

We can. We will.

ANNUAL REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS 2017



A message from the Institute

2017 has been an extraordinarily successful year for the Institute, a year in which we launched the National Clinical Trial for the Zero Childhood Cancer program in conjunction with the Kids Cancer Centre at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick. We have also achieved tremendous grant funding success, significant fundraising support and finessed our strategic plan for 2018-2022 that will ensure our continued progress towards our vision of one day curing every child with cancer.

This year, we delivered on a number of key strategic goals and embarked upon multiple new initiatives. We are now reaping the benefits of the platforms, programs, partnerships and collaborations we established over the last few years, and this year we again set new records for both research grants and fundraising. Our success in 2017 has put us in a better position than ever to translate our research as quickly as possible from our lab benches to the bedsides of children, to improve the outcomes for children just like Tyler - pictured on this cover.

Heading towards Zero Childhood Cancer

One of our major focuses over the past 12 months has been successfully completing the pilot phase of our Zero Childhood Cancer personalised medicine program, and launching the national clinical trial in partnership with Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick. 59 children were enrolled on the pilot study, and over 60 children have already been enrolled on the national clinical trial since it launched in September last year. There are children on this program who are already showing early signs of improved survival from this new personalised treatment approach.

The Zero Childhood Cancer program will enable us to deliver a world class personalised medicine platform that is now available for every Australian child with high-risk cancer.

Through Zero Childhood Cancer we have strengthened and consolidated our partnerships and developed an unprecedented national and international network of paediatric oncology units and leading medical research institutes. Building on the Zero Childhood Cancer platform we plan to drive access to new clinical trials and novel treatments, collect unique and complex data on the biology, genetics and clinical response of hundreds of children for future discovery research, and develop the next generation of clinician scientists to deliver genomic medicine.

Our progress over the past twelve months is unprecedented in the Institute's history, our collaborations with research teams all over Australia, and indeed all over the world, are continuing to flourish, and our standing in the international research community continues to grow.

Your support makes success possible

While our researchers continue to deliver at the highest level, our Executive has continued to operate as a close-knit and effective team, and our Board remains extremely supportive. Add to this the outstanding work of our support staff, and it is easy to see that the Institute's success is all about its people.

Of course, none of us could continue our work without the Institute's many supporters. To cover the full costs of medical research, we need to match every dollar of grant funding with funding from the community. Our successes so far, and our future successes, rest on this support. We do hope you will remain with us on this most exciting of journeys, towards a future we all want to see: one that is free from childhood cancer.

Our Year in Review

Strategic Plan 2018 - 2022

2018 marks the transition into the next phase of our 2018 - 2022 strategy. This year we focused on refining our strategic direction that will bring us closer to one day curing every child. External strategy document launch - early 2018.

\$1.3M from NSW Government to seek neuroblastoma treatments

Three grants totalling almost \$1.3 million were awarded to researchers from Children's Cancer Institute to investigate new treatments for neuroblastoma, including 12 early career fellowships and six career development fellowships, as well as a translational program grant.

Our Executive Director Professor Michelle Haber AM is announced as a Eureka Prize finalist

We were honoured that Michelle Haber was recognised as a research finalist for the 2017 Australian Museum Eureka Prize for Leadership in Innovation and Science.

Diamond Ball Sydney



Our signature Diamond Ball Sydney was our most successful to date raising over \$890K for our vital research. This is the equivalent of funding 9 senior researchers at the lab bench including consumables for a year.

Childhood cancer leader's star on the rise at NSW Premier's Science and Engineering Prizes

Professor Maria Kavallaris won an award for 'Leadership in Innovation in NSW' at the 2017 NSW Premier's Prize for Science and Engineering.

\$100M Australian Brain Cancer Mission

In a landmark moment for brain cancer research, the Australian Government has established a \$100 million fund. It's aim is to double the survival rates and improve the quality of life of patients with brain cancer over the next 10 years. The Australian Government will contribute \$50 million under the Medical Research Future Fund and seek matching contributions from philanthropy, other governments, industry and the private sector.

Missing DNA fragments hold clue to predicting childhood leukaemia relapse

Our researchers developed a new risk scoring system for children with leukaemia based on missing DNA fragments or 'microdeletions'. The risk score will allow doctors to better predict the chance of relapse of a subgroup of kids currently hidden in a lower risk group.

Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

June

July

Aug

Sept

Oct

Nov

Dec

Treatment search for childhood cancer neuroblastoma gets \$6.6M boost

Our research into new drug treatments for neuroblastoma received a Program Grant of \$6.6 million over five years from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) to conduct substantial research to find more effective targeted treatments for neuroblastoma, and then take those treatments to clinical trials.



Diamond Ball Melbourne



Our inaugural Diamond Ball Melbourne helped us to further develop our Victorian supporter networks, who helped us raise over \$358K to support our research.

Brain Cancer Round-table

Minister for Health, Greg Hunt MP, hosted Children's Cancer Institute along with other global research leaders, and major philanthropists at Australia's most significant ever meeting to urgently improve brain cancer's unacceptable low survival rates.



Opera House lit gold for childhood cancer research awareness

We partnered with The Kids' Cancer Project and The Sydney Children's Hospitals Network to light up the sails of the Sydney Opera House in gold and raise awareness for childhood cancer research and launch International Childhood Cancer Awareness month.

Zero Childhood Cancer - national clinical trial launched

We launched our Zero Childhood Cancer program's national clinical trial in conjunction with the Kids Cancer Centre at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick. In an Australian first, scientists from 17 leading Australian and international research institutes and doctors from all eight of Australia's Paediatric oncology centres are working together to identify and recommend new treatment options specifically tailored to suit the individual cancer of each child with aggressive cancer.



On the cover - Tyler was diagnosed with rhabdomyosarcoma on his second birthday, 2016 marked Tyler being cancer-free for five years.
Top left - Mackenzie was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) at just nine years old. She recently completed two years of treatment and is now in remission.
Above left - Nikki Quinn was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia when she was 13 years old and still experiences severe side effects as a result of her treatment. Nikki is now a nurse and ambassador for the Institute and she's pictured here at the lighting of the Opera House gold in September.



How our research is helping kids like Kayne - as told by his mum, Danii

On 25th March 2013, as we were preparing to celebrate Kayne's 2nd birthday, our lives took the worst imaginable turn when childhood cancer entered our world. I had started to notice that something was not right with my bouncy, bright-eyed and curious toddler. We made numerous trips to our local hospital. I knew something wasn't right, but we kept being sent away until on one visit I refused to leave until we got a proper answer.

A CT scan revealed a mass the size of a lemon in Kayne's brain.

Soon I was given a horrendous choice to make, either Kayne underwent surgery and treatment that could cause terrible, debilitating side effects – or he would die.

In the morning, Kayne went in for emergency 11-hour surgery before being put straight into intensive care.

Six weeks later the pathology results came back, and I received a call from the oncology team telling me the words I'd convinced myself I wouldn't hear - Kayne had cancer. Kayne had been diagnosed with an Atypical Teratoid Rhabdoid Tumour (AT/RT).

In May 2013, Kayne started his first chemotherapy cycle. Over the course of his treatment, Kayne lost his ability to walk over and over again. Every time, he got back up like the courageous little boy he is. But sadly, because of his treatment, he still can't walk well, and he will never run again.

Across the gruelling 18 months period, Kayne had over 20 cycles of chemotherapy, two brain surgeries and six weeks of radiotherapy. In August 2014, Kayne rang the bell at hospital to celebrate the end of his chemotherapy treatment.

Our biggest fear is a relapse, with AT/RT if there is a relapse there is no chemotherapy option, so we will always have that fear. Kayne now has to deal with the damage the cancer treatment has caused him. The treatment has left severe life-long side effects including: speech delays; hearing loss; nerve damage; and motor functions damage.

We are so fortunate that Kayne survived thanks to the research that came before him and that is why we believe that the research being done at Children's Cancer Institute is so important. We hope one day there are improved treatment options that are more effective with far less long-term side effects like the ones that Kayne has been left with.

Together we are curing childhood cancer

“For every grant-funded dollar we receive, we need to match this with a dollar from our fundraising efforts.”

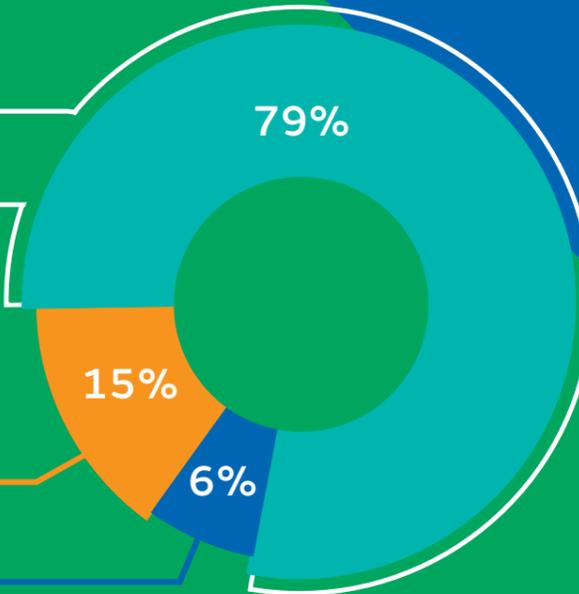
– PROFESSOR MURRAY NORRIS AM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR,
CHILDREN'S CANCER INSTITUTE

79% Research & scientific activities to help cure childhood cancer

In 2017, 79 cents of every dollar spent within the Institute was spent directly on dedicated research to help cure childhood cancer.

15% Fundraising activities to generate donations

6% Core support services & infrastructure costs



It's not if.
It's when.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 31 December 2017

	2017 (\$)	2016 (\$)	(%)
REVENUE			
Research	31,002,471	22,990,845	64%
Fundraising	17,387,851	16,450,430	36%
Other	198,969	183,454	-
	48,589,291	39,624,729	100%
EXPENSES			
Research and scientific activities	32,972,870	31,712,302	79%
Fundraising	6,266,805	5,163,688	15%
Support and administration	2,613,242	2,297,482	6%
	41,852,917	39,173,472	100%
Total comprehensive income for the year	6,736,374	451,257	

Statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2017

	31 Dec 2017 (\$)	31 Dec 2016 (\$)
ASSETS		
Current assets	22,113,249	13,064,334
Non-current assets	20,902,235	21,580,769
Total Assets	43,015,484	34,645,103
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities	5,794,818	4,250,355
Non-current liabilities	247,308	157,765
Total Liabilities	6,042,126	4,408,120
NET ASSETS	36,973,358	30,236,983
EQUITY		
Reserves	10,227,402	4,862,032
Retained surplus	26,745,956	25,374,951
TOTAL EQUITY	36,973,358	30,236,983



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**CHILDREN'S
CANCER INSTITUTE**

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Children's
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