



ANNUAL REPORT





MESSAGE FROM THE
CHAIRMAN & DIRECTOR



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



2017 HIGHLIGHTS



OUR IMPACT REPORT



PHILANTHROPIC SPECTRUM



WHO WE ARE AND
WHAT WE DO



OUR FINANCIALS

KIDS are at the ❤️
of everything we do

At the Telethon Kids Institute, we're not afraid to ask the big questions or to take on the seemingly impossible, when it comes to the health and development of children.

For us, no problem is too big or too scary.

We continue to search for answers, and we won't stop looking until we find them.

We create new knowledge, built on evidence, innovation and our strong track record.

We collaborate with the community, to maximise the potential in what we do, ensure our research is relevant and that it makes a real and tangible difference.

Our researchers share a restless curiosity that keeps them focussed on their work, and a determined inquisitiveness that drives their thirst for knowledge and answers.

We are fearless.

Our team of more than 600 researchers, students and support staff are passionate about research that makes a real difference so that every child has the very best opportunity to enjoy a happy and healthy childhood.

Discover. Prevent. Cure. Together, that's how we make a difference.

Find out more at telethonkids.org.au

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN & DIRECTOR

Jonathan Carapetis
(Director) & John
Langoulant (Chairman)



After 10 years of planning, Telethon Kids Institute is poised to move into its new facility within the Perth Children's Hospital in August.

While the journey to this destination has had more than its fair share of challenges, the excitement ahead of this imminent opportunity is palpable throughout the organisation.

Collaboration is at the core of the Institute's Strategic Plan. Our co-location with Perth Children's Hospital and other research organisations on the QEII Campus will physically enhance research collaboration and the timely exchange of research and clinical knowledge. The opportunity for cultural change is perhaps even more exciting, as we traverse traditional boundaries between research and clinical practice for a more integrated and responsive approach, that will most certainly deliver better outcomes for children and families much sooner. The move to PCH will open new avenues of research, but Telethon Kids will continue to work in communities around WA, tackling all aspects of the health and wellbeing of children and families.

The oversight and logistics required to shift a medical research facility of our size are significant. Indeed it has occupied much of the attention of the Board and Executive over the past year. There is no doubt that the benefits of the relocation will be more than worth the wait. Hundreds of staff were taken through the near complete facility in late 2017 and the reaction was

overwhelmingly positive. A lot of work has been done to minimise disruption to research projects during the transition. We acknowledge the work of many within the Health Department, QEII Trust and particularly the Child and Adolescent Health Service who have worked with goodwill alongside us to facilitate this transition. We also thank the builders, Multiplex, who have gone above and beyond to bring the innovative design by Woods Bagot to life.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the generosity of the WA State Government in providing this outstanding building and the Federal Government in funding much of the fitout.

And while leaving our old home of the past 18 years in Roberts Road will be sad, we are pleased the building is staying with us. New tenants will be arriving in January 2019 and we will be operating our new clinical initiative, CliniKids, from the site later this year. Under the direction of Professor Andrew Whitehouse, CliniKids is an innovative integrated research and clinical service model. Its first phase will focus on early identification and therapies for very young children at risk of neurodevelopmental conditions such as autism.

RESEARCH INITIATIVES

2017 was another great year of research productivity for Telethon Kids. Our Impact Report outlines many of the success stories of projects that are already improving the lives of children in WA and beyond, such

as our research into the long-term respiratory health of premature babies and new guidelines to reduce serious skin infections. Others are paradigm shifting, like our Banksia Hill Project, a game changer for young people in detention which is changing the way they are cared for and managed. The report also features new research that's in the pipeline, such as our exciting early-stage project on UV phototherapy, which has been shown to delay multiple sclerosis in high-risk people; and our cancer immunotherapy research, which is using the body's own immune cells to fight cancer. We also outline our broad collaborations for impact like the ORIGINS Project, an exciting partnership with Joondalup Health Campus and the northern suburbs community to track the early childhood development of 10,000 babies; and our work in rheumatic heart disease, which sees us partnering with remote Australian communities to help reduce infection and improve treatment. We recommend the Impact Report to you as a great summary of how we are delivering on our vision of making a difference for children, families and communities.

As new technologies open up new research frontiers, multidisciplinary collaborations are now essential. We are very proud that Telethon Kids Institute is the first international hub outside of North America for a new global initiative that truly is at the frontier of medical science. The Human Vaccines Project aims to decode the immune system to accelerate the development of vaccines and immunotherapies against major global infectious diseases. We are the only paediatric hub of this network globally. This membership is international recognition of the years of important vaccine and infectious diseases work that has been undertaken at Telethon Kids and the Perth Children's Hospital – and that our research expertise is indeed world-class. Once they crack the code, the hope is that a single vaccine given in early life would give lifelong protection against all strains of a disease. It is a bold goal and we are excited to be a part of it. Additionally, we have recruited a world-leading clinician/researcher in the field, Professor Tobias Kollmann and his team from Canada, to spearhead our work here. Professor Kollmann will head our new Centre for Personalised Medicine for Children when he arrives in early 2019. The Human Vaccines Project has the potential to eclipse the human genome project in scale and impact. Our involvement is the result of a wonderful partnership with the Perth Children's Hospital Foundation, which is co-funding this initiative. We are delighted to work alongside the PCH Foundation on this and, we hope, other large scale projects that maximise the opportunities for collaboration at PCH and the benefits for WA children.

In children's cancer research, we are very pleased to have Professor Terrance Johns join us to lead the Telethon Kids Cancer Centre. Professor Johns has a strong track record in translational research and extensive national and international collaborative

networks, including important relationships with major pharmaceutical companies. His laboratory is analysing the key signalling pathways associated with the growth of glioma, an aggressive and generally lethal type of brain cancer, to guide the development of new drugs and therapeutic antibodies. Also joining the Telethon Kids Cancer Centre is Dr Sebastien Malinge, a French postdoctoral scientist from the Université Paris, who is a leading researcher in finding new ways to treat the deadliest forms of leukaemia that affect young babies.

Another key recruitment is Dr David Martino, who we welcome back to WA from Melbourne to head the Clinical Epigenetics team, which applies genomic technology to understand how changes in the epigenome shape immune development and function.

Telethon Kids Institute researchers were also the first in WA to receive a grant from the Federal Medical Research Future Fund. Headed by Dr Tom Snelling, the team is pioneering a new approach to clinical trials, called adaptive platform trials. This new approach to trial design makes a 'learning health care' model possible, in which we aim to learn in real-time which treatments are best, which treatments aren't, and in whom. The BEAT-CF ('Bayesian Evidence-Adaptive Trial to optimise management of Cystic Fibrosis') trial has been awarded a five-year grant worth \$3.4 million.

Planning is progressing well for the launch in late 2018 of the new Telethon Kids Respiratory Research Centre, under the leadership of Professor Stephen Stick. This is a field of significant strength for Telethon Kids. Two new respiratory medicine spin-off companies were created during 2017/18. The first company, Inspiring Ltd, is developing a significantly more efficient spacer device for the delivery of both aerosol and dry powder formulations of inhaled medication. The second spin-off company, Respiration Pharmaceuticals, is commercialising a novel drug formulation which was developed for children with cystic fibrosis. The Institute has revitalised its Intellectual Property and Commercialisation Committee, with the addition of three new external members with extensive experience in biotech intellectual property, venture capital and experience in commercialising the clinical trials space.

SUPPORTING OUR PEOPLE

Based on feedback from the annual staff engagement survey, there has been a strong emphasis over the past year on enhancing opportunities for early- and mid-career researchers, as well as developing greater leadership capacity throughout all areas of the organisation.

Specific responses include expanding the Institute's Supporting Research Leaders Scheme – a competitive scheme to support the Institute's best and brightest - to include a category for emerging research leaders. Successful applicants in this new category have access

to salary underwriting for up to two years. The program is designed to support, incentivise and retain our future research leaders. The Leading with Purpose Program provides structured leadership development for Level D and E leaders in both research and professional streams, while the Emerging Leaders Program for earlier career staff has been revamped for those who are newer to management roles. Leadership workshops have also been made available to all staff. It's a big commitment to developing our people that we expect will show significant dividends in both workplace culture and performance.

Equity and diversity remain high on the agenda, with implementation of the Aboriginal Employment and Career Development Strategy and our participation in the Science in Australia Gender Equity's (SAGE) Athena SWAN national program. The first major task is to collect, analyse and present data on equity policies and practices as well as identify gaps and opportunities for improvement. We are on track to submit our Athena

SWAN bronze award application in 2019. Just over five percent of staff identified as Aboriginal in 2017 – a percentage we are keen to actively grow.

As a result of these and other programs, staff engagement increased significantly in 2017, and we are hoping to continue to build the Institute's reputation as a great place to work. A new Engagement Survey provider has been appointed that enables benchmarking against others in the medical research sector to further focus our efforts.

COMMUNITY

Our annual community open day activity, Discover Day, continues to grow in popularity. In 2017, favourable weather and a new park-side location contributed to around 5000 people enjoying the science engagement activities. Thanks to support from Lotterywest, that engagement will be further enhanced with the development of our Discovery Centre in the Perth Children's Hospital. Children will be able to play and learn

the direct connection between medical research and health. The Centre will open in late 2018. Our recognition in the community has now risen to more than 75 percent prompted brand awareness, which is a very strong result for a medical research institute in Australia.

Consumer involvement in research activities is strong, with more than 280 consumers actively working with more than 30 projects and committees. The Youth Advisory Group played an important role in supporting the development of Western Australia's first policy on youth health – a significant document which will give young people a voice in the planning of health services that affect them.

FINANCIALS

The Institute had a strong financial result for 2017, achieving a \$4.1 million year-end operating surplus. This outcome reflects the strong attention that is given to financial management across the Institute and was due in part to a change in accounting requirements which saw a greater-than-expected amount of income being recognised in the Statement of Profit and Loss for 2017 rather than being deferred to the balance sheet. Other contributing factors included improvement in the Institute's grants success rate, coupled with increases in operational efficiency through the implementation of cost saving/control initiatives that have steadily decreased the indirect costs of research. It is pleasing to note that Telethon Kids' indirect cost rate is now 35 percent lower than the national average for independent medical research institutes in Australia. It should also be highlighted that there has been a significant investment in new technology over the past three years which has resulted in efficiency dividends, as well as significant cost savings approximating \$9 million achieved through the Institute's strategic procurement function. These efficient processes have also liberated significant time for our scientists, allowing increased focus on their research activities.

OUR THANKS

We were particularly delighted by the success of our Principal partner Telethon as it celebrated its 50th year. The record-breaking tally reflected the huge affection West Australians hold for Telethon and the trust they have in the many organisations that it supports. We are privileged to be a major beneficiary. Much of Telethon's success has been due to the personal drive and commitment of its outgoing Chairman Kerry Stokes. We are grateful that he will continue to be actively involved in the charity as a Trustee and sincerely thank him for all that he has done to ensure the success of Telethon Kids Institute. We look forward to working with new Chairman Richard Goyder and all the Trustees to ensure Telethon goes from strength to strength.

As our Strategy Enabling Partner, BHP has underpinned the transformation of our Institute as set out in the

Strategic Plan. Many of the new technology, infrastructure and researcher support programs would not have happened without BHP's involvement. We thank them for their very significant contribution to our work.

Philanthropy is essential to the survival of the Institute. We are indebted to the generosity of many supporters, including corporations, foundations, individuals and families. Our Philanthropy Spectrum report on page 16 highlights the ways our supporters help us to make a difference.

Special tribute must be paid to retiring Board Director Jim McGinty following nine years of service to Telethon Kids. As a long-serving former WA Health Minister and Attorney General, Jim contributed a great skill set and insight to the Board. He has been heavily involved in the oversight of the new building project. We thank Jim and wish him every success in his new role as Chair of the North Metropolitan Health Service Board.



We are very pleased to welcome two outstanding new Directors to our Board. Fiona Drummond is Managing Partner Western Australia at Ernst & Young. Jane Muirsmith is one of Australia's leading digital strategists and Managing Director at Lenox Hill. Our thanks to all our Directors who volunteer their time and skills to ensure the highest quality governance of our organisation.

In the coming year, Telethon Kids Institute will not only move into its new facility, we will undergo an international scientific review and develop our next Strategic Plan. These are all major opportunities to reflect on where we've come from and to think big about what's possible in our future. This will be driven by the extraordinary energy and commitment of our staff, students, collaborators and supporters. Thank you to all who work so hard to enable us to deliver on our vision to improve the health and wellbeing of children through excellence in research.

John Langoulant *Jonathan Carapetis*

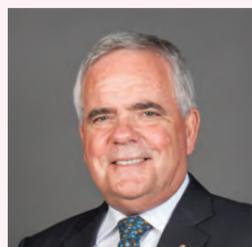
John Langoulant AO
Board Chair

Jonathan Carapetis AM
Director



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors all give their time voluntarily and work together to guide the overall business of the Institute, bringing a diverse range of experience from the business, academic and community sectors. We are extremely grateful for their dedication and the governance they provide us.



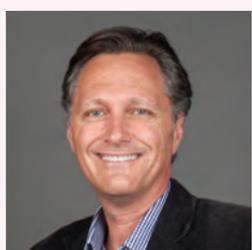
JOHN LANGOULANT AO (CHAIR)

John became Chair of the Telethon Kids Institute in 2008 following his appointment to the Board in 2005. A respected business leader, John holds a number of board positions including Chair, Government Employees' Superannuation Board; Chair, Dampier to Bunbury Pipeline; Chair WA, Westpac Group; Chair, Pawsey Supercomputing Centre; Chair, Committee for Perth; and President, CEDA WA. John also consults to Curtin University and Deloitte. He Chairs the Institute's Remuneration Committee, and is a member of the Finance Committee.



ALEX BROWN

Alex is an Aboriginal medical doctor and researcher with an extensive and unique research program focused on chronic disease in vulnerable communities, with a particular focus on outlining and overcoming health disparities. Alex is the Leader of the Aboriginal Research Unit at SAHMRI and Research Chair of Aboriginal Health at the University of South Australia. He was recently admitted to the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences and joined the Telethon Kids Institute Board in 2016.



JONATHAN CARAPETIS AM

Jonathan took up the position of Director and Board Member of the Telethon Kids Institute in July 2012. A leading paediatrician and infectious diseases specialist, Jonathan is recognised as a leading mind in the Australian health field, with particular expertise in Indigenous child health. He is a member of the One Disease at a Time Foundation Board, Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes Board, Chair of the Clinical Advisory Group of the WA RHD Control Program, Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association, Forrest Foundation Selection Committee (The University of Western Australia), Editorial Board Member, Heart Asia (British Medical Journal), NHMRC Australia Council and RHDAustralia Advisory Committee (ARC).



FIONA DRUMMOND

Fiona joined the Telethon Kids Institute Board in December 2017 and is also a member of the Finance Committee. She is the Managing Partner Western Australia at Ernst & Young. Fiona is a fellow of the Leadership WA Program, a Fellow of Chartered Accountants in Australia & New Zealand (CA ANZ), a Fellow of FINSIA and a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD). She has previously been on the Board of United Way WA.



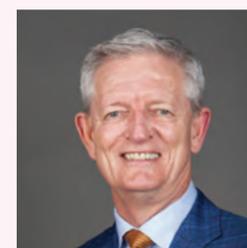
JEFF DOWLING

Jeff joined the Telethon Kids Board in 2009, bringing significant financial expertise as Former Managing Partner of Ernst & Young Western Region. Jeff is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, the Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia and the Financial Services Institute of Australasia. His current board appointments include S2 Resources (Chair), Battery Minerals Ltd (Chair), NRW Holdings Ltd and Fleetwood Corporation Ltd. Jeff's previous board appointments are Pura Vida Energy (Chair), West Australian Symphony Orchestra, United Way, Atlas Iron and Sirius Resources NL (Chair).



JOZEF GÉCZ

Jozef joined the Board of Telethon Kids in 2016 and is also a member of the Institute's Scientific Advisory Council. Jozef is a NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow and Professor of Human Genetics at the Department of Paediatrics at the University of Adelaide, and established and heads the Neurogenetics Research Program at the Women's and Children's Hospital, Adelaide. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences.



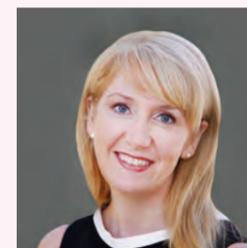
MICHAEL McANEARNEY

Michael is a Founding Director and Chief Executive Officer of Gerard Daniels. Michael joined the Board of Telethon Kids in 2012 and was also a member of the Institute's Risk and Compliance Committee and Remuneration Committee. Michael is a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the British Institute of Company Directors.



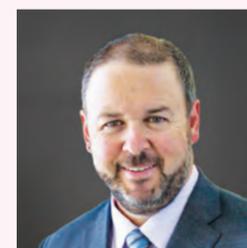
JANE MUIRSMITH

Jane is one of Australia's leading digital strategists and is Managing Director of Lenox Hill, a digital strategy and solutions advisory company. She is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has an Honours Degree in Commerce. Jane currently serves on the board of Australian Finance Group (AFG), Cedar Woods Properties (CWP) and Healthdirect Australia and is a member of the UWA Business School Ambassadorial Council. Ms Muirsmith is past President of the WA Women's Advisory Council to the Minister for Women's Interests. Jane joined the Telethon Kids Board in February 2018 and also sits on the Board's Risk and Compliance Committee.



NICOLE O'CONNOR

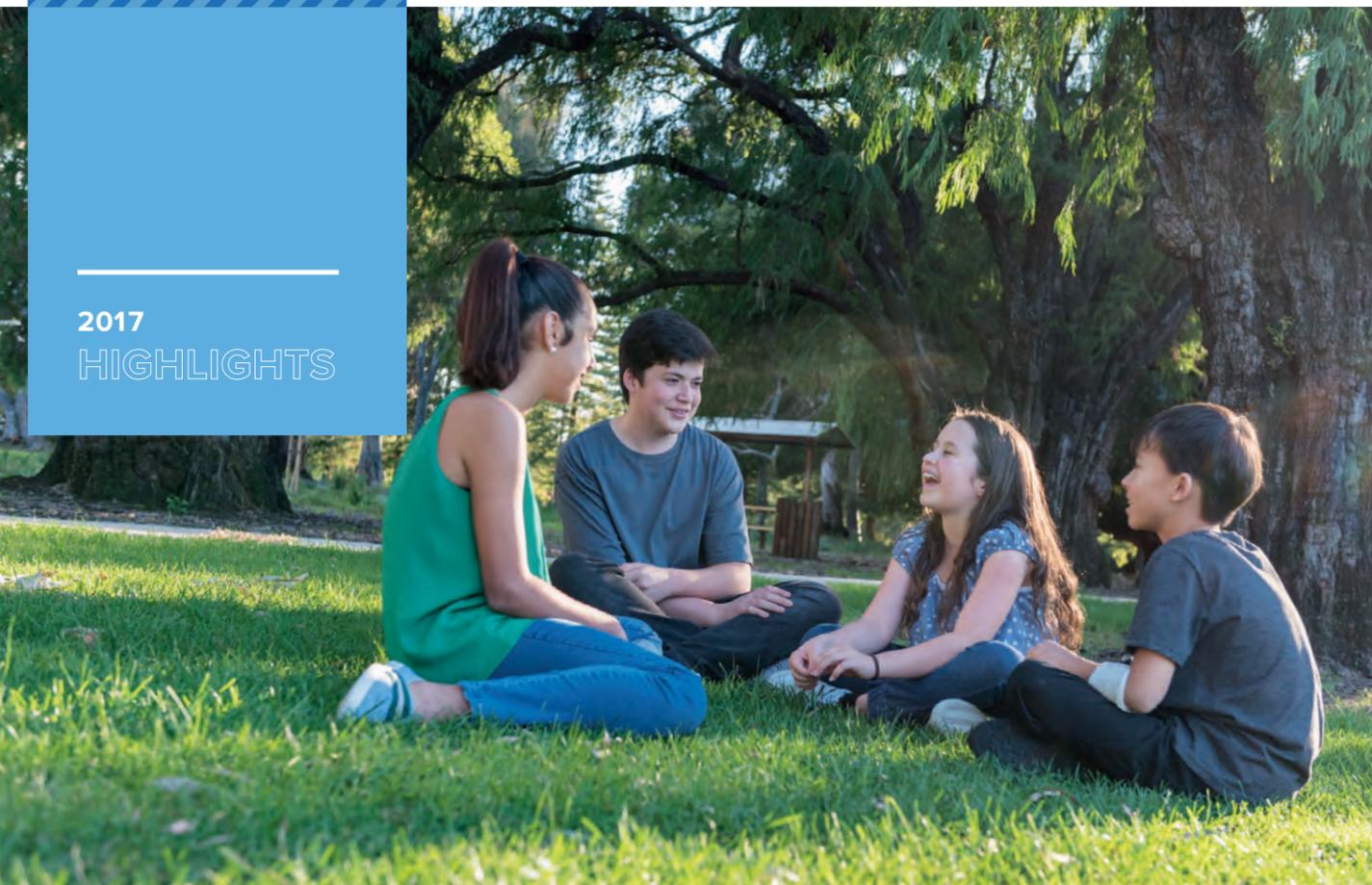
Nicole joined the Telethon Kids Board in 2016 and is Chair of the Risk and Compliance Committee and also a member of the Remuneration Committee. Nicole is Director of Research Services & Systems at Curtin University and previously was the General Manager Western Australia of SAP.



ROHAN WILLIAMS

Rohan accepted a position on the Telethon Kids Board in 2013 and also Chairs the Institute's Development Committee. Rohan is Executive Chairman of Dacian Gold Ltd and was the founding CEO and Managing Director of Avoca Resources Ltd prior to a merger in 2011 to form Alacer Gold Corp, where he was a Non-Executive Director until September 2013. Rohan has worked extensively in the resources sector including with WMC Resources Limited, where he held Chief Geologist positions at St Ives Gold Mines and the Norseman Gold Operation.

2017
HIGHLIGHTS



In a WA first, we showed that Aboriginal babies are 22.5 Times more likely to be treated for skin infections than non-Aboriginal babies, with 8 out of every 10 Aboriginal babies treated for skin infections in their first year of life.



We added our voice to the McGowan Government's call for mandatory pregnancy health warning labelling on all alcoholic beverages sold in Australia.



Our research confirmed the changing pattern of meningococcal disease in Western Australia, showing that the incidence of the B strain has declined significantly with the emerging W and Y strains accounting more disease.

We joined 13 leading Australian and international research institutes and all eight of Australia's kids' cancer centres in the Zero Childhood Cancer Program, aimed at identifying specifically tailored treatments to suit the individual cancers of children with the most aggressive cancers, whose chance of survival on standard treatments is less than 30 percent.



Cancer researcher and clinician Dr **Nick Gottardo** was a finalist for the 2018 WA Australian of the Year Award.



Our Children's Diabetes Centre played a lead role in a global adolescent Type 1 diabetes study, finding drugs used to treat blood pressure and cholesterol in adults can reduce the risk of kidney disease in young people with diabetes.

Telethon Kids provides research support to Wangle Technologies for Wangle Family Insites, a unique new app to help parents keep their family safe online.



Two of Telethon Kids Institute's founding researchers, Professors **Carol Bower** and **Steve Zubrick**, were inducted as new Fellows to the prestigious Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences.



Wesfarmers committed \$6 million to Telethon Kids to fund vital research to reduce the impact of chronic ear infections and other serious diseases at our Wesfarmers Centre of Vaccines & Infectious Diseases.

Telethon Kids signed a memorandum of understanding with leading technology developer NEC Australia to explore innovative opportunities to apply NEC's artificial intelligence technologies in our research, including autism and FASD.



We consulted young people about how much they knew about energy drinks and the consequences of drinking them and they suggested a range of anti-smoking style interventions to reduce the consumption of energy drinks by children and adolescents – including plain packaging and age restrictions on sales.

Harvard Professor **David Bloom** presented our 2017 Annual Community Lecture on the health and wealth of nations.



Australia's first draft national guideline for autism diagnosis was released for public consultation – a result of comprehensive research and a 12-month consultation process conducted by Autism CRC and the National Disability Insurance Agency in partnership with the Telethon Kids Institute.



A study led by researchers at the Telethon Kids showed that electronic cigarettes can cause lung damage and are not a harmless alternative to cigarettes.



We were thrilled to help Channel 7's Telethon celebrate their 50 year anniversary!



Viva Photography

Professor **Andrew Whitehouse**, Head of Autism Research, was awarded the most prestigious award in the country for young researchers – the 3M Eureka Prize for Emerging Leader in Science for 2017.



Lotterywest provided a \$1.5 million grant to the Institute that will go towards the Telethon Kids Discovery Centre, a fun and engaging educational space for children to be located at the northern entrance of the new Perth Children's Hospital.

Dr Asha Bowen, Head of the Skin Health Team, was named Woodside Early Career Scientist of the Year at the 2017 Premier's Science Awards.



We led a study that found a link between masculine facial features and autism. The first-of-its kind study used 3D photogrammetry to examine whether pre-pubescent boys and girls with an Autism Spectrum Disorder displayed more masculine features compared to those without the condition.



A study co-authored by researchers from Telethon Kids showed that people living in the Oceania region, including Australia, have the highest risk in the world of having and dying from rheumatic heart disease, and have also seen the lowest reductions globally over the past 25 years.



We confirmed that skin infections in many Aboriginal children across northern WA are going unrecognised and under-

treated despite the fact that untreated skin infections such as scabies and impetigo (school sores) could lead to life-threatening conditions such as:

-  kidney disease
-  rheumatic heart disease
-  blood poisoning



We were delighted to welcome the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, Minister for Finance Mathias Cormann and Minister for Foreign Affairs Julie Bishop to the Institute to find out more about our research.



We were part of a groundbreaking WA medical trial involving babies with breathing problems, that determined that a laryngeal mask (a medical device that keeps a patient's airway open) is the preferred option over an endotracheal tube during minor surgical procedures.

A world-first study showed that the so called 'autism epidemic' is due to an increase in the diagnosis of children with less severe behavioural symptoms, and not because there are more children being born with the disorder. The findings provided the first evidence internationally of a reduction over time in the behavioural severity of individuals diagnosed with Autistic Disorder during a period of stability in diagnostic criteria.

A study showed that in addition to intervention with trained therapists, children with autism may benefit from apps that guide parents on how to undertake therapy in their home. Children who used the **TOBY** app over a six month period were found to have greater improvements in several areas of development compared with children who received therapy as usual.



Our Trans Pathways study, the largest ever survey conducted into the mental health of trans young people in Australia, found trans young people – young people who identify as a gender that does not match the sex assigned to them at birth – are at high risk for suicide and are approximately 10 times more likely than other young Australians to experience serious depression and anxiety.



We were part of a major review that found medication used to suppress puberty can improve the mental health of young people who are trans or gender diverse.

We were part of an Australian-first study to determine the baseline prevalence of microcephaly, in preparation for any future outbreak of the Zika virus.



New research found children who attend playgroups achieve better early primary school outcomes, with these children performing better on all Australian Early Developmental Census child development domains.

A Telethon Kids study found children with disabilities are three times more likely to be maltreated compared to other children but that risk varies by type of disability.

New research found that babies born prematurely continue to have lung problems well into childhood, with results showing structural lung abnormalities in children born very preterm were common and were associated with low lung function and more severe respiratory symptoms.



Telethon Kids researchers began a study investigating the physical and psychological impacts of powered standing wheelchairs for boys with Duchenne muscular dystrophy.



BHP

BHP has donated \$3 million per annum to advance the Institute's ability to produce new knowledge for the benefit of WA's children. BHP also challenges our scientists to engage in 'high risk, high return' research through the annual BHP Blue Sky Awards. In 2017, awardees were Dr Timothy Barnett for 'a diagnostic test for acute rheumatic fever' and Associate Professor Timo Lassmann for 'an unbiased exploration of the human regulatory landscape'.

Read more on our website at telethonkids.org.au

**INTRODUCING OUR
IMPACT
REPORT**

Discover. Prevent. Cure.



Here at Telethon Kids, our vision is to improve the health and wellbeing of children through excellence in research.

We want our research to make a real and tangible difference for kids, families and communities.

We want our research to have impact.

Our IMPACT Report highlights the ways our research makes a difference – through our contributions to the global understanding of disease, how we influence policy and practice, the ways we build capacity and collaborations, and the direct affect our research has on the lives of children.



You can request a hard copy of our IMPACT Report by emailing us at contact@telethonkids.org.au

Or download it now at telethonkids.org.au

TRANSLATION

This research has been actively translated into policy or practice

**PARADIGM
SHIFT**

This research changes the very way we think

**IN THE
PIPELINE**

This research is in the pipeline towards translation

**COLLABORATING
FOR IMPACT**

And this research shows how we work with others to make a difference

TRANSLATION



Trans Pathways provides evidence base to improve mental health of trans youth

Our research has become the new reference point to guide policy change and educate health providers to better support gender-diverse youth.

PARADIGM SHIFT



Banksia Hill Project a game-changer for young people in detention

Our landmark study revealing the extent of neuro-disability in young detainees has changed the way we think about this vulnerable group.

IN THE PIPELINE



Innovative app trial aims to improve cystic fibrosis treatment

Testing a new tool that could revolutionise the way we help kids with CF.

COLLABORATING FOR IMPACT



Community collaboration ensures ending RHD is everybody's business

Working with demonstration communities to help tackle RHD in remote Australia.



PHILANTHROPIC SPECTRUM

Telethon Kids Institute is supported by donors who are as engaged in our research as we are. We are fortunate to have a broad, dynamic spectrum of donors made up of individuals, families, foundations, community groups and corporates — all of whom share our commitment to improving the health and development of children in Western Australia and beyond.

They do this in countless ways. By helping us meet the full cost of research. By providing seed funding for innovative research projects. By helping to improve research platforms and purchase sophisticated equipment. By providing funding to establish specialised research centres. By supporting researchers and PhD students with fellowships and scholarships. And by doing so much more.

Every donor at any level of giving is essential to the whole of what Telethon Kids Institute undertakes daily.

Their support enables our researchers to get on with the job of addressing infectious diseases, childhood cancer, youth mental illness and suicide prevention, autism, diabetes, cystic fibrosis, asthma, early childhood development, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD), asthma, and other urgent health issues affecting children and their families.

The philanthropic support we received in 2017 was \$17,538,907, and we are careful with every single dollar. Our cost to raise each dollar was 5.8 cents. The Institute's total number of donors increased by more than 75 percent and now stands at 1,503 generous individuals, families, foundations and corporates.

We are energised by our donors, consider them friends, and thank them for their generous support. Here's how they are supporting the Institute.



Corporate

Ongoing support from the corporate sector continues to prove a game changer for the Institute. With **BHP's** support as the Institute's Strategic Partner, Telethon Kids has recruited leading scientists, invested in new technologies, improved research platforms, and expanded research support services, all of which has accelerated the pace of our research. BHP also supports the Institute's FASD research in the Pilbara and our Blue Sky Awards, a funding program which encourages high-risk, high-return research and continually challenges our researchers to be bold and ambitious.

Wesfarmers' commitment to research at our Wesfarmers Centre of Vaccines & Infectious Diseases is making major inroads in developing preventative strategies for infectious diseases as well as new vaccines and diagnostic tests. Now in its fifth year, the Centre is conducting research at a rapid pace and has secured significant additional funding to expand its impact and reach.

The Institute's new Telethon Kids Discovery Centre, a place where young patients at the Perth Children's Hospital and their families can learn about the importance of research in medicine, is starting to take shape, thanks to **Lotterywest** committing the funding to establish it.

Telethon Kids Kimberley — the Institute's permanent base in the Kimberley — is also the result of gifts. Thanks to support from **DR Capital, Wesfarmers** and **Centurion**, our researchers are delivering better health outcomes for Aboriginal children and their families across the region.

Northern Star Resources and **Mineral Resources** have provided valuable professorship and fellowship support to our researchers working in respiratory and Aboriginal child health research, while **Woodside Energy** and **Hawaiian** have supported childhood cancer research.



Foundations

There are many foundations who give consistently and generously to the Institute across varied research focus areas.

The **Channel 7 Telethon Trust** is the Institute's principal benefactor and has been supporting child health research at Telethon Kids for more than 25 years. This annual commitment to help the Institute cover the total cost of research is the Institute's lifeblood and without it, we would not be here today.

The **Minderoo Foundation's** ethos of bettering the lives of vulnerable young children saw it team up with the Institute to develop CoLab in 2016. Supported by Minderoo, CoLab aims to give kids the best possible start to life by improving the learning and development of children and overcoming inequality.

The **Stan Perron Charitable Foundation** is a long-term and valued supporter of research at the Institute, providing funding for cystic fibrosis, personalised medicine and Aboriginal health research as well as awards and scholarships for the Institute's next generation of researchers.

The **McCusker Charitable Foundation's** support of the Institute is equally invaluable. With their backing, our researchers are making major advances in the fields of FASD, diabetes, autism, cancer, undiagnosed diseases, and computational biology.

The **Ian Potter Foundation** is a long-time supporter of the Institute, with recent support underpinning our genomics capacity as well as helping us devise a set of tools for measuring research impact.

Ongoing support, spanning more than three decades, from the **Children's Leukaemia and Cancer Research Foundation** has seen Telethon Kids become home to one of Australia's leading paediatric cancer research centres. The Foundation's unfailing and long-term generosity has enabled us to recruit outstanding researchers whose expertise builds our cancer research programs.

Research fellowships provided by the **Angela Wright Bennett Foundation**, the **Simon Lee Foundation**, the **Feilman Foundation** and the **Rothwell Family Foundation**, among many others, support key research leaders in autism, personalised medicine and cystic fibrosis.





Individuals and families

Little or large, every gift made to the Institute — whether as proceeds from a child's lemonade stall, regular family giving, or bequests — is precious.

These donations help the Institute in myriad ways. They go toward fellowships to attract and retain the Institute's best researchers, allow us the flexibility to bundle donations and invest in new equipment, and make travel awards possible for researchers to meet with collaborators around the world and to attend conferences.

We enjoy getting to know the individuals and families who support the Institute, among whom are Bert and Andrea Reuter, Kent Kwan and May Ann Phang, Bob Ingham, Maureen Squire, Chris and Tia Ellison, Tim Roberts, Richard and Janine Goyder, the Giorgetta Family, Jan and David Lord, Peter and Anne Hector and Lorene Bruce. We thank them for their support.



Community groups

Raising not only dollars but also awareness, fundraisers are champions for Telethon Kids in the community. Families, schools and workplaces have rallied around children's health by raising funds for research through challenge events, raffles, free dress days, auctions, head shaves, fun runs, morning teas, donating their birthday gifts, and more.

Thank you to those in the community who generously raised funds for Telethon Kids, including Shannon and Christie-Lee Davies, friends and family of Rachel Kierath, HBF Run for a Reason runners, and families and friends in the Rett syndrome, autism, and cancer communities.

The Adventurers continue to enthusiastically support the Telethon Kids Brain Tumour Lab through their fundraising adventures and the Brainchild Ball, enabling our researchers to lead the way in developing better treatments for kids with brain cancer.

Our donors are friends we never take for granted — friends we are honoured to have by our side as we seek to change the world for children and their families. Please see our full spectrum of friends on our website, telethonkids.org.au.

THANK YOU



WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

* as at June 2018



BOARD OF DIRECTORS PAGES 8-9

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RESEARCH FOCUS AREAS

ABORIGINAL HEALTH RESEARCH FOCUS AREA

Head, Glenn Pearson

Aboriginal Health is a Research Focus Area that aims to improve the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal children and families. This is an overarching priority for every Research Focus Area at the Institute. As there are specific cultural, social and economic contexts that require more specialised investigation in collaboration and consultation with Aboriginal families, this Research Focus Area is unique in that it provides advice, technical and cultural support across the Institute to all programs of research.

KULUNGA ABORIGINAL RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT UNIT

TELETHON KIDS KIMBERLEY

BRAIN & BEHAVIOUR RESEARCH FOCUS AREA

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- AUTISM RESEARCH
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Nicholas de Klerk
- CHILD EPIDEMIOLOGY
Elizabeth Milne
- HUMAN CAPABILITY
Steve Zubrick, Francis Mitrou, Cate Taylor
- LINKED ANALYTICS & SOCIAL POLICY
Rebecca Glauert

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- STREP A AND RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASES
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- INFECTIOUS DISEASES EPIDEMIOLOGY
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Asha Bowen
- VACCINE TRIALS GROUP
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Roz Walker
- CLINICAL EPIGENETICS
David Martino
- THE ORIGINS TEAM
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- CHILDREN'S LUNG HEALTH
Graham Hall
- P4 RESPIRATORY HEALTH FOR KIDS
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CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

TRANSITION, NEW BUILDING

TOTAL Staff
as at 31st Dec 2017

562

TOTAL Students
during 2017

144

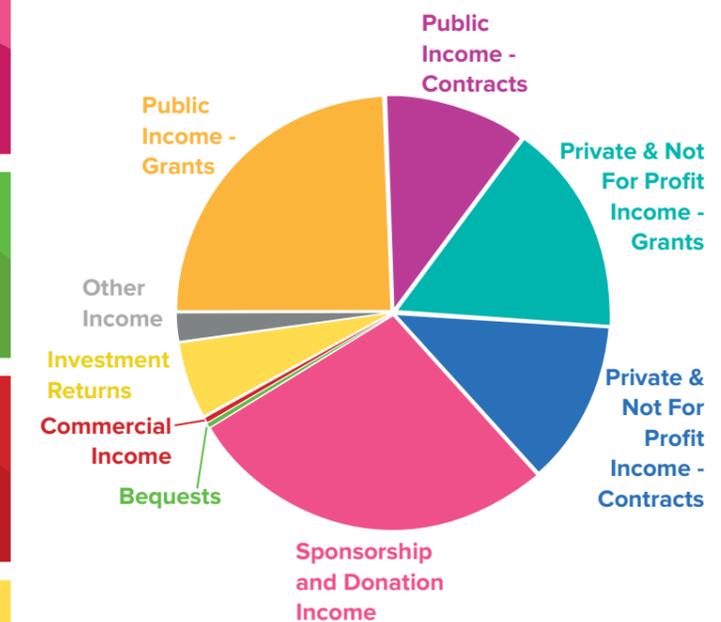
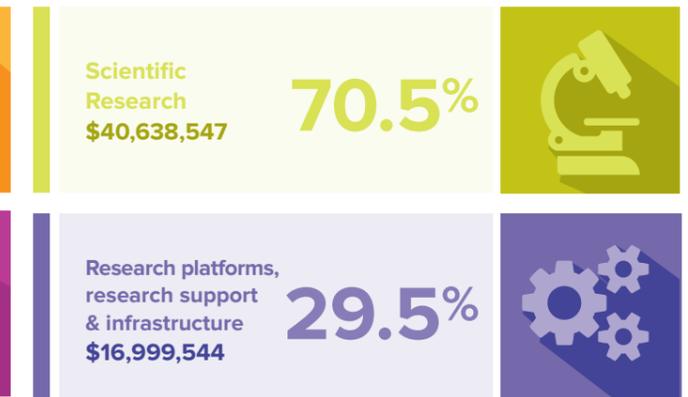
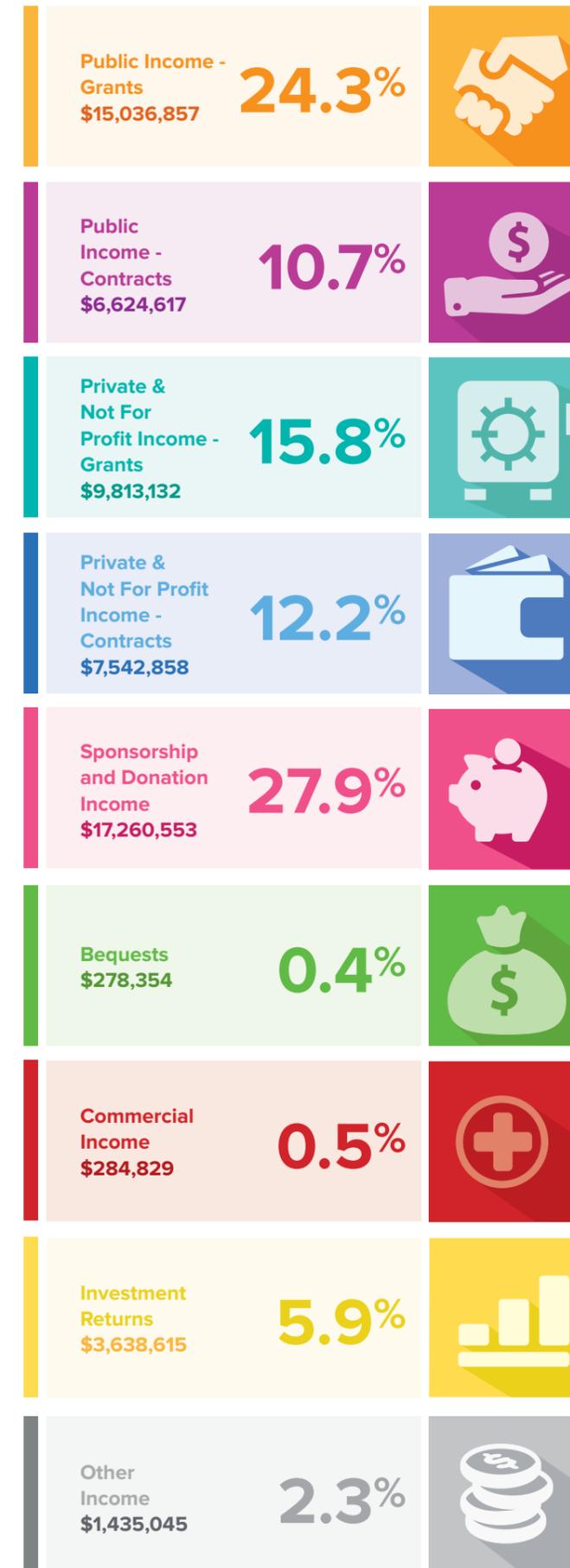
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OUR
FINANCIALS

TOTAL INCOME \$61.9M

TOTAL EXPENSES \$57.6M



Figures presented above are the aggregate of the Telethon Kids Institute and the Princess Margaret Children's Medical Research Foundation (Inc). Whilst the Princess Margaret Children's Medical Research Foundation (Inc) is a separate legal entity, it is governed by the Board of the Telethon Kids Institute, and consequently both sets of figures are provided above for completeness.



FROM AUG 2018:

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PRINCIPAL PARTNER



STRATEGIC PARTNER

