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Health Heroes Hand Over Hospital to CCDHB

esigning, building and equipping the new regional Te Wao Nui Child Health Service, in the Mark Dunajtschik and Dorothy Spotswood Building; has been an incredibly exciting journey to be part of, and we are very pleased to bring you this latest update.

This year marks the 110th anniversary of the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital for Children, which opened in Wellington on 13 March 1912, and has a proud history as New Zealand's first ever children's hospital. It is fitting then that we have just celebrated a major milestone in your new children's hospital journey, as health heroes Mark Dunajtschik and Dorothy Spotswood formally marked the completion of the build by transferring ownership to the Capital & Coast District Health Board.

Mark and Dorothy's unprecedented generosity is deeply appreciated. It also came at a critical time for our region. Without them a new hospital would have been many years away and sick children, their families and the hospital's medical teams would have continued to struggle in a building that was broken and unfit for purpose.

In 2017 following an initial approach by Bill Day Chair of the Foundation, Mark and Dorothy announced their extraordinary gift of \$50 million to build and donate a new world-class children's hospital to our region. This is a unique philanthropic model, and a true legacy, and it has also allowed our medical teams to be involved in every step of the design and build process. The building was designed with the needs of tamariki and whanau in mind and includes private ensuite bathrooms in single bedrooms that will better support patient care. The outcome is a smart, resilient and purpose-built paediatric hospital that for the first time allows for many child health teams to be co-located.

Having the new Te Wao Nui Child Health Service, which has specialists from across all areas of our health teams, under the one roof will be particularly important for the care of young people with complex or multidisciplinary needs.



Fionnagh Dougan (CEO,CCDHB), Hon Grant Robertson (Deputy Prime Minister), Mark Dunajtschik and Dorothy Spotswood (Benefactors), Stacey Shortall (Deputy Chair, CCDHB Board), Dr Andrew Marshall (Clinical Leader Child Health, CCDHB), Bill Day (Chair, WHF)

When does the new hospital open to patients?

While the completed building has now formally transferred to the CCHDB, there is still much work for the CCDHB and Foundation to do to raise the \$10 million needed to outfit and equip the interior of this stunning new building. This includes funding specialised medical equipment, as well as all the fittings, furnishings, communications, digital and creative aspects of this new purpose built children's hospital.



Our community has helped fund the **Tree of Life** and spiral staircase connecting levels 2 and 3, which is almost complete. This will be an iconic structure and a central part of the interior theming. The Tree of Life connects to the playful and fun murals created by Weta Workshop that reflect the different layers of the forest ecosystem – forest floor, tree line and canopy. It is creative elements like these that will bring Te Wao Nui to life.



Work is also underway to develop a suite of new Kaitiaki themed merchandise that will support roll out of the new Te Wao Nui branding to replace the much loved Hospi lion. In the last 11 years over 120,000 Hospi soft toys were distributed to sick tamariki and rangitahi admitted to hospital, as well as those treated in the Emergency Department and Outpatient Clinics.

We have had some incredibly generous donations, from children, their families, caring corporates, community groups and grant providers. And we extend our sincerest thanks to them all, because each one, big and small, takes us closer to our goal, and with just over \$8 million raised that goal is well within reach!

Please join us by donating at **whf.org. nz/donate**.

While Mark and Dorothy have completed the build, the new hospital was designed in a pre-COVID world, and the opening of the service to the public will take place later than originally planned. The CCDHB have advised that they intend to undertake additional works to the building to maximise the opportunities presented by lessons learned from COVID-19. These changes, particularly those related to air-handling systems, will enhance our hospital's ability to care for children with RSV, COVID-19, or other respiratory-type illnesses and will make us more resilient for future outbreaks. Once that work is completed there will also be a final operational commissioning phase to allow the Child Health Service to move into the new building.

Work is also underway to create a donor wall that acknowledges Mark Dunajtschik and Dorothy Spotswood along with the thousands of caring community donors from across our region.

It is a privilege to represent our donors in this journey towards a stunning new regional children's hospital, and we look forward to opening Te Wao Nui's doors.



WHF Chair, Bill Day with the new 'Tiaki' soft toy

A message from the chair



WOW.

Firstly, I want to say thank you to all our donors and supporters and our Foundation staff. You have all been amazing.

It was a proud day on Thursday 31 March 2022 when Wellington property developers and philanthropists Mark Dunajtschik and Dorothy Spotswood handed over the "keys" to our new Regional Children's Hospital that they have built and donated to Capital & Coast District Health Board.

For the Foundation it was the last milestone before the official opening hopefully later this year. I have had the pleasure of knowing Mark since 1982 when he financed the late Peter Button into NZ's first 24 hour rescue helicopter service and I arranged for my employer at the time, Commercial Bank of Australia Limited to sponsor Peter's rescue helicopter. This has now become the well-known Westpac Rescue Helicopter. Since that time Mark and Dorothy have gone on to be very successful which now enables them to be among the very best of philanthropists in New Zealand. We are hugely indebted for their support of our new children's hospital. If it wasn't for Mark and Dorothy we would not be getting a new hospital for many years to come.

All charities work hard to raise funds for many and varied causes and New Zealanders are very generous. This is a well-known fact. Many of our donors and supporters from Whanganui to Napier and down to Nelson/Marlborough have joined our new children's hospital journey, as the Foundation looks to raise \$10 million to fit out and equip the new hospital. This goal is almost within our reach. I sincerely want to thank the many thousands of donors who have risen to our challenge to support the new hospital. You are all amazing. From Rotary, Lions International, Community and Charitable Trusts, individuals both young and old, families, businesses

and many others who have made a contribution. So thank you again. The new hospital will also make you very proud. It is all about our children and grandchildren's health.

Covid

What a two years it has been. I have never seen such committed people as our hospital health workers who have continued to look after our hospital patients in amongst this Covid pandemic. On your behalf I want to say a heartfelt thank you to our unsung heroes in our hospitals. Our doctors, nurses and healthcare workers are going above and beyond. They are just amazing.

On a sad note, the changing alert levels have meant that our hospital volunteers have been unable to come to the hospital. We are looking forward to having them back as soon as we are able to.

Please stay safe and thank you again for your support.

Bill Day, MNZM,JP Chair, Wellington Hospitals Foundation

Our community difference...

Wellington Hospitals Foundation has amazing dedicated partners and donors from across our region.

A million thanks to New Zealand **Community Trust**

hanks to NZCT's generous **\$1 million grant**, the Foundation is another step closer to the \$10 million needed to outfit the interior of the region's new children's hospital. Chair Bill Day said, "We are privileged to partner with people who are passionate about child health. Wellington Regional Children's Hospital has a long history of community support, and we are immensely grateful to NZCT for their incredible investment in this critical regional project. Their support will help improve the health and well-being of thousands of sick tamariki and rangatahi across our wider area." NZCT are one of the largest funders of amateur sports and other cultural and charitable causes in the country including health, returning proceeds raised via local kiwi hospitality businesses to assist sports teams and community groups across New Zealand. This grant together with the recent announcement of a \$1 million grant to Canterbury's Maia Health Foundation for their Child, Adolescent & Family Mental Health project, means that NZCT has made a substantive and important contribution to child health in New Zealand which will

make a huge difference to kiwi families facing a health crisis, for many years to come.

NZCT welcomes the opportunity to play a significant part in helping complete the new regional children's hospital. As one of the biggest grants that NZCT has made, we are honoured to partner with Wellington Hospitals Foundation to outfit and equip this much needed new service for children and families across central New Zealand. 🤊

Alan Isaac - Chair, NZCT



Other Foundation sponsors generously supporting your new children's hospital

We are very grateful to local grocery business, **Moore Wilson's**, who are kindly sponsoring the hospital's main wait / play area to ensure a comfortable and child friendly space for children and their families to wait for their outpatient appointments.

We are excited about how the hospital is taking shape and proud to be supporting the new Wellington Children's Hospital which will be so important to all Wellington families. 🤧

Julie Moore, Moore Wilson's

moore wilson's

Thanks to Pub Charity Ltd, the new hospital will be equipped with a state of the art Vocera Communications System as well as a Madsen Astera2 Audiometer. The Vocera Communication System is a small, wearable device that provides a voice controlled way for medical staff to attend to a patient's needs whilst still communicating with other staff, whether for assistance or to relay important patient information. It will enhance communication across the hospital and provide staff with instant access to clinical and personal support in

emergency situations.

Every year over 2,000 young patients are seen by Audiologists at Wellington Regional Hospital. The Natus Audiometer will be used by the paediatric audiology team in the purpose-built

Audiology Booth in Te Wao Nui, and will enable assessment of



varying degrees of

hearing loss in babies and children aged from birth to 16 years.

Special thanks to the following locally owned and operated hospitality venues that made this grant possible: Kapiti Coast District - Pinetree Arms. Rangitikei District - Captain Cook's Bar & Café, Club Hotel Marton, Rangitikei Tavern. New Plymouth District - Masonic Hotel Waitara.

Thanks to The Lion Foundation who have contributed to the purchase of 40 Tiltaway Beds for caregivers to sleep alongside their children. The Foundation has also contributed towards a variety of essential

and specialist paediatric resuscitation equipment.



Estate of Nicolaos Sourgiannis Macris

Children receiving cancer treatment are often weak, sick, tired and scared, but also sometimes upbeat, full of energy and looking for activities to pass the long hours undergoing treatment. Grateful thanks to the **Macris Trust** who are funding the fit out of the Oncology area of Te Wao Nui which will ensure a warm, safe and child friendly environment for children and families during their treatment.

Thanks to Lions Club International

Foundation and to the many hardworking Lions Clubs across our district and beyond, Te Wao Nui will have an outdoor Playscape. This sunny retreat for children and their families will also serve as an additional therapeutic space for our hospital's Child Development

and Physiotherapy teams with specially designed rehabilitative equipment enhancing therapy programmes for children with mobility issues.



Rotary International and clubs across our region and beyond have come together to fund two whānau spaces on Levels 2 and 3 of Te Wao Nui. Offering kitchen, dining and retreat

spaces, this will be a lifeline for families spending long hours in hospital.



Thanks to **Weta Workshop** who have funded the concept design for the creative environment and theming that will bring Te Wao Nui to life. The name Te Wao Nui acknowledges the cultural significance and life-giving properties that Māori associate with the forest. Weta's murals and theming reflect

the different layers of the forest ecosystem – canopy, forest floor, and treeline – in a way that is both playful and fun for kids and families.



Support for other areas of our hospitals

As always it is a privilege to represent our donors within the hospitals we serve. The stretched health dollar only goes so far and your generosity enables our medical teams to provide the best possible care and treatment for your nearest and dearest when faced with serious health events.

Thanks to you, in recent months we have also been able to continue our support in other areas of our hospitals.

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Wellington Hospitals Foundation is a proud and long-time supporter of our hospital's incredible Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). In the last 10 years we have worked with our community's generous donors to invest in excess of \$3 million in the unit, to provide medical equipment and care items that help precious premature or high needs babies and their families.

Bill Day, Chair WHF

Four year old Isla had a traumatic start to life. A precious and much wanted IVF baby, complications during her birth meant that she was born severely oxygen deprived. Her outlook was initially grim, with the medical team

worried about hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy (HIE). HIE is a neonatal brain injury that occurs if a baby's brain doesn't receive enough oxygen, and can cause epilepsy, developmental delays and motor and cognitive skill impairment.

Fortunately Isla was rushed to the NICU where she was immediately placed on to a **Wellington Hospitals Foundation funded critical cooling system**, that put her tiny body into a therapeutic hypothermic state. This drop in core temperature decreases adverse neurodevelopmental outcomes, and kick-starts oxygen to the brain and heart. Fours year on and in part thanks to the generosity of our donors, Isla has blossomed into a very clever and happy wee girl who enjoys skateboarding, preschool and loves life. She continues to have annual visits to the hospital to monitor her progress and is participating in a drug trial that helps wee ones with compromised oxygen saturation at birth.



Mothers Milk Bank/ Pātaka Miraka

Wellington region's most vulnerable babies now have local access to pasteurised donor breast milk through Wellington Hospitals Foundation support of the NICU. Thanks to our generous donors, the service has been successfully helping preterm and high needs infants for the last six months. While milk from a baby's own mother is always the first choice, sometimes the mother is also ill or she may be on medications that don't permit her to feed her baby, so donor milk is the next best thing. Pasteurised donor milk can also save hospitalised babies lives, as Necrotising Enterocolitis (NEC), a devastating bowel disease, is 10 times more common in premature babies fed formula compared with those fed human milk. Donor milk banking is becoming common practice around the world and we are very proud to have funded the first service of its kind in the Wellington region.

The Milk Bank idea is excellent and I am very proud to be able to shout newborns a round of drinks!

Brian, financial donor







Clinical Nurse Co-ordinator Sarah Cody (NICU Flight Team) with Bill Day and Shona Brunton (WHF)

Two Foundation funded air transport incubators for NICU were blessed and gifted names at a recent ceremony. Named Rosemary and Harshad after Rosemary Escott, (Charge Nurse Manager) and Dr Harshad Patel (Neonatoligist), each incubator provides state of the art, emergency care for preterm and high needs babies on their transit flight to Wellington for treatment.



Wellington Hospitals Foundation is proud to sponsor the CCDHB **Manawa Ora Staff Orchestra**. With day jobs as clinicians and administrators, this talented group of musicians and singers perform a couple of times a year for staff, patients, their whānau and visitors.

The roll out of four smart televisions on purpose built trolleys for Wellington Regional Hospital's **Emergency Department** for use by our youngest patients, created quite a buzz across the hospital. Staff told us that "There was much joy on the floor and the TV has become a hot commodity in the Wahi Tamaraiki/ Paediatric zone, and families are amazed that we have access to such great entertainment." The TVs were in hot demand and we were pleased to fund a further two units for our hospital's **Intensive Care Unit**. Both areas can be busy, stressful and scary places for sick kids and their worried whānau, and we are pleased to be able to offer a little respite.

With your help, every year the Foundation is also able to fund:

- Hand held fans for the Palliative Care Service which are hugely beneficial for patients with advanced and severe breathlessness
- Play Specialist funding for the children's hospital
- Lease of three aquariums for the Child Health team
- Annual subscription of Health TV channels for the Emergency Department and Kenepuru Hospital
- Emergency clothing for patients who unexpectedly find themselves in the Emergency Department
- Wool for the Volunteer Knitting Service
- Water bottles for oncology patients undergoing Radiation Therapy

Community Fundraisers

We are incredibly fortunate to have many individuals, community groups and other organisations raising funds or donating much needed items to our hospitals. While it's impossible to recognise them all here, follow us on Facebook @wellingtonhospitalsfoundation to find out more.

Thanks to **Rotary Hutt City** who are hosting a region wide raffle, to help outfit and equip the two new whānau spaces in Te Wao Nui.



Bill Day with Club President Gaylene Hughes and Pete Morgan



WGC head girls Ruby McAuley (left) and Alice Thompson with Principal Julia Davidson

We were thrilled to be chosen by **Wellington Girl's College** as their charity of choice for 2022. Led by Head Girls, Ruby McAuley and Alice Thompson, the school will be running events and activities across the year to fundraise for Te Wao Nui.

Charlotte Horner is another dedicated teenager aiming to

raise \$10,000 for the children's hospital. After a hospital admission mid 2021 which spanned three months, Charlotte wanted to give back and ensure that other children spending time in hospital received the same care and comfort she did. Now making and selling her own



merchandise through her Instagram page **@The Butterfly Project**, Charlotte is well on her way to reaching her target.

The gift of a lifetime

After remembering loved ones in their Wills, many people want to leave something to help make a difference. Leaving a legacy to Wellington Hospitals Foundation is a lasting gift that will ensure our hospitals can continue to provide world-class treatment and care today, tomorrow and forever. Every gift, no matter how big or small, has a significant impact on the lives of our hospitals' patients and their families. Email **admin@whf.org.nz** to find out more.



Thank you to all our **volunteers**

ur teams of hardworking volunteers continue to show great dedication and resilience as we've cycled in and out of changing COVID19 alert levels within our hospitals. Our volunteer guides have currently been stood down from our hospitals as community COVID cases surge, but we are very grateful that they remain on



Volunteer Guides Marie, Richard and Suzanne

board and we look forward to seeing them again when it is safe to resume.

Our thanks also to the many talented knitters, quilters and sewers who continue to make beautiful as well as important therapeutic items such as heart monitor pouches and wheat bags for our hospitals. Heart monitor bags are used by cardiac patients undergoing 24 hour heart monitoring, enabling patients to comfortably wear and carry the phone sized device. **We are also in need of wheat packs**. These are used by patients receiving cancer treatment, and assist in locating veins for chemotherapy treatment by warming the arm and dilating veins. They also provide therapeutic warmth and cooling comfort to many other patients throughout our hospitals. Please be in touch if you can assist.

t is reassuring to know that our hospitals are here for us when we need them most and we are honoured to offer a way for families who may have experienced exceptional care from our hospital teams, to express their gratitude. To support all areas of your hospitals please donate at **whf.org.nz/donate**

Did you know that if you have donated to us in the past 4 years you may be eligible for a donation rebate of 33.33%. For more information or to make a claim, head to IRD's website: **www.ird.govt.nz**

Alternatively, we are pleased to be partnering with Supergenerous to supercharge your kind gifts! The Supergenerous online platform makes it super easy to claim your donation whether here is a string to rearright.

rebates back and they give you the option to regift your rebate back to us as a new donation. See more at https://www.supergenerous.co.nz/superpartners/ wellington-hospitals-foundation

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sustainably dispose of your old phones, with

proceeds helping to outfit and equip your new

children's hospital. Drop off zones are located in

Hospital, Kapiti Health Centre, or by contacting

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them directly.recyclingforcharity.co.nz

the foyer of Wellington Regional Hospital, Kenepuru



Special thanks to Capital City Motors who continue to provide generous sponsorship of the Foundation's cars.**capitalcitymotors.co.nz**



When you support Wellington Hospitals Foundation you are supporting excellence in healthcare

 Become a Well Wisher (Regular Giver) for an area

in your hospital that means something special to you. To find out more or sign up, email: **donations@whf.org.nz**



- Make a one-off donation online at whf.org.nz/donate
- Leave a Bequest. Make an important contribution in the future, without affecting your current circumstances.
 Email: admin@whf.org.nz to find out more.
- Volunteer at one of Wellington's Hospitals. For more information, visit whf.org.nz/volunteer, or email: volunteer@whf.org.nz
- Hold a fundraiser to raise money for an area in the hospital of your choice. Visit whf.org.nz/ fundraise for ideas!
- Become a Charity Partner and collaborate with us in support of your hospitals. Email: Shona.
 Brunton@whf.org.nz to find out more.

Thank you to all our Charity Partners and Major Supporters:

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