria – as well as reduced levels of short chain fatty acids (SCFA), important messengers between the gut and the brain, and other organs such as the lungs and liver.

It is common for NICU babies to have problems with feeding, delayed exposure to breastmilk, lack of adequate skin-to-skin contact with their mothers, IV nutrition, infections and multiple courses of antibiotics – all of which harm gut health.

Dysbiosis and low levels of SCFAs can lead to longer recoveries and extended hospital stays, as well as an increased risk of serious infections and greater antibiotics usage.

In the long term, they are strongly associated with conditions such as asthma, allergies, neurodevelopmental disorders such as cerebral palsy, and metabolic conditions including hypertension, obesity and heart attack later in life.

For parents, having a baby in intensive care is overwhelming and exhausting, while the hospital cost of caring for these fragile babies is as high as $80,000 per infant.

Probiotics are already used safely in very premature babies less than 35 weeks of age with strong evidence showing reduced infections and antibiotic exposure, however there is limited research in older NICU babies more than 35 weeks.

One of the few neonatal studies in the world, a previous PCHF-funded study, PRINS-1 established that dysbiosis improved when surgical NICU babies were given a daily dose of probiotics with 3 billion colony forming units of bacteria (3-billion-CFU). The study found harmful bacteria reduced from 65% to 50%.

However, researchers want to bring levels down further to improve health outcomes in these fragile babies.

PRINS-2 is a world-leading randomised controlled trial involving 108 babies, 35 weeks or older, admitted to PCH's NICU. Building on the earlier research, PRINS-2 will identify the optimal dose of probiotics to restore gut health.

Using a multi-strain probiotic containing three strains of bifidobacteria, researchers will compare the impact on babies receiving 3-billion-CFU versus 6-billion-CFU versus 9-billion-CFU.

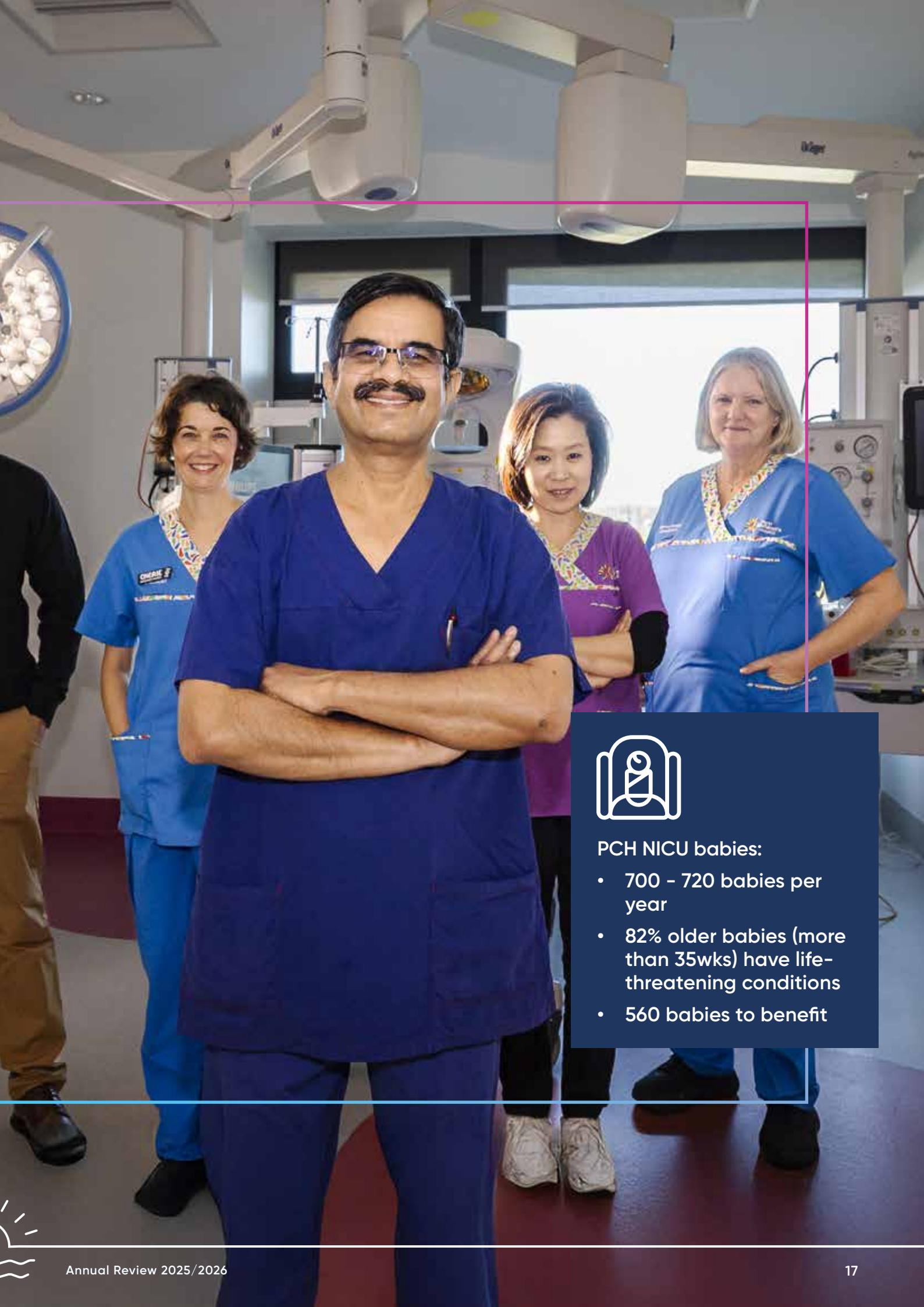
Using sophisticated whole-genome sequencing technology, the babies gut bacteria DNA will be compared to the gold-standard for a healthy infant – that of healthy breastfed babies, previously studied by Chief Investigator, Professor Shripada Rao.

"What we're really interested in is the clinical outcomes with each dosage, is there less infection? is the baby feeding well? are they able to go home early?" said Professor Rao.

"These are the important outcomes that mums and dads really care about and doctors, nurses and hospitals want to see."

As the only study of its kind in the world, this landmark trial is poised to significantly elevate the research profile of PCH,





PCH NICU babies:

- 700 - 720 babies per year
- 82% older babies (more than 35wks) have life-threatening conditions
- 560 babies to benefit



already recognised globally for research and clinical excellence.

Identifying optimal probiotic dosing will enable researchers to instigate a larger multi-centre randomised controlled study that is likely to change clinical practice around the world.

"This will have a high impact on future generations as we know that the first 1,000 days are crucial for the long-term health of a baby and the first month is even more precious," Professor Rao explained.

"I would expect probiotics will have not only short-term but long-term benefits throughout the lifespan of these children."

In the short term, optimising gut health with probiotics is expected to reduce harmful bacterial loads, lower infection risk, decrease antibiotic exposure and support faster recoveries and shorter NICU stays.

In the longer term, it could mean fewer deaths, less allergies and asthma, better neurodevelopment with fewer learning disabilities, better metabolic health – less obesity, hypertension and heart attacks – and improvements in quality of life.

"This research will improve outcomes for our most vulnerable babies and I say thank you to everyone supporting it – your kindness is highly appreciated and we will ensure each and every dollar is put to good use to ensure good outcomes for our babies."

The power of probiotics

Little Raffa entered the world at just over 37 weeks with a head full of hair, big bright eyes and appearing alert, healthy and in proportion.





It had been a high-risk pregnancy after his mum's three-month scan revealed a birth defect called gastroschisis, which allowed some of his intestines and bowel to develop outside the abdominal wall.

Almost as soon as he arrived via natural delivery, Raffa was whisked away and medical interventions began.

First, Raffa was literally placed in two bags to keep his organs sterile during an emergency transfer to PCH. This was followed by a procedure in which what is known as a silo was placed over his exposed organs, allowing gravity to work its magic and draw them back gradually into his abdomen. Then at just seven days old, Raffa underwent his first surgery to close the abdominal wall.

"I remember looking at him in the NICU and thinking he looked so precious and fragile," said Raffa's mum, Kendall.

"When you see this little baby with cords all over him, coming out of his veins, you hope he's not in any pain and you feel so helpless, but all you can do is just be there in the room."

Fed only by IV nutrition for the first 10 days, Raffa missed out on the early benefits of breastmilk and was placed on antibiotics as his little body fought to recover.

Understanding how vital the early stages of life are to healthy development, Kendall requested probiotics to give Raffa the best possible chance to thrive.

After three weeks in the NICU and another three weeks as an outpatient, Raffa was strong enough to make the three-hour journey home to Kulin, in the Wheatbelt.

Two years on, Raffa is a picture of health: a boisterous and energetic little boy who loves dinosaurs, any kind of machinery and visiting the extended family's farm.

Inspired by his journey, Kendall became a consumer investigator for the PRINS-2 research trial.

"We wanted to give our son the best possible start and now I'd like to help future kids and families who may face something similar with their newborn.

"If we can raise awareness about the importance of gut health and the role probiotics can play, and discover the optimal dose to use, especially in complex situations, then no family will have to miss the opportunity to help their child," Kendall said.

CENTRES OF EXPERTISE

New chapter for children's rehabilitation.

Rehabilitation plays a remarkable role in paediatric health, helping rebuild lives disrupted by illness, injury or disability. PCHF is proud to support a transformative new era in WA with the Kids Rehab WA Centre.

Setting a powerful new standard, the Kids Rehab WA Centre will improve access, reshape experiences and ensure rehab is inclusive, evidence-based and future-ready.

Across the state, vulnerable children facing the daunting task of having to learn or relearn basic skills such as walking, talking, and even eating, will be given the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Despite being WA's only government-funded children's rehabilitation provider and a leader in clinical excellence and robotics, Kids Rehab WA at PCH faces demand far exceeds what the current model alone can deliver across a vast and decentralised state.

The Centre will expand its reach as a first-of-its-kind statewide platform by integrating world-class clinical care, advanced research, digital innovation and cutting-edge technology. The most pressing disability challenges children and families face will be addressed through five key areas, laying the foundations for healthier, more fulfilling lives:

- World-leading clinical care – accelerating the translation of evidence into practice to provide the latest evidence-based rehab services and access to clinical trials, elevating care standards
- Advanced health equity - ensuring all children have access to world-class care regardless of their location, especially children in rural and remote areas
- Innovative research for early detection – transformational research for refining and discovering new methods for earlier and more precise detection of conditions to improve young futures
- Precision medicine – tailoring therapies to each child's unique characteristics and health profile, offering the best possible outcomes and quality of life
- Advanced rehabilitation technology – developing and integrating cutting-edge robotics, AI-assisted interventions and immersive technologies to provide the most effective care possible

The Kids Rehab WA Centre will transform health outcomes and build brighter futures for thousands of children and families across WA. By improving access to the right support when its needed most, children with disabilities and their families across the state will be empowered to lead richer lives.

Australian children living with disability

5.7%
kids aged 0-4 years

13.5%
kids aged 5 – 14 years

60%
need assistance with day-to-day activities

40%
have mental health difficulties




PHYSIOTHERAPY

CENTRES OF EXPERTISE

Transforming childhood cancer.

A new chapter in childhood cancer care and research has opened in WA with the launch of the WA Comprehensive Kids Cancer Centre.

For children and their families, it will mean improved access to better, less toxic and more effective treatments closer to home.

The Centre brings together the clinical expertise of PCH, the research expertise of The Kids Research Institute and the University of Western Australia, alongside the generous support of major funders the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation and PCHF, to improve survival and quality of life.

"At PCHF, we're proud to play a part in a project which will be truly transformative for WA families, supporting the innovative work on the frontline of childhood cancer research and care and helping turn discovery into better outcomes for kids across the state," said PCHF CEO, Carrick Robinson.

Medical progress in recent decades has resulted in dramatic increases in childhood cancer survival rates, but cancer remains the leading cause of death by disease in Australian children and two-thirds of those who do survive are left with significant, long-term side-effects.

WA Comprehensive Kids Cancer Centre Clinical Director, Professor Nick Gottardo, said: "In children, cancers are very different to those in adults; they develop differently, spread faster and often appear to strike at random.

"Yet most treatments are developed for adult cancers and are decades old. It's not just about survival; it's about quality of life."

"We want a future where we have more weapons against this disease that are much more specific and much less toxic," Professor Gottardo said.

Key priorities of the Centre include access to breakthrough treatments; personalised, kinder care; care that extends beyond treatment to ensure long-term wellbeing; community input to shape the Centre's work; bringing together the brightest minds and a First Nations focus on developing culturally safe, effective treatments.





CENTRES OF EXPERTISE

From isolation to connection.

Having a child with a rare or undiagnosed disease (RUD) can set families on a long and lonely path to access the care and support they need.

With the average diagnosis taking five to seven years, families endure years of uncertainty, isolation and immense pressure.

But transformative support is building brighter futures for children across WA, including those living regionally in the Pilbara.

Since opening four years ago, PCH's world-leading Rare Care Centre has been game-changing for the 442 children and families accepted into the service, providing them with access to desperately needed specialist care, support, guidance and education.

The median age of children accepted by the Centre is eight years old and family feedback has been overwhelmingly positive with parents saying stress, overwhelm and isolation had eased.

Clinical capacity and service delivery has increased to meet demand as word spreads of the Centre's life-changing service that is improving the quality of day-to-day living for children and their families.

Pilbara Hub

Over the past year, the Centre has expanded into the Pilbara, where approximately 1,700 children live with the profound challenges of RUDs.

In addition to the complexities of RUDs, these children and families face the challenges of distance, scarcity of health services, lack of community, disability and mental health support and inadequate culturally safe, RUD-specific care.

The Rare Care Pilbara Hub is helping to change that, offering culturally secure, region-specific care that is backed strongly by the local community and stakeholders.

The six months to June 2026 marked a significant phase of growth and milestones for the Hub with the successful launch of three regional clinics and care coordination services, the activation of governance structures, delivery of workforce education and the establishment of strong partnerships across health, education and community sectors.

February 2026 saw the doors open on the first patient clinics in Newman, Karratha and Port Hedland, bringing care closer to home to improve health outcomes and empower children and their families.

The Hub's impact is already being felt with early evidence it is improving access to coordinated care for children with RUDs. By June 2026, 21 children had been referred and accepted into the Pilbara Hub program for life-changing care and support, with 12 children seen in cross-sector clinics.

Tailored interventions have included medical assessment and management; nursing collaboration with other specialist services; coordination of specialist and allied health appointments; support accessing health, disability and community services; school engagement, enrolment and advocacy support; and assistance with NDIS access, plan reviews and coordination of supports.

Engagement with local stakeholders is ongoing, refining services to ensure they meet the unique needs of Pilbara communities, building local capacity and strengthening cross-sector collaboration to support the program's long-term sustainability and impact.





Thomas' story

Growing up in regional WA, Thomas and his family rely on the Rare Care Centre for specialised support and guidance.

At birth, Thomas appeared perfectly healthy but just 13 weeks later he was fighting for life.

"He started vomiting after every feed," said Thomas' mum, Anna.

"I took a photo one day and noticed the whites of his eyes had turned yellow. My husband thought it was just the lighting, but something didn't feel right."

Within hours of routine tests for jaundice, the family was rushed to hospital by ambulance.

"His urine was black, like dark tea," Anna said. "Doctors discovered his liver wasn't working at all. It looked healthy on the outside, but it was literally empty. There were no functioning liver cells."

Thomas is one of only three children in the world diagnosed with Empty Liver Syndrome and the only known survivor.

At three weeks old, he underwent an emergency liver transplant, becoming the youngest and smallest transplant patient his specialist had ever operated on. His kidneys also failed, forcing him onto dialysis for eight weeks.

Against the odds, both his transplanted liver and kidneys recovered and today, at seven years old, Thomas' liver function is perfectly healthy.

"You wouldn't know anything was wrong unless you saw the scar running down his belly," Anna said.

The Rare Care Centre has been instrumental in accessing care and support for Thomas and his family.

"When you leave hospital, you can feel like you're on your own," Anna said.

"One minute you know nothing about the medical world, and the next you're thrown into it."

"Rare Care made sure we weren't alone – they helped us find the right GP, the right therapies, everything."

Because Thomas' condition is so rare, the cause remains unknown. Medical papers have since been written about his case to help future children.





POSITIVE PATIENT EXPERIENCES

Care beyond the bedside.

"They just need to be seen and heard. You matter. And we're here to support you in any way that we can."

Evelyn Crommelin, Team Lead Pastoral Care, PCH





When a child is hospitalised, the care and attention rightly centres on them. The Care Circle program recognises that families need support too and through it, Perth Children's Hospital is pioneering a new approach to family wellbeing, made possible by the Foundation.

When a child is seriously ill, every room in the hospital feels like it holds its breath. Parents pour everything into being present, but who is there for them?

At Perth Children's Hospital, the answer is taking shape in the form of the Care Circle, a quietly revolutionary program that is redefining what it means to care for the whole family, not just the patient. Born from a simple but profound observation by the hospital's Pastoral Care team, the program weaves together sound healing, meditation, a sensory garden and moments of unexpected joy (therapy dogs included), into something that feels less like a program and more like an exhale.

"The focus is always on the services for the children. But as pastoral carers, our approach is also about the whole family," said Evelyn Crommelin, Team Lead for Pastoral Care.

A moment to pause

For parents of long-stay patients, the emotional weight is immense. Everything else gets put on hold. Conversations become clinical. The days blur. The Care Circle's monthly sound healing and meditation sessions, held in the hospital's Multi-Faith Centre, offer something beautifully simple – an hour that belongs entirely to the parent.

Some parents attend on days when someone else is sitting with their child. One mother returned after losing her child and attended a sound healing session, sharing afterwards that she had felt connected to him while sitting in that space.

"There's so much chaos in their lives when they're in this space," says Evelyn. "I just want them to have that moment to take a breath and go, it's okay. We can move through this."

A garden that opens the world

For children who cannot venture beyond the hospital walls, the sensory garden is nothing short of transformative. Wide bifold doors open large enough to wheel out beds bringing the outside world within reach. For some children, it could be the first time in weeks they have felt the sun on their face.

"I just can't say enough how meaningful it is. The happiness you see on a child's face when they go outside, and the parents are so happy that they get to spend some time out of the hospital room," said Evelyn.

Holding space for the hardest moments

The Care Circle holds space for something far more tender too. For families facing the unimaginable, the garden offers children the chance to spend their final hours surrounded by family in nature, rather than the clinical environment of a ward.

"Not all families can go home. So to be able to offer an end-of-life moment where their child leaves this earth in a way that's peaceful, surrounded by family, surrounded by nature – it's incredibly precious," said Evelyn.

Supported by Perth Children's Hospital Foundation, the Care Circle reflects a deep commitment to ensuring the best possible care for every person who walks through PCH's doors. Because building a brighter tomorrow means caring for the whole family, not just in the hardest moments, but through every breath in between.



WORLD-CLASS EXPERTISE

Pioneering the next frontier in burns care.

For decades, Professor Fiona Wood AO has transformed how the world treats burn injuries in children, dramatically improving survival rates and pioneering breakthroughs in skin regeneration.

Now, she is turning her attention to a frontier far less visible, but every bit as critical – the long-term mental health impact of burn trauma. Supported by the Foundation, this research is set to change the way the world understands and treats recovery.

A burn injury doesn't end when the wound closes. For many children, the physical scar is only the beginning of a much longer journey, one that can quietly shape their mental health for decades to come.

It's this next chapter of recovery that has captured the focus of Professor Fiona Wood AO, one of the world's foremost burns specialists. "From the outset I was aware that the physical scars were only one component of the post-burn injury impact, and that the psychological scars needed consideration, care and understanding," said Professor Wood.

For years, the priority in burns care was rightly survival and physical healing, and through research and innovation, those outcomes have been transformed. Today, more children than ever are surviving burn injuries and going on to live full lives. But as Professor Wood explained, "We are increasingly recognising that recovery extends far beyond the skin."

The numbers reveal just how significant that impact can be. Following a burn injury, children aged 5 to 9 are three times more likely to be admitted to hospital for a mental health condition. For children aged 10 to 14, that likelihood rises to five times higher, regardless of how severe the burn or resulting scar.

Research shows that 27% of child burn survivors go on to experience lifelong depression, 38% experience anxiety, and up to 10% develop post-traumatic stress disorder years after their physical wounds have healed.

These findings sit within a much broader picture now emerging from burns research, one that is revealing how injury can influence health, wellbeing and life experiences across childhood and into adulthood.

"Currently, most resources are directed towards treating mental health conditions



"I see hope in the amount of human energy dedicated to reducing the impact of burn injury for the children we see each day. Always learning from today to make tomorrow better."

Professor Fiona Wood AO

once they emerge, and those services are critically important. However, we believe there is an opportunity to move further upstream. The next frontier is understanding why these challenges develop in the first place, and whether we can intervene earlier to prevent or reduce their impact."

That pursuit has led Professor Wood and her team into entirely new scientific territory, investigating what happens in the brain following burn injury.

By combining clinical outcomes, psychosocial questionnaires, biological samples collected through an established biobank, immune and inflammatory data, and advanced MRI brain imaging, researchers are beginning to understand why some children show remarkable resilience after injury, while others face ongoing psychological struggles.

"Just as we have transformed wound healing through scientific discovery, we believe we can transform psychological recovery through a deeper understanding of the relationship between burn injury and the brain," she said.

To deepen this understanding, Professor Wood has partnered with Professor Helen Milroy AM, one of the world's leading experts in child and adolescent psychiatry and trauma.

"Professor Milroy has dedicated her career to understanding the impact of trauma on children, families and communities, and importantly, the factors that promote resilience, recovery and healing," said Professor Wood.

"If we can identify the biological, psychological and social factors that contribute to these different trajectories, we may be able to intervene earlier and more effectively," she explained.

This research is reshaping conversations on the world stage. Professor Wood has presented these findings to clinicians and researchers internationally, demonstrating that even smaller burns can carry major, long-lasting psychological consequences.

"It's clear that the priorities in our research must address the psychological outcome of post-burn injury, as well as areas such as the pain associated with an acute burn injury."

Importantly, these conversations extend beyond clinicians and scientists to include patients and families with lived experience, ensuring research priorities remain grounded in what matters most to those affected. Professor Wood also points to a fascinating area for future investigation. Some children experience post-traumatic growth following injury, a phenomenon she believes is equally worthy of deeper understanding.

Looking ahead, Professor Wood envisions a future built on personalised care. "In the future, I hope burns care will not simply focus on treating the injury that presents in front of us, but on anticipating the needs of the individual child and family."

Rather than waiting for difficulties to surface months or years later, the goal is to identify children at greatest risk early, delivering the right support at the right time.

For Professor Wood, this work is the very essence of building a brighter tomorrow. "We focus on every intervention from the point of injury, influencing the scar worn for life physically, physiologically and psychologically."

"We will continue to strive to reduce the impact of the injury at every opportunity, to ensure each child and family a brighter tomorrow."

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Building confidence, one simulation at a time.

Behind every confident, lifesaving response is hours of preparation few people ever see. Funded by the Foundation, the Simulation Fellowship is equipping doctors, nurses and health professionals with the skills and confidence to deliver the best possible care, whatever situation comes through the door.

Imagine a child rushed into an emergency department with a severe asthma attack or sepsis. The doctor on duty might see a case like this once every few years. In that moment, preparation can be the difference between hesitation and confident, lifesaving action.

Over the past year, Simulation Fellows Jonathon Talbot and Lauren Sharp have worked alongside the PCH Simulation Training Unit, delivering 331 sessions to 3,673 participants from across the hospital and beyond. But the numbers tell only part of the story. Behind them are countless doctors, nurses and health professionals walking into critical situations, equipped with greater clarity, confidence and skill.

Associate Professor Thomas Rawlings, Co-Director of the Simulation Training Unit, explained that simulation recreates realistic clinical conditions using real clinical spaces and sophisticated programmable manikins, allowing participants to practise not just clinical knowledge but the skills that bring it to life under pressure.

"It's all very well to know the answer to a question or know lots about a certain condition," he said. "But if you can't communicate effectively, lead effectively, use your resources effectively, then you can't translate that into a positive clinical outcome for a patient."

The impact has been significant across departments hospital-wide, including the STARS emergency team, where the Fellows delivered 40 learning events over the past year. 98% of attendees rated these sessions positively, felt better prepared to respond to changes in a patient's condition, and felt more confident speaking up about patient safety.

One of the Fellows' standout achievements was developing an entirely new course, Acute Medical Crisis for Children, designed for health professionals working outside major paediatric centres, including in WA's remote and regional communities.

With only one children's hospital serving our vast state, this kind of preparation matters enormously for a child whose journey to specialist care may take hours.

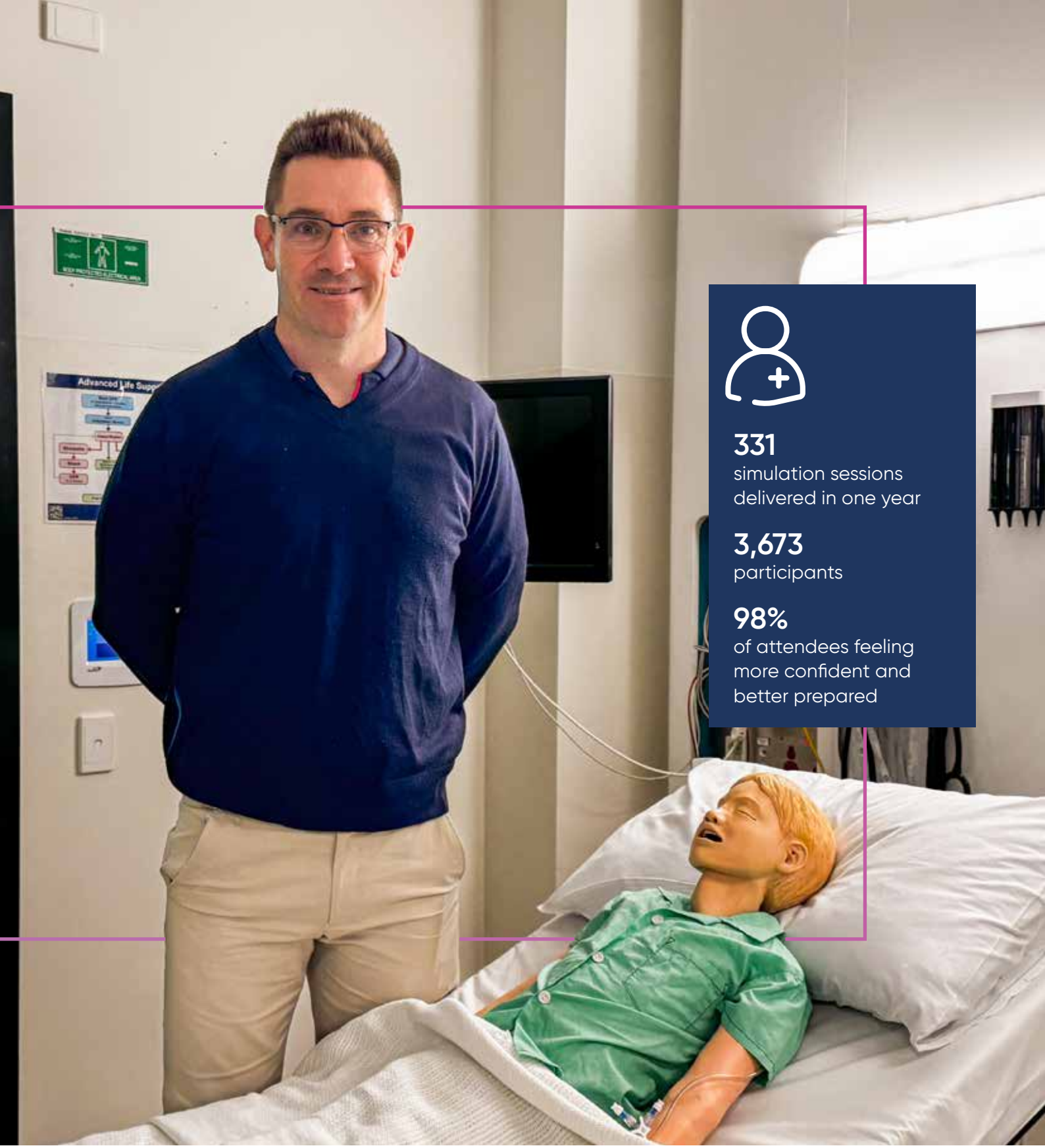
"It might be six months before that child turns up with a similar condition, and you can draw on that knowledge to instigate that initial management, which is key," said Associate Professor Rawlings.

The Fellows also helped present WA's simulation work on the national stage, sharing innovative teaching techniques at the ANZAHPE conference and exploring how generative AI might shape simulation training at the Australasian Simulation Congress, positioning PCH's Simulation Department among the most advanced in the country.

For Professor Rawlings, the value of simulation goes beyond individual skill.

"We want to focus on the behaviours and situations where we know we can make the biggest difference," he said, describing how the team uses simulation to test and improve





331
simulation sessions delivered in one year

3,673
participants

98%
of attendees feeling more confident and better prepared

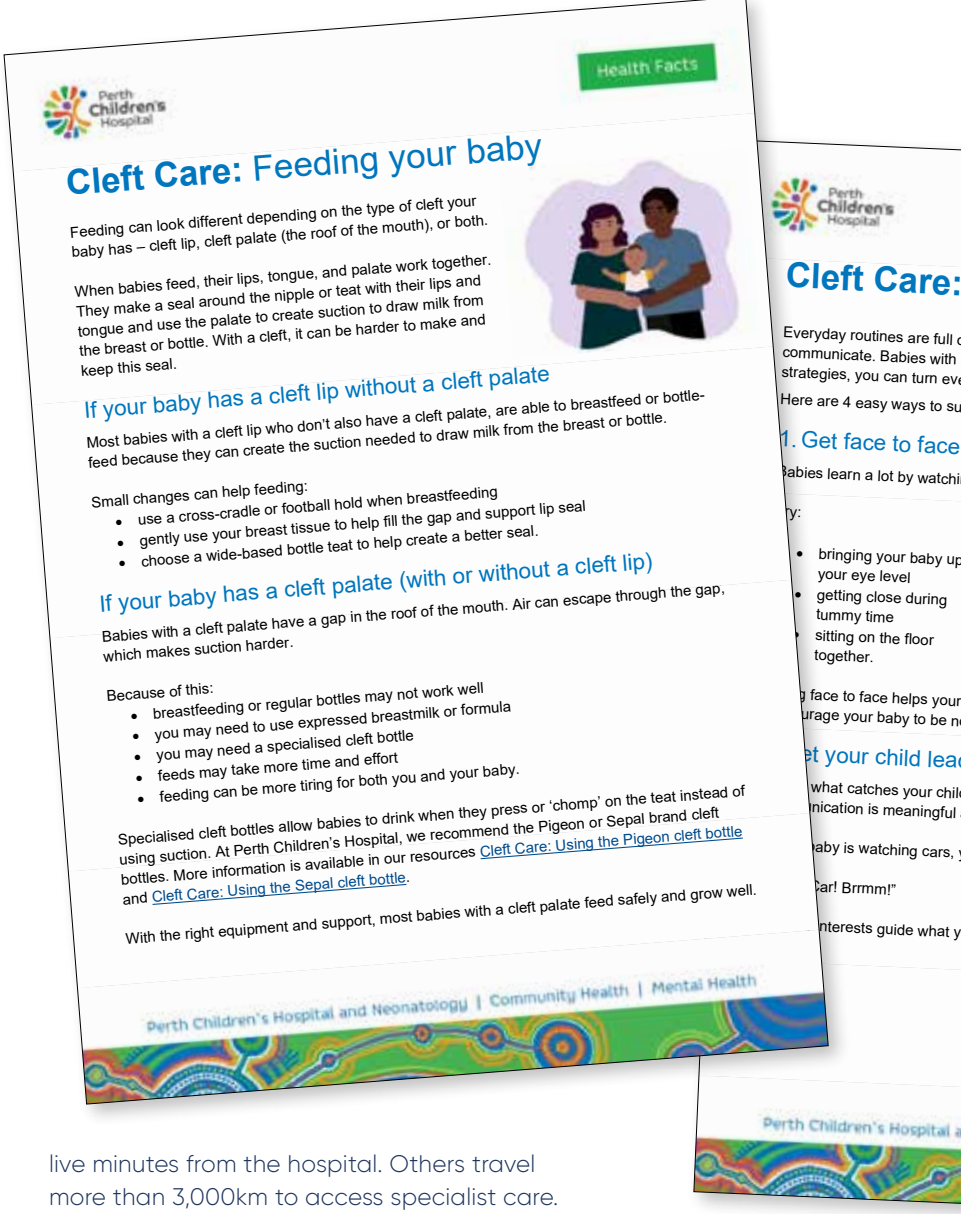
hospital systems and processes themselves, not just the people working within them.

Every training session and every course adds to something bigger: A brighter tomorrow where children across WA, no matter where they live, can count on the same standard of care. That's what building confidence looks like, one simulation at a time.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Bridging the distance in cleft care.

For families across Western Australia, a landmark suite of digital resources is helping parents and caregivers navigate a cleft diagnosis with more confidence – wherever they live, whatever the hour.



Funded by the Foundation, this project is putting reliable, culturally appropriate information directly into the hands of every WA family, from the moment of diagnosis and beyond.

A diagnosis of cleft lip and/or palate changes a family's world in an instant. For some parents, the news arrives during pregnancy, leaving months of uncertainty ahead. For others, it comes in the first moments after birth, when they are simultaneously learning to care for a newborn and absorb information about feeding, surgery and specialist appointments they never anticipated. What almost every family shares in that moment is a desperate need for clear, reliable answers.

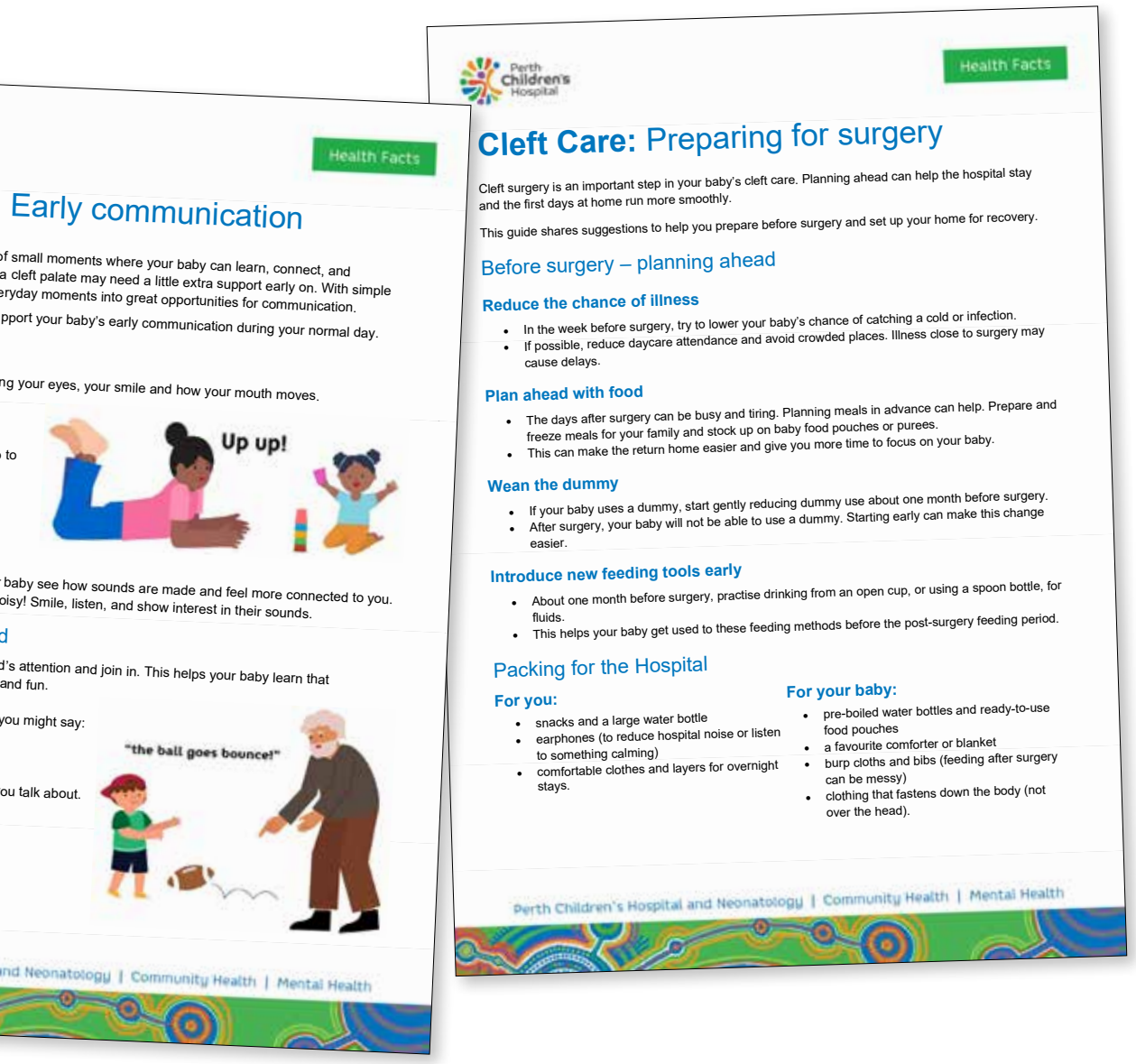
In WA, that need is especially important. Around one in every 522 babies born has a cleft lip and/or palate, which is higher than the Australian average of one in 800 births. The PCH Cleft Unit cares for more than 2,000 WA children and young people from diagnosis through to adulthood, supported by a multidisciplinary team of doctors, nurses, dentists, speech pathologists, psychologists and audiologists, across one of the largest health catchments in the world. Some families live minutes from the hospital. Others travel more than 3,000km to access specialist care.

For those families, accessing information close to home hasn't always been easy. Until now.

A new suite of digital resources, developed by the PCH Cleft team is changing that. Through a series of videos and written guides covering everything from feeding and surgery to early communication development, and a set of animated resources co-designed with First Nations families for their communities, families across WA now have somewhere reliable to turn to at any hour, anywhere.

"If a parent is sitting at home at 2am trying to work out how to use a cleft bottle or wondering whether something after surgery is normal, they can access information straight away rather than waiting until the next clinic visit," said Megan Jones, Senior Speech Pathologist at PCH.

"We also know that not everyone can attend appointments. Grandparents, partners, extended family and local clinicians play an important role in supporting a child with a cleft. Having resources that everyone can access helps ensure the people around the child are receiving the same information and support."



Crucially, the resources were shaped by the families who will use them. The project began when parent Ashleigh Westray shared feeding resources she had created for her own child. From that conversation grew a process of genuine collaboration.

"We started by asking families what they wished they had known," said Megan. "Because of that, the resources are practical, relevant and designed around the questions families ask us every day."

The project has already made its mark on the world stage, presented at the International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies in Kyoto, for its meaningful approach to consumer engagement.

For WA's First Nations families and those in regional and remote communities, the resources carry particular significance. Culturally appropriate, accessible from home and available around the clock, they represent a meaningful step towards equitable care for every family.

Through the support of PCHF, families navigating a cleft diagnosis in WA can now find answers whenever they need them. It's one more way the Foundation is working to ensure the best possible care reaches every WA family, no matter where they are.

1 in 522 babies
born in WA has a cleft lip and/or palate – notably higher than the national average of 1 in 800.

Addison and Hallie

The sisters whose cleft journeys inspired change

When Ashleigh and Jordan's eldest daughter, Addison, was born during a COVID-19 lockdown, there was no warning of what was to come.

Around 12 hours after birth, a lactation consultant raised concerns about Addison's feeding and suspected a cleft palate. What followed was another 12 hours waiting for confirmation from a paediatrician.

"Those hours were incredibly difficult. We found ourselves caught between celebrating the arrival of our baby and fearing the future," Ashleigh recalls.

Once the diagnosis was confirmed, everything moved quickly. Within the hour, Addison was transferred by Newborn Emergency Transport Service (NETS) to the NICU at Perth Children's Hospital, without her parents. "Watching our newborn be taken to a specialist hospital without her parents was one of the most distressing moments of our lives," said Ashleigh. "As parents, our instinct was to protect her, yet we felt completely powerless."

Throughout Addison's stay, Ashleigh and Jordan travelled back and forth between the birth hospital and PCH, still physically recovering from birth while trying to absorb an enormous amount of new information. Much of what they received was verbal, delivered in the midst of an emotionally overwhelming time.

They were first-time parents, suddenly navigating feeding challenges and a medical journey they had never anticipated. "We felt anxious, upset, guilty and deeply concerned," Ashleigh recalls. "What was most overwhelming was the fear of the unknown."

During the first week, while Addison was in NICU they met Megan, a speech pathologist from the cleft team.

"She made us feel genuinely supported and understood. She took the time to explain the diagnosis in a way that was clear and easy to understand, avoiding overwhelming clinical terminology and instead focusing on what it meant for our family and Addison.

"It was the first time in the journey we felt like we understood what the diagnosis meant. She created a safe space for us to ask questions, express our emotions and acknowledge our fears without judgement.

"Following our meeting, Megan provided resources that reinforced everything we had discussed, giving us reliable information to revisit in our own time when we were ready to process it all. This was a pivotal moment in the initial cleft diagnosis and assisted our ability to comprehend what was happening.

"That combination of empathy, education and support made an enormous difference, and still clearly stands out to me almost five years later."

When Ashleigh's second daughter Hallie, was later diagnosed with the same condition, the experience could not have been more different. Armed with knowledge, specialist feeding equipment and an established relationship with the cleft team, Ashleigh felt confident enough to self-discharge from hospital just seven hours after Hallie's birth. "Instead of fear and uncertainty, we felt confident, informed and empowered."

Seeing how differently the same diagnosis could feel was what moved Ashleigh to act. "Those experiences showed us just how powerful education, early intervention and access to the right resources can be."

Ashleigh initially shared feeding resources she had created for her own children, wondering if they might help another family. That simple act of generosity sparked the entire Cleft Care resource project at PCH.

Ashleigh and her family went on to participate in workshops, review content and appear in filming. Their story is now woven into resources that will reach families across WA for years to come.





THANK YOU

The power of philanthropy.

Philanthropy takes on many shapes, from million-dollar investments to pocket money change, to hours given as a volunteer.

We're deeply grateful for every contribution and extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who have supported us in the past year helping PCH deliver world-class care.

Gold Series – Perth

Over the past three years, Perth's business and philanthropic community has come together to generously raise more than $1.5 million for children's health at Gold Series – Perth, a partnership between Perth Children's Hospital Foundation and Sydney Children's Hospitals Foundation (SCHF).

Proceeds from the exclusive fundraising gala are helping change the future of childhood cancer and rare diseases.

The August 2025 event is driving innovation to transform diagnosis, care and support for the 500,000 Australian children living with rare and undiagnosed diseases – 63,000 of those children live in WA.

Uniting Perth's business leaders, donors and changemakers, Gold Series – Perth is directly supporting cutting-edge genomic research, clinical trials, and precision care at Perth Children's Hospital and Sydney Children's Hospitals Network, helping bring answers faster, connect families to care sooner, and fuel the discovery of new treatments for conditions once considered untreatable.

Through our partnership, PCHF and SCHF are extending the impact of Gold Series – Perth across Western Australia, showcasing how collaboration between charities can transform outcomes for children with rare and undiagnosed diseases.

The event's success has been made possible thanks to the Gold Series – Perth Committee members and philanthropists Bryce Sceresini (Chair), Sarita Escalante, Ania Fry, Benita Kam, and Mei Yong.

Punching for a Cure

After a knockout debut in 2025, Punching for a Cure was back in 2026 capturing the hearts of the WA community and uniting corporates, sporting identities, children and families to transform the future of kids' cancer.

Hundreds of participants stepped up to smash our one million punches target at Rumble Boxing Subiaco and, for the first time, satellite locations in regional WA.

Among the participants this year were the Pitts family, whose three daughters are living with NF1, a genetic condition that can cause tumours to develop on the brain, spinal cord and nerves. In an extraordinarily rare and devastating situation, all three girls have faced tumours.

Matilda, 15, recently completed intensive treatment for a spinal tumour the size of an orange, undergoing surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, and targeted therapy.

Her sister Danika, 10, is now stable and has been off treatment for two years after responding to an innovative oral targeted therapy tablet. Danika was just four years old when a tumour the size of a golf ball was discovered growing in her brain.

Their sister Georgia, 13, also continues to undergo regular monitoring for a low-grade, benign brain tumour.

Despite everything the sisters have endured, their mum, Natasha, said the girls were excited to punch at the PCHF event alongside their treating doctor, PCH's Professor Nick Gottardo.








GOLD
PERTH


RUMB
BOXING

"Having seen two very different experiences of cancer – Danika, who got away with much gentler, kinder treatments on her body, and then Matilda, who needed chemotherapy, radiation, targeted therapy and surgery – has shown us just how different that experience can be," said Natasha who emphasised the need for more targeted, less toxic treatments for children facing cancer.

Over two years, Punching for a Cure has raised more than $700,000 to support groundbreaking childhood cancer research.

Commission for a Cause

For eight years, the buzz of the markets has helped create meaningful change for children's healthcare with Euroz Hartleys' annual Commission for a Cause raising more than $880,000 for WA's sickest kids.

On the day, brokerage commissions generated are donated equally between three charities, fuelling more than financial returns.

For PCHF, this generosity has helped make a real and lasting impact, funding life-changing projects such as diabetes pumps, Sandcastles (Boodja Mia) children's hospice, a state-of-the-art simulation training manikin for the PCH Emergency Department, electromagnetic (EM) navigation technology to make neurosurgery safer, the Kids Rehab WA program and the Wal-yan Respiratory Research Centre.

Port to Pub

Making a splash for sick kids every year are the amazing participants who power their way to Rottnest in the iconic Port to Pub. This year, more than $56,000 was raised, including $31,000 from our ambassador teams, in the Mader Port to Pub with Hotel Rottnest.

Many of our ambassador swimmers have deeply personal motivations for taking part, including Alana, whose three-year-old son Maverick was born with one kidney and has faced many harrowing procedures and surgeries in his life.

"Swimming to Rottnest feels like a small challenge compared to what Mav and other brave kids and families face," Alana said.

Over the past four years, Port to Pub has raised more than $186,000 to support Move to Improve, the ground-breaking program helping kids with chronic health conditions reconnect with physical activity.

HBF Run for a Reason

A record 2,000 inspiring participants stepped up to the challenge to raise funds for PCHF and WA's sick children in the 2026 HBF Run for a Reason.

Amongst the inspirational fundraisers were Ash, whose life changed overnight after a serious brain bleed at just 15; Emily, whose one-year-old son Peter was diagnosed earlier this year with retinoblastoma, the most common eye cancer in children; and Jordan, who was diagnosed at age two with Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia (PCD), a rare and incurable lung condition.

First-time mum Emily crossed the finish line as the third highest individual fundraiser and PCHF's top fundraiser, raising an incredible $10,215. Emily trained with her greatest motivation by her side, her little boy Peter tucked into a running pram. Although he is still undergoing treatment, Peter is, encouragingly responding well.

Little legends

It seems you're never too young to start a philanthropic journey. Our recent Tax and Christmas Fundraising Appeals have generated heartwarming donations from WA children.

During our 2025 Christmas Appeal, a six year old from Geraldton Primary School donated $9.00 with a handwritten note that said: "This is from my money box for the sick kids."

And in our 2026 Tax Appeal, the son of our Ambassador Hailey's former Kindergarten teacher was moved to donate after watching PCHF's video of Hailey repeatedly. The young boy had been saving for an iPad but, after seeing Hailey's story, told his mum he wanted to donate $50 to help other kids just like her.

To everyone who has supported us throughout the year, we say a sincere thank you – we couldn't do it without you.






Stitches




hbf run
FOR A REASON
THULE


RUMBLE
14OZ

Thank you.

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Tony and Gwenyth Lennon
Tony Fini Foundation
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Over the past year, an amazing $9.18 million has been donated to PCH to help WA's sick kids get well and stay well. Thank you to all of our donors.

Major Community Events and Supporters

Adenco

Australian Indian Medical Association

Canning Vale Toyota

Cape to Cape Mountain Bike Ride

Debbie Coultas

HBF Run for a Reason

Lions Club of Dunsborough

Lions Club of South Perth

Lions Club, District 201 W2

Lions Festival for Disadvantaged Children Inc.

Little Folk Inc

Livestock & Rural Transport Association of WA

Macquarie Bank

Mader Port to Pub - Ceinwen Roberts

Market West Annual Cherry Auction

Merino & Co

Oscar Hunt

PCH Junior Medical Association

PCHF Community Stall - Janet Reynolds, John Reynolds & Nancy Chiam

PCHF Gift Shop

PCHF Punching for a Cure

PCHF Tennis Classic - Cate McKenzie & Katrina Downes

Perth 2027 World Police and Fire Games

Perth Firefighter Calendar Committee

Putt4Dough Annual Golf Day - WAITTA

Rock Paper Scissors

Rotary Club of Boulder

Rumble Subiaco

Shape Australia Golf Day

She Fine Jewellery

Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Tour de Cure via Woolies Perth Walk 2026

Bequests and Enduring Trusts

Estate of Richard Lambert

Estate of Lyn Edith Spencer

Estate of Patricia Ann McDonagh

Estate of the Late Marian Kenny

Estate of William Edgar Morris

Jack Family Charitable Trust

Perpetual Foundation - June Yule Endowment

Trust of Elizabeth Ann Bothwell

Thank you.

Sandcastles - WA's Children's Hospice

Alcoa
Amped Digital
Andrew and Cate McKenzie
Australian Government - Department of Health and Aged Care
Barton Family Foundation
Cancer Council WA (via a generous bequest from the late John Street)
CBH Group through the Harvest Mass Management Scheme
CFC Group Foundation
Euroz Hartleys Foundation
Geoff Baker
Hanrine Foundation
Hassell Studio
Herbalife Family Foundaton
Hesperia
HFW Australia
Innerspace
King Living Foundation
Lotterywest
Minderoo Foundation
Nick and Maureen Iustini and Family
Petbarn Foundation
Pip and Judy Mitchell
RAC
Retravision
Rio's Legacy
Stan Perron Charitable Foundation
Sweet Charity - Margaret Booth
The Breidahl Family
The Giorgetta Charity Fund
The Montauk Lighting Co.
Tony Fini Foundation
ToyBox Australia
Trendsetter Homes and Select Living
West to West
Woodside

Ambassador Families

Bakker Family
Ballingall Family
Berry Family
Blackwood Family
Curulli Family
Davey Family
de Prazer Family
Dutton Family
Fearnall Family
Ferris Family
Foy Family
Fretwell Family
Gallagher Family
Gibson Family
Goodwin Family
Gregory Family
Hamilton Family
Holly Family
Horton Family
Hughes Family
Jamieson Family
Johnson Family
Kieran Family
Kitson Family
Leeming Family
Lekias Family
McAuliffe Family
McCallum Family
McIlroy Family
McShane Family
Motteram Family
Mould Family
Neve Family
Pitts Family
Pointon Family
Potts Family
Riley Family
Rodman Family
Rogers Family
Stewart Family
Taylor Family
The Reilly and King Family
Toki Family
Trucia Family
Tucker Family
Turner Family
Ulupov Family
Wagner Family
Waller Family
Weston Family

Volunteers

Ann Moran
Anne Marie Quinn
Audrey Zhang
Barbara Johnson
Carol McKenzie
Catherine Warr
Chloe Tomlinson
Christine Hitchcock
Cilla Tolj
Dolores Peverall
Elsie Clelland
Faith Blakiston
Faye Martin
Geraldine Taseff
Gillian Morris
Giselle Sugianto
Hayley Pelz
Helen Luck
Henny Oon
Iris Potter
Isabella Vidotto
Jacqueline van der Voorden
Jenny Nobbs
June Tognolini
Karin Pfleger
Lani Limanto
Leanne Merks
Linda Worth
Liz Payne
Lyn Hunt
Marjan Shircore
Mary Turner
Michael Dadour
Nadine Amesz
Nancy Chiam
Natalie Freeman
Nighat Gilani
Robyn McWilliams
Rox Ricafranca
Sandra McAlpine
Shirley France
Tabitha Roche
Tania Graves
Tarren Southcott
Tayla Taseff
Vanessa Brunetto
Wesley Cotton

Thank you for your generous support.
It really is making a difference to the lives
of sick kids in WA and across the world.



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Perth Children's Hospital **Foundation**

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