



Our year of gratitude

Here for all Queenslanders.
2024 – 2025 Impact Report





Cancer Council Queensland acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and live across Queensland. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and extend our respects to all First Nations peoples and communities.

We recognise the deep and enduring spiritual connections Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have to

land, and honour the role of culture, community and Country in sustaining health, hope and healing.

Cancer Council Queensland is committed to working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities and organisations to improve cancer outcomes, reduce inequities, and support culturally safe, respectful and inclusive care.



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Message from the Chair

Robert Gregg

CHAIR OF THE BOARD

The past year has been one of remarkable growth, collaboration, and achievement for Cancer Council Queensland as we continue to pursue our mission of leading Queenslanders in a partnership against cancer.

We have strategically allocated resources across education, prevention, and early detection programs, alongside significant investment in research and patient support services. These efforts help to provide Queenslanders with access to timely support services and the tools to reduce cancer risk.

Alongside these investments, we've strengthened our advocacy work to drive policy change that supports cancer prevention. Cancer Council Queensland, together with Lung Foundation Australia and The Australian Council on Smoking and Health, appeared before the Parliamentary Inquiry to support legislation restricting tobacco and vape sales in a world-leading step to protect Queenslanders from harm. We welcomed the Committee's recommendation to pass the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Amendment Bill 2025, which was passed by the Queensland Parliament in November 2025. These reforms will create Australia's strongest enforcement framework to disrupt the illicit trade in tobacco and vaping products, helping to safeguard the Queensland community.

Collaboration remains a cornerstone of our mission. Through our membership in the Cancer Council Federation (the Federation), we collectively achieved major milestones, including directing significant funds toward prevention, early detection programs and research, and delivering vital support services for Australians impacted by cancer. The Federation also played a pivotal role in passing federal legislation restricting vape sales and in developing the Australian Cancer Nursing and Navigation Program, an initiative that will expand services helping all Australians impacted by cancer and strengthen the Cancer Council's 13 11 20 information and support line on a national scale.

Looking ahead, 2026 will see significant steps by Cancer Council Queensland and the other members of the Federation toward establishing the national delivery of this navigation assistance service. Leveraging our research expertise through initiatives such as the Cancer Atlas, and our strong statewide presence, we are uniquely positioned to uncover gaps and inequities in cancer care. The year ahead presents a critical opportunity to address these challenges, with a particular focus on improving access and outcomes for remote and rural communities.

Our volunteers remain a key pillar of everything we do. Their passion and commitment keep us grounded in local communities and helps direct our services to meet Queenslanders' needs. Cancer Council Queensland provides a long established, purposeful and hugely credible platform for volunteers, and in return, we benefit from their local knowledge, connectivity, and unwavering support.

To our volunteers: thank you. Please keep spreading the word about how rewarding volunteering can be; the need has never been greater. You play a critical role in energising communities and helping us deliver on our mission. Your energy and dedication inspire our team to strive for "more and better" every day.

2026 will conclude my eight-year tenure on the Board, the last three years as Chair, and I reflect with immense gratitude and pride. My sincerest thanks to the members of our Board, and its Committees and Advisory Groups, staff, donors, and supporters. Your contributions have strengthened Cancer Council Queensland's influence in health policy, expanded essential support services, and fostered collaboration to close gaps in cancer care in Queensland and at the national level.

Together, we've helped shape a brighter future for all Queenslanders impacted by cancer.

I leave with deep appreciation for all who have walked this journey with me.





Message from the CEO

Matt Gardiner

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

It's been a privilege to step into this role with Cancer Council Queensland in February 2025, and to work alongside the dedicated team and the community behind this organisation.

This year's impact report is different. We're calling this our 'Year of gratitude', a deliberate focus to recognise the people who make everything we do possible. As dedicated employees, we are privileged and inspired to work alongside our volunteers, supporters, and Board members, who generously give their time and expertise freely so we can reach every Queenslanders impacted by cancer. This report recognises and celebrates them.

At its core, Cancer Council Queensland is a community of many thousands of people, who together support Queenslanders 'every step of the way'. Across Queensland, people have given their time, skills, and compassion to support people affected by cancer – from running community events and fundraising, to offering emotional support, fitting wigs for patients, to ensuring access to accommodation and helping people get to and from treatment. The stories you'll read in these pages reflect the significance and heart of that contribution.

In developing an impact measurement framework over the next 12 months, we will be resetting some performance indicators and benchmarks for future use. These are the measures of the impact we're having, and we want to best ensure accountability to our donors and the community. Therefore, some of the measures will look slightly different in this report as we move towards this new methodology. You will see some familiar and concrete information about our reach, including services we've provided, influence that can be attributed to advocacy and prevention measures, and value of research contributions. There are also real insights from people who've been supported by Cancer Council Queensland, to illustrate just a few of the many

thousands of lives positively impacted through your support this year.

Cancer Council Queensland remains firmly committed to the three pillars that guide what we do: Research, Prevention and Support. These pillars underpin our mission to support all Queenslanders affected by cancer, regardless of who they are or where they live.

We exist to serve everyone, whether they are First Nations people, people with disabilities, those from rural or remote communities, LGBTQI people, or those for whom English is not the first-spoken language. It's a commitment to equity, inclusion, and access that doesn't waver. And it's central to how we design and deliver our mission – all in the interests of ensuring that who you are and where you're from doesn't determine your screening, treatment or survivorship outcomes.

Our world-class research program continues to deepen understanding of cancer, improve outcomes, and generate evidence that shapes prevention, diagnosis and care. These insights and contributions are incredibly valuable to Queenslanders and indeed to people around the world. Prevention remains one of the most powerful tools we have to reduce the impact of cancer across the state. Our prevention work continues to focus on reducing risk, promoting early detection, and advocating for healthier communities, as well as advocacy that has a significant influence in advancing social and public policy. This is all to help Queenslanders make informed choices while supporting long-term public health outcomes.

Cancer Council Queensland's support extends to people all across the state, including those travelling from remote and regional communities being welcomed into our accommodation at treatment locations, providing not just a comfortable room, but a supportive

community. Our transport drivers, peer support and wig and headwear teams offer a warm and caring service to people going through treatment. The friendly and knowledgeable support this offers is so greatly appreciated by people going through treatment. It's often what gets people through their hardest days.

Similarly, our professional team providing information, advocacy, support and referral through our psychological counselling, support and helpline, financial counselling and professional supportive care all make a significant contribution to reduce the psycho-social burden.

I want to thank the board for their leadership and contribution. You will not find a more dedicated group of directors. The time they make is truly extraordinary. I'm personally grateful for their confidence and the support they have given to me and the executive team this year.

Our respective teams in governance and leadership are critical in ensuring this important organisation is constantly improving and focused on mission delivery. We are in good hands.

I want to sincerely thank outgoing Chief Executive, Andrew Donne, whose forward thinking and dedication led to the modernisation of several systems and business improvement processes. These changes and others have left a lasting mark on Cancer Council Queensland and will serve the organisation for many years to come.

Finally, as I reflect on my first months at Cancer Council Queensland, and look to the year ahead, I am deeply grateful for the people who make this organisation what it is. To our donors, fundraisers, volunteers, and community partners, thank you. Your generosity, your time, your commitment – it all matters. You make it possible for us to be there where and when Queenslanders need us most. Together, we are ensuring no Queenslanders face cancer alone.





Cancer Council
Ponytail Project

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The power of many

2025 was a year full of success shaped entirely by the people in the Cancer Council Queensland community. Behind every service delivered, every research breakthrough supported, and every voice raised for prevention, are dedicated supporters who make this work possible.

In this year's Impact Report, Cancer Council Queensland has deliberately focused on recognising that collective effort, and the role it plays in supporting Queenslanders affected by cancer. Volunteers who show up with care and compassion. Donors and fundraisers whose generosity sustains vital services. Researchers, advocates, and partners working to reduce the impact of cancer now and into the future. Together, you help ensure Queenslanders can access support, information, and care when they need it most.

From those who offer their time as drivers, to those who help fit someone with a new wig or offer support over the phone – we want you to know how intrinsic your efforts are to the impact of this organisation.

And we want to acknowledge those thousands of people participating in fundraising across Queensland in ways both big and small. From Australia's Biggest

Morning Tea and Daffodil Day, to young people who choose to cut their ponytails in solidarity, every act of fundraising makes a difference. Committees who organise and run Relay For Life events, along with local fundraising branches embedded in their communities, play a vital role in funding Cancer Council Queensland's research, prevention, and support services.

We are also deeply grateful to those who remember Cancer Council Queensland in their wills, ensuring our work continues for generations to come.

The stories, insights, and measures that follow are not simply a report of what we do, but how this work is carried forward through shared commitment. Across research, prevention, and support, your contribution reaches people at every stage of their cancer experience, in communities across the state.

**Thank you for standing with us.
This report is a reflection of
your impact and the difference
we continue to make together.**

Our Mission

To lead Queenslanders in a partnership against cancer.

Our Strategy

Navigating cancer together.

We are here to support all Queenslanders impacted by cancer. Our aim is to reduce cancer risk, increase early detection, improve treatment, and enhance quality of life for Queenslanders affected by a cancer diagnosis.

Our Values

Our mission will be achieved by high performing people who live our values:

Responsible, Inclusive,
Collaborative and Equitable.

Our Priorities





Merchandise Price List	
Daffodils	\$12.00
Pins	\$5.00
Keyrings	\$8.00
Pens	\$4.00

Our people and support

Thank you to our 1,068 volunteers powering our mission across Queensland

Our volunteers

Volunteers play a vital role in delivering our mission and extending our reach across Queensland. Their generosity of time, skills and energy strengthens our services, supports our fundraising efforts, and helps ensure cancer support is accessible in communities statewide.

As at 30 June 2025, we were supported by 1,068 volunteers, including active volunteers who participate in activities at least once a month, and event volunteers who supported one or more Cancer Council Queensland events during the year. We are deeply grateful to every volunteer for their commitment and the meaningful contribution they make to our work.







“All they’ve got to do is worry about their treatment. We’ll worry about getting them there and back.”

Volunteer Driver

Rob Hargie

Transport to treatment volunteer, Rockhampton

For more than two years, Rockhampton local Rob Hargie has been one of the friendly faces behind Cancer Council Queensland's Transport to Treatment service. As a volunteer driver, he picks patients up from their homes or from the lodge, gets them safely to treatment, and brings them back again. It sounds simple, but to the people he meets each day, it means far more than a lift.

Rob knows this better than most. He's lived his own cancer story, spending 12 months in treatment in Brisbane and relying on a similar service run by the Leukaemia Foundation. He remembers how much it helped just to get out of the hospital room, how the bus rides were a small moment of 'normal' in a difficult time. Those memories stayed with him.

"When you've been through it, you can understand how unwell people feel," he said. "Once you have a chat and tell them you've been on that journey, they don't seem so stressed out."

Rob first signed up after seeing long-time volunteer Jenny Hilcher on the local news calling for more drivers. She later passed away, but he still credits her with nudging him into the role.

"I thought, 'I can do that.' I love driving," he said. "I'm so glad she prompted me."

What keeps Rob coming back are the people. Some he drives for months, sharing quiet moments, small conversations, sometimes a laugh. The best days are when someone says it's their last treatment.

"It's a special feeling to drop them off," he said. "We don't want to see them back here."

Rob is now in his eighth year of remission and continues to volunteer around his own ongoing treatment.

"All they've got to do is worry about their treatment. We'll worry about getting them there and back," he said.

“I thought that was so perfectly described. It’s not a journey, it’s a detour on the journey.”



Volunteer Wig and Headwear Service

Andrea McKim

Wig and headwear fitting volunteer, Brisbane

Sometimes Andrea watches someone sit down, look in the mirror for the first time since their diagnosis, and start to cry. It happens more often than you'd think. Seven years of fitting wigs has taught her that this moment, really seeing yourself in the middle of cancer treatment, can be one of the most difficult days.

"I've had a woman just look at herself and burst out crying," she said, "because it's the first time she's really looked at herself since the diagnosis. You've got so much to do, you're in survival mode. But then you look at yourself and go, 'Oh, okay, this is where I'm at now'."

It wasn't a straight line that brought Andrea into the wig-fitting room, sitting beside people on days like that. A friend who volunteered here kept telling her she'd be good at it, and that she had the right mix of calm and warmth. Andrea wasn't sure, but she came in to see what it was like anyway.

One shift was enough for her to know. She realised this was a place where small moments matter, where you can help someone feel a little more like themselves at a time when everything else feels uncertain.

Most people walk into the fitting room carrying a lot. Some have only recently learned they'll lose their hair. Others are trying to stay strong for the person who came with them.

Andrea begins each appointment by checking how the person is going, explaining what will happen, and letting them decide the pace.

She guides them through different styles, takes photos from different angles so they can look objectively, and helps narrow it down. Sometimes it's quiet. Sometimes there's humour.

"I think there's a lot of power in the fact that they can just feel a bit like themselves," she said.

Andrea sees people who come with partners, children, friends, or no one at all.

"Most people are very humbled by the fact that it is something free for them," she said.

Andrea has never failed to fit someone with something they felt comfortable in, although she hastened to add: "Touch wood."

She remembers one woman who arrived with her whole family. Her daughter, granddaughter, one-year-old, and even the dog. The woman was a university lecturer and clearly overwhelmed. They found a wig that worked.

Months later the woman spoke at Andrea's 60th birthday fundraiser. She talked about her cancer 'detour'.

"I thought that was so perfectly described," Andrea said. "It's not a journey, it's a detour on the journey."

The woman told the room that the wig fitting had given her a glimmer of something positive during a very dark time.

It's part of the trade-off of giving her time, Andrea said, seeing someone walk out feeling lighter than when they arrived.



Peer Support Volunteer

Angela Wong Cancer peer support volunteer, Brisbane

Angela knows what it feels like to sit beside someone you love through cancer treatment, and she knows what it feels like to go through it yourself. Those experiences shape the way she volunteers today.

She cared for her husband from the moment he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2020 until he died two years later. It was a time filled with appointments, long nights, and the quiet kind of grief that builds as someone becomes weaker.

Angela remembers the difference she felt when talking to people with similar experiences. That sense of being met where she was at made it so much more comforting.

“People need to talk to people in the same boat,” she explained. “When you talk to friends, they say, ‘Stay strong.’ You hear it so many times. But it’s different when you’re talking to someone who understands.”

Not long after her husband passed away, Angela faced her own diagnosis: breast cancer. It was caught early, and treatment was successful, but it added another layer to her understanding of what patients go through. She now carries both perspectives when she picks up the phone as a peer support volunteer.

Angela only began volunteering this year, but she’s already formed strong connections with the people she supports. She speaks regularly with two carers whose experiences echo her own. She listens to their worry and exhaustion and gently prepares them for what might come next.

“I try to tell them my real-life experience; to prepare them for the next stage,” she said.

Sometimes the conversations are hard, but they feel important. Every time someone ends a call feeling a little more supported, Angela feels she is doing something meaningful with what she’s lived through.

“At the end of every phone call, they always say thank you, that they feel much better,” she said. “That gives me some sense of achievement.”

Volunteering has strengthened Angela’s confidence and deepened her compassion. She plans to keep doing it for as long as she can.



“At the end of every phone call, they always say thank you, that they feel much better. That gives me some sense of achievement.”



Our People
and Support



Through it all, the group keeps showing up for their community, just as they always have.

Branch Volunteer

Roslyn Newberry Branch chairperson, Gladstone

Nearly a decade ago, the Gladstone branch of Cancer Council Queensland was on the verge of closing. No one could be found to step up as chairperson. Staff from the wider organisation visited Gladstone twice to seek a solution. The second time, they suggested a compromise: the branch could step back and focus solely on fundraising.

The volunteers weren't having it. These were experienced women with strong opinions and deep ties to their community. They knew what their branch meant locally, and they weren't ready to let it go. It was then that Roslyn Newberry put her hand up.

Roslyn has been chairperson ever since, but is surprised it has been eight years since that decision.

"It gets away when you're busy," she said.

Cancer isn't an abstract concept for Roslyn. In 1985, when her children were 13 and 16, she was diagnosed with cervical cancer. There was no family history. She remembers standing outside the doctor's office in her husband's arms in shock. She'd only heard one word: cancer.

Since then, her husband has had prostate and bladder cancer. Her daughter had a melanoma on her shoulder, then later a tumour the size of a cricket ball in her lung. Immunotherapy saved her life.

The Gladstone branch keeps going. They wrap Christmas presents at the shopping centre for months each year. They organise Australia's Biggest Morning Tea. During COVID, when most events stopped, local busker Reg Sutton became their lifeline, singing for donations and keeping the branch funded when nothing else could take place.

They've lost people. Glenda, their secretary, died in 2020. Robin, another member, passed away a few years ago. It hurts, said Roslyn. But it also reminds branch members why they do this work.

Through it all, the group keeps showing up for their community, just as they always have. The losses, the long hours, the fundraising tables and morning teas, it all comes back to making sure no one faces cancer alone, according to Roslyn.

Gladstone needed its branch, and she's proud it's still here.

Our people and culture

Our mission of leading Queenslanders in a partnership against cancer is made possible through the dedication, expertise and commitment of our people. Across Cancer Council Queensland, our staff are united by a shared purpose and a strong connection to the communities we serve.

This year, we continued to invest in building a culture where people feel supported, valued and empowered to bring their best selves to work. By strengthening connection to our mission and to one another, we aim to create work experiences where employees feel inspired, capable and proud of the impact they make.

In 2024–2025, we undertook two organisation-wide staff surveys to better understand employee experiences and identify opportunities for growth.

A Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) survey conducted in November 2024 achieved a participation rate of 75 per cent, followed by an all-staff engagement survey in April 2025 with an 85 per cent participation rate. Results highlighted key organisational strengths, including a strong sense of inclusion and purpose, and a shared commitment to quality.

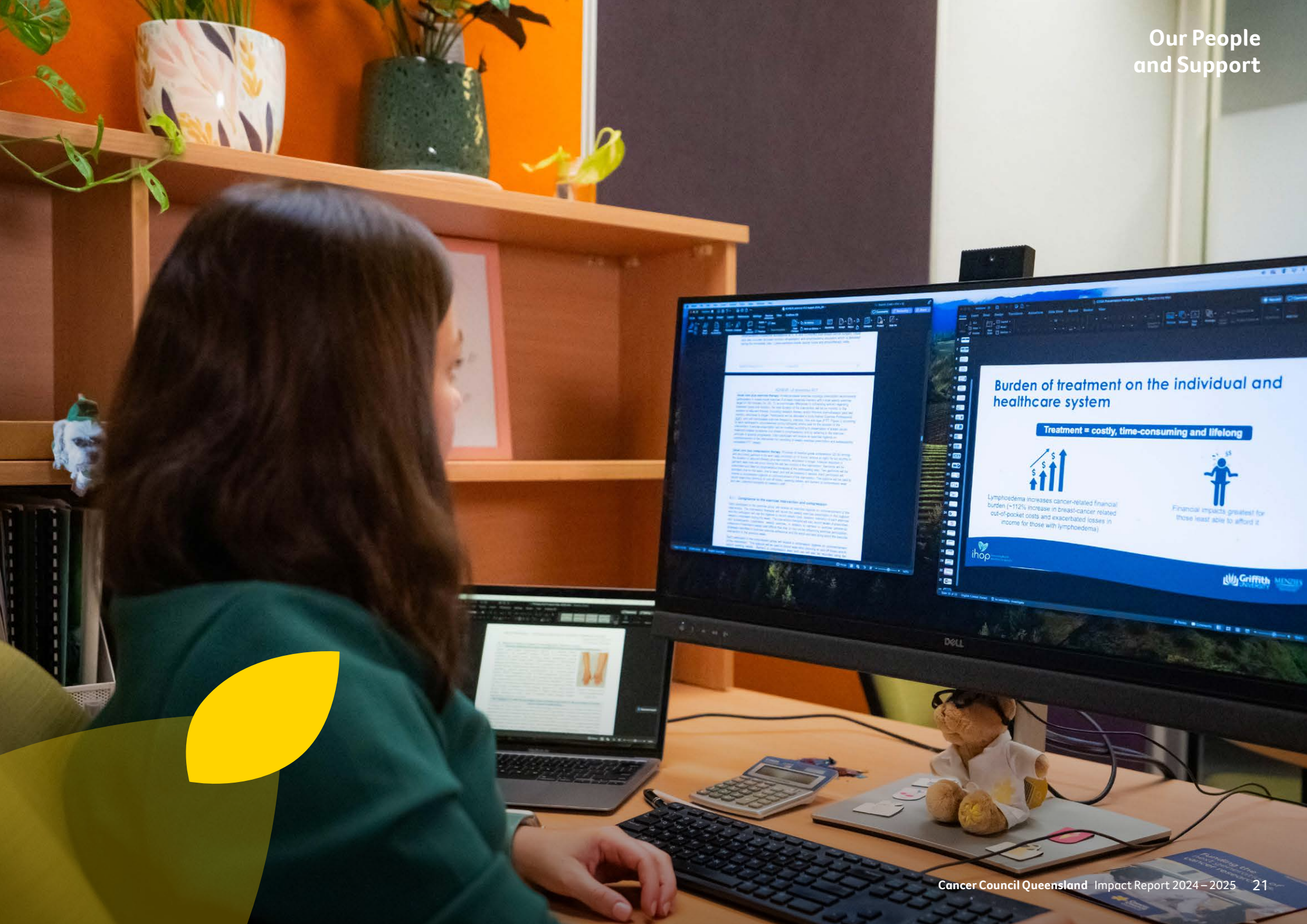
Insights from the surveys informed meaningful action. Following the DEIB survey, we established CCQ Better Together, a committee dedicated to advancing diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging initiatives across the organisation. Results from the engagement survey were used to support tailored team action plans, creating space for managers and teams to come together for focused conversations about culture, wellbeing and ways of working.

Supporting career development remains a priority. This year, emerging leaders participated in the Aspiring Leaders Program, developing skills to support their transition into leadership and foster positive team cultures.

We also launched a dedicated Mentoring Program, designed to encourage collaboration, knowledge sharing and continuous learning. Following a successful pilot, a second mentoring program was launched later in 2025, reflecting strong demand and positive feedback.

As at 30 June 2025, Cancer Council Queensland employed 185 staff, each contributing their skills and experience to advance our mission and support Queenslanders affected by cancer.





Burden of treatment on the individual and healthcare system

Treatment = costly, time-consuming and lifelong



Lymphoedema increases cancer-related financial burden (~112% increase in breast-cancer related out-of-pocket costs and exacerbated losses in income for those with lymphoedema)



Financial impacts greatest for those least able to afford it



Our People and Support

Through a **culture of collaboration, responsibility, and trust**, our people are supported to purposefully engage and deliver on Cancer Council Queensland's mission.







Gift in will supporters

Cancer Council Queensland is privileged to be supported by individuals and partners who share our vision of a cancer-free future. Among them are those who choose to leave a gift in their will, an enduring act of generosity that helps ensure our work can continue for generations to come.

We extend our sincere thanks to all bequestors who included Cancer Council Queensland in their estate planning. These gifts enable us to make a tangible difference in the lives of individuals and families impacted by cancer, both now and into the future. We honour every bequestor for their trust, compassion and lasting legacy.

We also acknowledge and thank those individuals who included a gift in their will through QLD Gives by Queensland Community Foundation, and we extend our appreciation to QLD Gives for their ongoing management and distribution of these funds.

Cancer Council Queensland bequestors:

- Beatrice Close
- Peter James Coates
- Sylvia Dearling
- Catherine Mary Girgenti & Francesco Giovanni Girgenti
- Brian Arthur Harris
- Leonard Charles Hovell
- Beryl Keenan
- Rose Komduur
- Marie Patricia Schneider
- Marie Joyce Thorgood
- John William Ward

The bequestors listed have each generously gifted more than \$20,000 to Cancer Council Queensland.

Pro-bono supporters

Cancer Council Queensland gratefully acknowledges the organisations that generously provide pro-bono support. Their contributions enable us to focus on delivering lifesaving programs and services, ensuring that together, we can make a meaningful difference for Queenslanders impacted by cancer.

Firm name	Pro bono value
K&L Gates	\$124,062.00
McInnes Wilson Lawyers	\$102,675.00
HWL Ebsworth Lawyers	\$54,497.90
Minter Ellison	\$18,067.00
Baker McKenzie	\$7,980.00
Allens	\$5,335.00
Mills Oakley	\$1,302.90
Hopgood Ganim Lawyers	\$1,233.00



Our Research

Thank you for enabling
research that could
**change the
future of
brain cancer**



Dr Taskeen Janjua Khan Next Generation Cancer Research Fellow

Sometimes the work Dr Taskeen Janjua Khan does feels impossibly small. Not in importance, but in scale. She spends her days thinking about particles so tiny they can slip past the brain's natural defences, carrying medicine where it has never been able to go before.

Taskeen is a Next Generation Cancer Research Fellow at The University of Queensland, working on new ways to treat glioblastoma, an aggressive brain cancer with a median survival of less than 14 months. That figure has barely shifted in decades.

Brain cancer is difficult to treat not because medicine hasn't tried, but because the brain is so well protected. The blood-brain barrier filters what reaches the brain, blocking harmful substances. When cancer is involved, that same protection becomes a problem.

"Only about 20 per cent of chemotherapy actually reaches the tumour," Taskeen explains. "The rest stays in the bloodstream."

That remaining 80 per cent causes the side effects people know too well: hair loss, nausea, damage to healthy tissue. Meanwhile, the cancer often continues to grow.

Taskeen's research is focused on changing that balance. During her PhD, she developed ultra-small silica nanoparticles designed to cross the blood-brain barrier and deliver chemotherapy directly to the tumour. Because the particles are porous, they can carry a high drug load. And because they are targeted, lower doses may be needed overall.

Taskeen didn't plan to become a researcher. She trained as a pharmacist in New Zealand and took on a research project out of curiosity. Then two family members were diagnosed with cancer. One was her three-year-old cousin.

"That changed my world view," she says. "This is not the sort of world we want to live in, where children get cancer."

An opportunity to work on brain cancer at The University of Queensland followed, and Taskeen stayed.

By that point, she'd applied for grant after grant and was seriously considering going back into pharmacy. But with support from Cancer Council Queensland's Next Generation Cancer Research Fellowship, Taskeen is now testing her nanoparticles in advanced models, aiming to move closer to patient trials.

"Without this funding, this research wouldn't have happened," she says.

"Without this funding, this research wouldn't have happened."



Viertel Cancer Research Centre's priority areas



Cancer prevention and early detection

Up to 40% of cancers are preventable through healthy lifestyle changes, but behaviour change is complex and shaped by social, cultural, and environmental factors.

Cancer screening remains one of the most effective tools for early detection and reducing cancer-related deaths. However, participation in national programs remains low – especially among priority populations, including those living in rural and remote areas.

Our research addresses these disparities by developing culturally appropriate, community-driven solutions that promote equitable access.

Ultimately our goal is to:

- Prevent cancer,
- Detect cancer early,
- Reduce disease burden, and
- Keep people out of hospitals and off waiting lists.

Flagship Projects

- Increasing participation in the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (page 14)
- The content and psychometric properties of measures assessing cancer screening-related anticipatory anxiety
- Melanoma Screening Trial 25-year Follow-Up (MST25)
- Sun safe behaviour in Australia over time: A review and meta-analysis



Cancer survivorship

A cancer diagnosis can impact every aspect of life, including physical, emotional, social, and financial wellbeing.

Our research aims to understand the experiences and support needs of those impacted by cancer, including people diagnosed with cancer and their families. We identify service gaps, then work with communities and service providers to design and evaluate supportive care services to improve health outcomes.

Flagship Projects

- Rural transition of care (page 16)
- MEAL program (Making it Easy to Access a meal on arrival at the Lodge) (page 18)
- Exercise during Chemotherapy for Ovarian cancer trial (ECHO)
- Travelling for treatment
- Understanding experiences and identifying needs of Queenslanders affected by cancer (UNIQUE)
- Optimising Care



Understanding cancer disparities

While overall cancer outcomes have improved, these gains have not been experienced equally across all communities. Cancer Council Queensland is committed to identifying and addressing disparities in cancer outcomes through targeted research and data-driven initiatives.

Our research aims to investigate geographic and social determinants that influence cancer risk and survival, map and analyse variations in cancer outcomes that are unwarranted or preventable, generate evidence to inform targeted and effective interventions, and support initiatives that promote equity in cancer care delivery.

We lead efforts to translate data into action by:

- Providing insights to inform local and national cancer policy.
- Supporting data-driven planning for health services and resource allocation.
- Advocating for equitable access to cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment — for all Australians.

Flagship Projects

- Australian Cancer Atlas (page 20)
- Understanding and addressing prostate cancer disparities in rural and remote communities (page 22)
- Cancer epidemiology cohorts



Childhood cancer

Cancer Council Queensland’s research into childhood cancer is centred on maintaining and expanding the Australian Childhood Cancer Registry (ACCR), a national databank with over 22,000 records of every child diagnosed with cancer in Australia since 1983. The ACCR enables population-based research and long-term follow-up studies essential for improving outcomes for children affected by cancer.

Our research explores the long-term health impacts of childhood cancer, addresses key gaps in survivorship, and generates locally relevant evidence through analysis of ACCR data. Through these efforts we aim to:

- Advance clinical knowledge using population-level data.
- Inform service delivery and care models tailored to the needs of childhood cancer survivors.
- Guide policy to improve long-term health outcomes.
- Support families by identifying key resource needs.

Flagship Projects

- Australian Childhood Cancer Registry (page 24)
- Late effects of childhood cancer (LACE)



Cancer economics

Cancer economics focuses on identifying cost-saving, efficient, and equitable approaches to cancer care. It builds the evidence base for investment in prevention, early detection, survivorship services, models of care, and targeted interventions.

Cancer places a significant financial burden on patients, families, workplaces, and health systems. Our research aims to:

- Understand the economic impact of cancer.
- Evaluate which interventions provide the best value for money.

Embedded across other research priority areas, our health economics work contributes by:

- Informing service delivery.
- Guiding effective allocation of resources.

Flagship Projects

- Roadmap Options for Melanoma Screening in Australia (Melanoma-ROSA) (page 26)
- Labour productivity costs of cancer-related premature mortality in Australia
- Occupational skin cancer risk in Queensland



Inform and communicate

Cancer Council Queensland is a primary source of information about cancer, including statistical information such as cancer diagnosis and survival rates; information about cancer risk behaviours, prevention, and screening; and information about support when needed.

To ensure this information is impactful, it must be communicated in ways that are clear, accessible, and easily understood. The growing use of advanced data analytics, digital storytelling, and visualisation techniques offers powerful tools for engaging diverse audiences and supporting a range of communication goals.

Cancer Council Queensland plays a critical role in transforming complex cancer data into meaningful insights and actions through the following key contributions:

- Use advanced analytics to identify trends and generate insights into cancer outcomes.
- Present complex data through engaging digital storytelling and visualisation.
- Support evidence-based decisions for individuals, communities, and health systems.
- Tailor communication to reduce disparities and reach priority populations.
- Promote public awareness and policy advocacy to improve cancer outcomes.

Flagship Projects

- Communicating cancer burden through visual explainers (page 28)
- Communicating cancer statistics using online tools

Our Prevention Programs

**\$643,000
invested**

to help Queenslanders
reduce their cancer risk



Prevention and early detection

In 2024-2025, we invested \$643,000 to engage communities across Queensland to reduce cancer risk, prevent avoidable cancers, and improve early detection.

Up to one third of all cancers can be prevented by making small changes to modifiable lifestyle behaviours. This year, we continued our focus on prevention and early detection through evidence-based programs, community education, and advocacy so Queenslanders can make informed choices about their health.

Cancer Risk Calculator 2.0

The Cancer Risk Calculator remains a vital tool supporting Queenslanders to understand what they can do to reduce their cancer risk. Since its relaunch in March 2024, the improved calculator has delivered enhanced functionality, stronger data collection, and a more intuitive user experience.

Our impact

- 30,054 completions
- 81.52% sign-up rate
- 2,187 Queenslanders have retaken the Cancer Risk Calculator, showing improvements across five of the six modifiable cancer risk behaviours.

The calculator asks users a series of lifestyle questions and provides a score for each risk factor, indicating how well they are reducing their cancer risk. Users receive tailored recommendations based on Australian guidelines and leading cancer research, specific to their age, gender, and responses.

Number of retakes



Sun safety initiatives

Queensland has one of the highest rates of skin cancer globally. Melanoma, caused by overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation, is the second most commonly diagnosed cancer in the state. Our sun safety initiatives focus on protecting children and young people, supporting the development of habits to help reduce cancer risk.



SunSmart Shade Creation Initiative

After 14 years of protecting Queensland children, 2025 saw the final year of the SunSmart Shade Creation Initiative, which has been running since 2011. We acknowledge and thank the Queensland Government and Queensland Health for funding this important initiative.

In the final year of this program, \$404,700 in funds were awarded by the Government.

SunSmart Shade Creation Initiative

Applicants



10

schools



11

early childhood



11

sporting

Awarded



6

schools



2

early childhood



10

sporting

Cancer Council Queensland's Portable Shade Project



49 schools

60 early childhood centres

486 sporting clubs

74 community groups

30% of applicants created a new sun protection policy



24 schools

27 early childhood centres

223 sporting clubs

36 community groups

Where
have we
shaded?



Sun safety partnership initiative

Building on the success of the shade creation initiative, we secured funding for a new five-year sun safety partnership initiative, focused on embedding sun safety in school communities across Queensland.

Program details:

- \$1,450,000 secured over five years
- Development, delivery and evaluation of a multi-partner approach to strengthen sun-safe practices across prep to year 12 school communities
- Builds on the national SunSmart program, supporting collaboration across the education sector to embed sun safety in school communities.

Local government community of practice

With \$60,000 in funding from the Queensland Government, we established a local government community of practice in partnership with Queensland Health. This initiative supports local governments across Queensland to strengthen sun safety planning and implementation at a community level.



National SunSmart program

Our ongoing commitment to sun safety education continues through the national SunSmart program, providing evidence-based information, resources, and support to communities across Queensland.

Schools



5 New members

24 Renewed members

Early Childhood Centres



43 New members

165 Renewed members

Resources and engagement:

- 61 media requests
- 16 new and updated print and digital resources
- 15,306 printed and digital resources requested

Our Impact

By delivering evidence-based education through tools like the Cancer Risk Calculator, we give Queenslanders practical guidance to understand and reduce their cancer risk. By leading with strong advocacy, we help shape policies that support cancer prevention and early detection. By building meaningful community partnerships with schools, local governments and health organisations, we embed initiatives such as SunSmart shade infrastructure and statewide sun safety programs into everyday settings.

Through these initiatives more Queenslanders can adopt healthier behaviours, reduce their exposure to harmful UV radiation and other modifiable cancer risks, and recognise symptoms earlier.

The result is fewer preventable cancers, earlier diagnoses (when treatment is most effective), improved survival rates and healthier communities across Queensland.



Board & Governance

Our systems, processes and conduct demonstrate our commitment to good governance.

Cancer Council Queensland is committed to strong, transparent governance that reflects our values and supports our mission. We have robust systems to ensure compliance and integrity in everything we do. Our Board and Committees regularly review their performance and the skills and training of their members, to lead effectively. By drawing on specialist advisory groups, such as the Information Technology Steering Group, we strengthen decision-making and stay future-focused. These practices give us a solid foundation to deliver with confidence and make a lasting impact for the community.

Board of Directors

Current Directors as at 2 September 2024

Mr Robert Gregg (Chair)
Mr Todd Everitt (Deputy Chair)
Mr Ian Rodin
Prof Alpha Yap

Mr Robert Hudson
Ms Wendy Tancred
Adj Prof Alanna Geary (appointed 23 July 2024)
Ms Samantha Shanahan (resigned 23 October 2024)

Company Secretary:

Ms. Samantha Lennox (July – December 2024)
Mr Brad Hutchinson (December 2024 – November 2025)

Audit & Risk Management Committee

Oversees audit processes, risk management and compliance.

Mr Ian Rodin (Chair)
Ms Penny Shield
Mr Craig Sydney
Ms Wendy Tancred

People & Culture Committee

Oversees human resources, volunteers and health, safety and wellbeing.

Mr Todd Everitt (Chair)
Ms Nerida Sing (Deputy Chair)
Mr Nicholas Rogers
Adj Prof Alanna Geary (appointed 29 January 2025)
Mr Joseph Francis (resigned 19 November 2025)
Ms Samantha Shanahan (resigned 23 October 2024)

Directors' Attendance & Responsibilities

1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025

Name & Position	Special Responsibilities	Years of Service as Director	Directors' meetings		Committee meetings	
			Eligible to attend	Attended	Eligible to attend	Attended
Mr Robert Gregg Executive Director and Founder, Universal Self Storage Funds Management Pty Ltd	Chair of the Board	7	5	5	–	–
Mr Todd Everitt Managing Director and CEO, Executive Central	Deputy Chair of the Board Chair of the People & Culture Committee	3	5	5	4	4
Mr Ian Rodin Company director; former Ernst & Young partner	Chair of the Audit & Risk Management Committee	5	5	5	4	4
Professor Alpha Yap Professor, University of Queensland - Head of the Division of Cell and Developmental Biology; Senior Principal Research Fellow at NHMRC	-	4	5	4	–	–
Mr Robert Hudson Chief Marketing Officer, Midnight Health	-	3	5	5	–	–
Ms Samantha Shanahan General Counsel, Ramsay Health Care	Member of People & Culture Committee (resigned 23/10/2024)	1	2	1	2	1
Ms Wendy Tancred CEO, Holy Cross Services	Member of Audit & Risk Management Committee	1	5	4	4	4
Adjunct Professor Alanna Geary Chief Nursing & Midwifery, Metro North Hospital and Health Service	Member of People & Culture Committee (appointed 29/01/2025)	1	3	3	2	2

CFO Executive summary

Cancer Council Queensland delivered a comprehensive income deficit of \$2.2m, which reflects growth in support services and research as well as further investment in fundraising in response to the difficult economic environment.

Cancer Council Queensland also made a significant investment in its IT systems through the successful implementation of a new CRM system and upgrades to its cybersecurity environment. This multi-year program also resulted in a significant increase in administration expenses. If not for these major IT investments, Cancer Council Queensland would have recorded a small comprehensive income surplus.

Although total income for the year was \$35m, Cancer Council Queensland has increased its mission expenditure by 12 per cent to \$27.8m to meet the growth in demand for our services.

In line with the comprehensive income deficit of \$2.2m, net assets declined to \$83.1m, but Cancer Council Queensland has maintained a healthy balance sheet with cash and investments of \$54m.

Our investment performance was aligned with the overall performance of investment markets with total investment returns of \$5.6m. We have a long-term investment strategy aimed at delivering strong returns throughout the investment cycle, to enable us to deliver on our mission regardless of broader economic conditions. Through our professional investment adviser, we have achieved a return of 11.9 per cent for the 12 months to June 2025 and an annual return of 10.4 per cent since inception.

Cancer Council Queensland obtained an unqualified audit opinion from our auditors, BDO, for the period ending 30 June 2025.



Ian Rodin

DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD,
CHAIR OF ARMC COMMITTEE

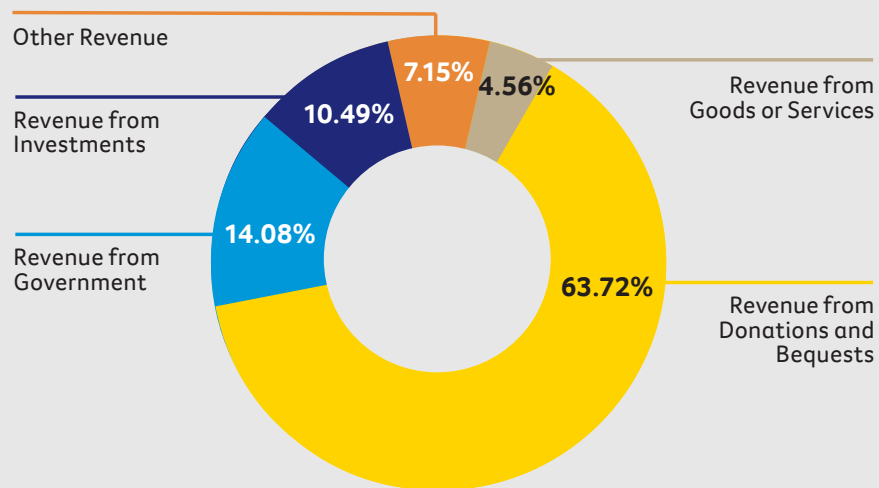
Shane Sullivan

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

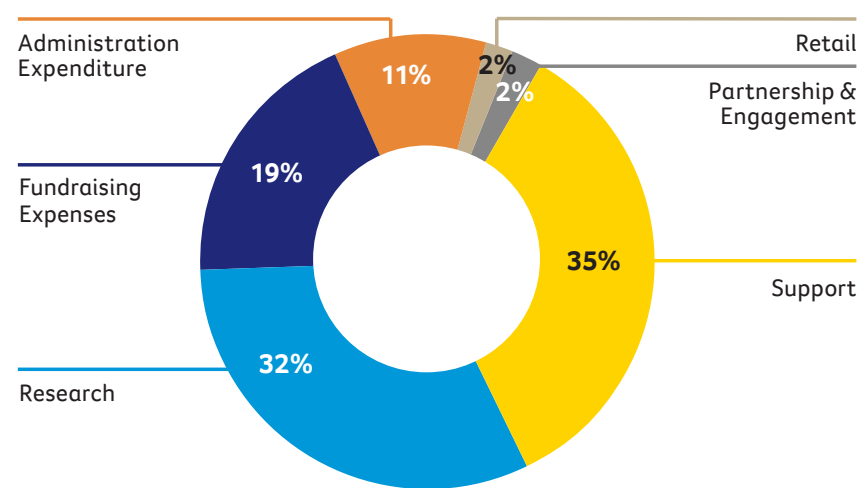
Our sources of financial support

Revenue

Total revenue: \$35,281,959.00



How we put those funds to work



To view the full Financial Report please visit: <https://cancerqld.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/CCQ-Financial-Report-2024-2025.pdf>







FIA ORGANISATIONAL MEMBER CODE COMPLIANT



cancerqld.org.au
Call 13 11 20 for cancer information and support.

