



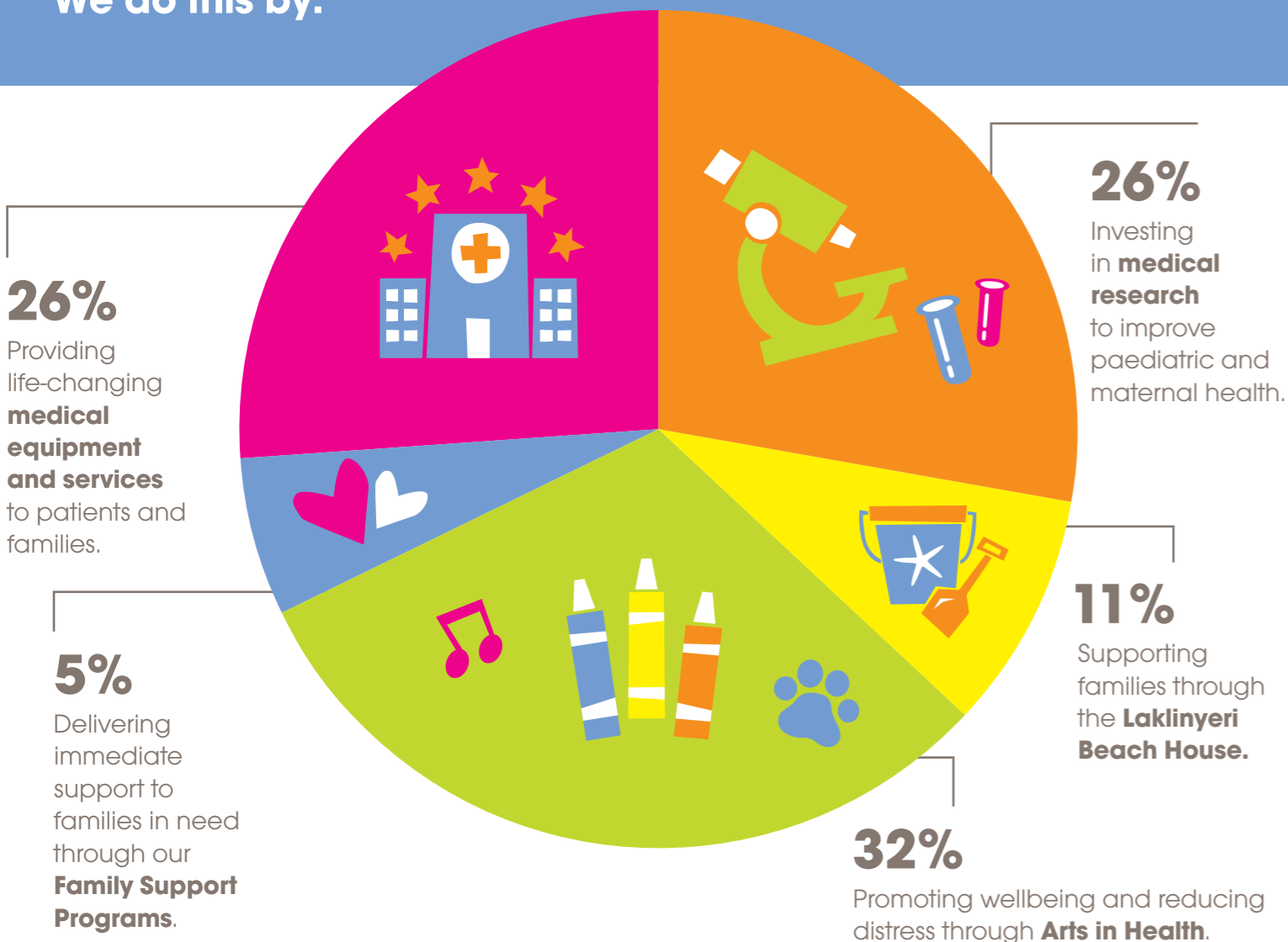
**Impact
2021 - 22**



**Women's &
Children's Hospital
Foundation**

The Women's & Children's Hospital Foundation improves the health and wellbeing of women, children and families under the care of the Women's and Children's Hospital and broader health network.

We do this by:



A message from the CEO

Thank you for being part of a community who improve the health and wellbeing of women, children and families under the care of the Women's and Children's Hospital and broader health network.

Our community come together to ensure greater health outcomes, and this past year has shown no exception.

You have helped us fund initiatives, deliver programs, provide immediate financial support and invest in medical research.

As CEO of the Women's & Children's Hospital Foundation (WCH Foundation), I am proud to share the difference your support makes to families across South Australia, as well as families who also receive care from our Hospital from places such as the Northern Territory, Broken Hill and the Sunraysia Region of Victoria.

Now more than ever, we appreciate the importance of cultivating connection as we gradually re-emerge together from lockdowns, isolations, and quarantines. Over the past year, the WCH Foundation supported initiatives for patients and their families to feel this sense of togetherness, and you will see this in many of our stories.

Families continued to make memories and reconnect at our Laklinyeri Beach House, our Play Therapists connected children to



their home lives and schooling, and a family representative created connections with new parents to help them feel heard in the Hospital setting.

On top of this, our community banded together in an incredible way to participate in the inaugural Challenge 21 and raised over \$221,000.

I am delighted to have this opportunity to show you the impact of your generosity. Please know that our Hospital's patients and their families are so grateful for the difference you are making in their lives.

On behalf of everyone at the WCH Foundation, thank you for your support.

Jane Scotcher

Chief Executive Officer

Brightening lives, supporting brilliant care

July 2021

Our Family Support Programs continue to provide a safety net for families cared for by the Women's and Children's Health Network (WCHN). This year, over \$120,000 has assisted more than 130 families to receive immediate help.

We work in collaboration with the Hospital's Social Work team to identify families experiencing hardship due to the impact of their child's illness. The Programs assist families with the costs related to a child's hospitalisation or ill-health with items such as emergency transport, accommodation, groceries, maintenance of medical equipment to use at home, and utility bills.

September 2021

We launched our new community fundraising event with massive success! Challenge 21 was inspired by the Roberts Family who've been fundraising for 16 years in memory of their son, Sam.

Last year, in celebration of Sam's 21st birthday, we launched the event so that anyone, anywhere could take on any challenge to support sick kids. Over 400 challengers raised over \$221,000 that has supported the Hospital's Palliative Care Service and Burns Service and other initiatives across the Women's and Children's Health Network.

October 2021



November 2021

This year, over \$750,000 from donors has helped to encourage creativity, promote wellbeing and reduce distress in patients through our Arts in Health program, which includes the coordination of four art galleries in the Hospital.

With support from the Art Gallery of South Australia, we exhibited the work of five Indigenous artists in 'Mirdilyyanthi - to Shine Bright' as part of Tarnanthe festival in one of our 'Heart Galleries'. These galleries provide spaces of distraction and entertainment to alleviate stress.



August 2021

We support Play Therapy through our Arts in Health program. Play Therapists work with patients and their families to minimise the anxiety, stress and trauma associated with being unwell and in hospital.

They prepare patients for procedures, give emotional support, provide clothing and toiletries in emergencies, connect children to their home life, contribute to a vibrant environment and create fun.

We have increased the number of Play Therapists from five to 11 full-time positions. Thanks to the ongoing generosity of loyal supporters like our Big Hearts regular donors, we're able to support these roles.

Having a baby in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and Special Care Baby Unit can feel isolating and scary. We've funded a project that recognises the importance of Parent and Family-Centred Care (PFCC) to develop and improve family connections and resilience and to facilitate a confident transition home.

This includes the placement of Sharon Sands, a PFCC Representative who embeds families' feedback into tailoring service delivery. Baby Rylee (pictured) was born at 28 weeks. Her mums, Megan and Jess, were supported by Sharon, which helped ease some of their worries. This year we provided over \$630,000 for life-changing medical equipment and services like this.

December 2021

In the unfamiliar sounds of hospital, reading aloud to children can normalise the environment and have a calming effect.

The Book Buddies project is a joint initiative of the WCH Foundation and Hospital School SA, with expertise from the Children's Book Council of South Australia. Qualified book readers visit the wards to encourage reading, improve literacy skills and provide a distraction for patients.

Through our Arts in Health program, we provide books for patients to keep each time a Book Buddy visits, which they can enjoy for years to come.



Provided vital equipment and services for over **140,000 patients** who relied on the Hospital



Helped **130 families** experiencing financial hardship through our Family Support Programs

Brightening lives, supporting brilliant care

January 2022

Our Laklinyeri Beach House has continued to be a special place of togetherness for families to reconnect, relax and recuperate.

For many families even a simple holiday can be difficult to facilitate. Sole parent, Kym, was delighted to holiday with his two daughters and 12-year-old son, Jett, who is under the care of the Hospital's Palliative Care Service. A wheelchair user, non-verbal and legally blind, Jett requires significant round-the-clock care.

This year, over \$250,000 helped families create special memories at the Beach House.

March 2022

Thanks to our corporate partners Coles and Curing Homesickness, we purchased ten new Smileyscope headsets – medical-grade Virtual Reality (VR) goggles used as non-pharmacologic aides for pain and anxiety management.

Jeanette Tininczky, WCHN Manager Telemedicine, explains, "Our clinicians tell us that they have been particularly helpful during needle-based procedures and those that cause children some anxiety, such as dressing changes or fracture care. We've noted the VR headsets have reduced anxiety in our patients and helped reduce the amount of time taken for some of these procedures."



February 2022

Breast milk can protect babies from ear infections, vomiting, diarrhoea, chest infections, and asthma. However, some mothers of preterm infants can face challenges initiating and sustaining breastfeeding within the Hospital prior to taking their baby home.

This year we invested over \$600,000 in medical research that includes Dr Amy Keir's research to establish improved breastfeeding support for women with late-preterm babies.

The research has shaped a greater understanding of the challenges families and healthcare professionals face in providing breastmilk to babies born early and how to overcome them.

April 2022

Research demonstrates that physical activity during and after cancer treatment can help reduce adverse effects and improve cardiovascular fitness, anxiety and fatigue levels, response to treatment and quality of life.

Our refurbishment of the Michael Rice Centre Adolescent Room includes music, entertainment and sports zones for oncology patients. The introduction of the sports zone will increase the accessibility of exercise equipment and provide a dedicated space for movement. This is anticipated to increase the number of patients engaging in physical activity and bring high degrees of consumer and carer satisfaction.

May 2022

The Child and Family Health Service (CaFHS) completes approximately 11,000 preschool health and development checks each year. As part of these checks, vision screening is imperative in identifying issues that are detectable and treatable.

We funded 122 Kay Picture Test vision screening books where children engage in the fun 'game' of identifying the book's pictures from a distance to test their eyesight. The books are significantly more user friendly and age-appropriate than the previous charts used and are highly accurate and readily portable.

June 2022

The Paediatric Emergency Department (PED) at the Hospital will soon be receiving a new Fluoroscanner® Imaging system. This machine helps children with small fractures be managed in the PED, avoiding admission and going to theatre.

It is generally used for imaging during closed reduction procedures where the fractured bone is set without surgery.

This purchase was made possible thanks to a generous gift from the estate of Raymond Beale. Gifts in the Wills have contributed over \$1m this year. Every dollar is a valuable investment in the health and care of our patients and families, both today and in the future.



Helped **36 families** create precious memories at the Laklinyeri Beach House



Invested over **\$600,000** into health and medical research in South Australia.

**Thank you for your
ongoing generosity
and support.**

**To learn more about
your impact visit
wchfoundation.org.au**



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