

Supporter news

SUMMER/RAUMATI 2024



Making a Difference Together

When someone finds themselves in hospital, this is often a crisis point. We don't like to think about it, especially when our days are filled with summer fun and family time; but the reality is that at any time our friends and loved ones might find themselves in urgent need of hospital treatment or emergency care.

Our donors play a vital role in helping our hospital teams deliver the best possible care to those affected by illness and injury, because your gifts help them provide the right support at the right time, across all areas of our hospitals. Your generosity also enables us to provide wrap around care to patients and families during this time, making excellent healthcare even better.

It is a privilege to partner with Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora: Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley and to represent our donors within the hospitals we serve.

Our grateful thanks to everyone who contributed to our **Flight Transport Incubator appeal for the Neonatal Flight Transfer Service**. Because you cared, we can help vulnerable newborns like Waimarie's wee girl Koko, who arrived far too soon. Look out for more news about this service soon!

We are excited to share our latest newsletter with you. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support of our hospitals.

Multi-Year Partnership Benefits Child Health

We are thrilled to renew our three-year charity partnership with Buddle Findlay Child Health Foundation. This is a valuable and meaningful collaboration that greatly enhances the care provided to our hospitals' youngest patients.

In the second year of our initial agreement, we purchased a Giraffe Blue Spot Phototherapy System for the children's hospital. Quick access to phototherapy is essential for jaundiced infants, affecting 60% of full-term and 80% of pre-term babies. This new system effectively treats hyperbilirubinemia (jaundice), preventing severe complications like deafness or brain damage.

We also acquired six ergonomic breastfeeding chairs for the NICU, providing comfort and support for new mothers and their pēpē during this challenging time. We were also able to supply 35 BuzzyBee4Shots devices to help reduce anxiety and pain in sick children during unpleasant medical procedures.

Our grateful thanks to Buddle Findlay Child Health Foundation for their ongoing commitment to improving the health and well-being of our region's children.

**BUDDLE
FINDLAY**
CHILD HEALTH
FOUNDATION



Charlotte von Dadelszen, Lauren Whitehouse (Clinical Nurse Specialist), Lynne Cowley, (Charge Nurse Manager) and Olwin Kleve.



Charlotte von Dadelszen, Partner, Buddle Findlay, Wellington Chair of Buddle Findlay Board & Trustee of Buddle Findlay Child Health Foundation) and Olwin Kleve, National Marketing Director, Buddle Findlay (seated)



→ When every second counts

A Cardiac Catheterisation Lab, often referred to as a Cath Lab, is a specialised hospital room where various procedures related to the heart and blood vessels are performed. This includes angioplasties to open blocked arteries, placing stents to keep arteries open, inserting pacemakers, and other tests and treatments to check and improve heart valve function and overall cardiac health.

Dr Ryan Salter, Clinical Lead Trauma, Anaesthetist & Intensive Care Specialist, Health NZ CCHV told us, “Many of these procedures are performed in patients who are at high risk of life threatening complications, and so emergencies happen quite frequently, and the

complex nature of these emergencies requires a specialised resuscitation response.”

To address these challenges, the REACT™ course (Resuscitation in the Cath Lab) was developed, using simulation based training to prepare teams for sudden emergencies. It brings together cardiologists, surgeons, nurses, and technicians to enhance their emergency response and decision making skills, in a realistic yet controlled environment.

Wellington Hospitals Foundation is excited to fund the establishment of the REACT™ programme at Wellington Regional Hospital. In the future, this important training will also be rolled out



to other Cath Labs across the region, including Nelson, Palmerston North, and Hawkes Bay.

It's thanks to the generous support of our community that we are able to fund programmes like this that significantly improve patient care and safety. To support cardiac care in Wellington you can donate at whf.org.nz

A Path to Independence

Every year, countless kiwi kids end up in hospital after an injury. Many others are born with disabilities or face illnesses that make it hard for them to walk, play, or even feed themselves.

When this happens, the Child Development and Paediatric Rehabilitation teams in Te Wao Nui Child Health Service step in with specialised equipment and tailored therapeutic programmes to help children of all ages. Whether it's taking a few more steps, improving their balance, or learning a new movement, these programmes are crucial for recovery. Even when full recovery isn't possible, the skills

gained can make a big difference to a child's independence and quality of life.

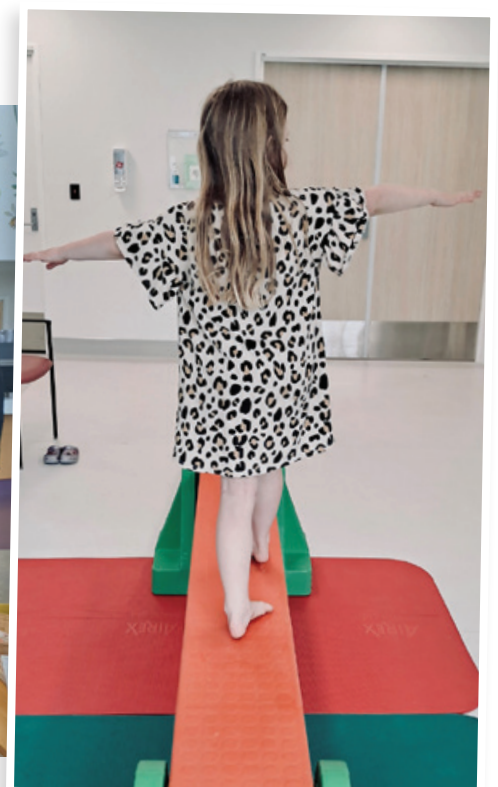
Our grateful thanks to **Freemasons NZ and all its members, The Freemasons Charity, Westminster Lodge No. 308, and the Kathleen Brooker Freemasons Charitable Trust**, for their generous donation of \$116,000 to Te Wao Nui Child Health Service, which has sponsored the hospital's two new well-equipped Therapeutic Gyms.



Stuart Brooker and family of the Kathleen Brooker Freemasons Charitable Trust



Grand Master Jim Watt and Freemason members with Bill Day, Chair of WHF



Donor Support Advances Healthcare Solutions

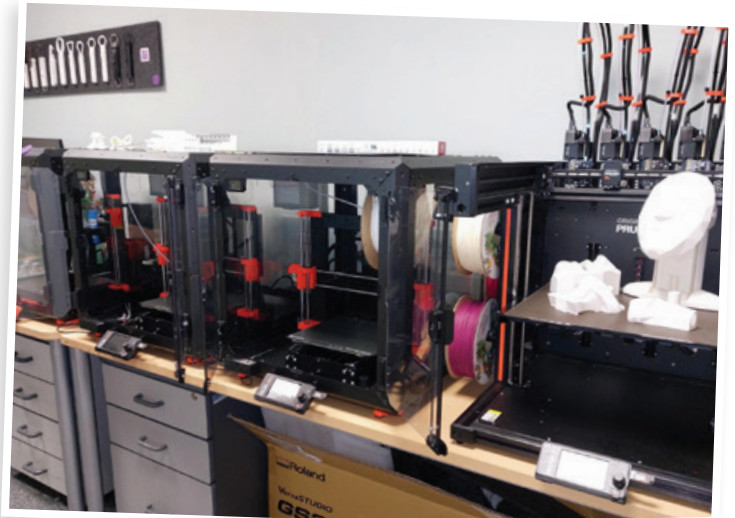
Thanks to the generosity of Wellington Hospitals Foundation donors, Wellington Regional Hospital's new 'Maker Space' is helping improve patient care. This innovative hub allows special healthcare teams to design, test and 3D print medical devices and models that solve complex healthcare challenges.

The use of patient models is recognised as an essential tool within medical education that greatly improves patient safety and emergency care. Allowing healthcare professionals to 'practice on plastic' first enables teams to develop their skills and rehearse complex procedures, in a risk free environment.

Some of the items already developed thanks to the new suite of Foundation funded 3D printers include:

- Facial models that help anaesthetists practice managing airways in emergencies
- A model that helps doctors practice inserting fluids into the shin bone. This is needed in emergencies when IV access isn't possible, like in critically ill patients or during cardiac arrest. The shin's bone marrow quickly absorbs fluids, making this a lifesaving procedure.
- An adaptive fork for rehabilitating patients with arm weakness
- A trainer for clinicians to practice placing nasogastric tubes (tubes which are inserted through the nose to the stomach).

The hospital's 3D-printed 'Cold Chain' solution, designed for safe medicine storage, is also currently being trialled in Wellington and Hutt Hospitals.



Making a World of Difference

A cancer diagnosis is frightening. Patients often spend countless hours in treatment, which can be overwhelming and filled with uncertainty. In these moments, a little extra comfort and support can make a world of difference.

A huge thank you to **World Marudào Karate Organisation** for their recent Charity Quiz Night, which raised \$18,000 to fund two Comfortline2 Treatment Chairs at Wellington Hospital's Blood and Cancer Centre. These ergonomic chairs will significantly enhance patient comfort during lengthy treatments. They also easily adjust to meet the needs of various procedures, from chemotherapy to blood transfusions. By improving the overall treatment experience, this will help make an incredibly tough time a little more bearable. This year marks the 9th anniversary of the dojo's support for the hospital through their Quiz Night, raising a staggering \$142,000 to date!



Bringing Tiny Patients Closer to Home

Thanks to **Hospitality New Zealand**, Te Wao Nui Children's Hospital are bringing sick babies another step closer to home. Many premature and high-needs pēpē who are ready to leave the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, still require ongoing hospital care.

The new Giraffe™ OmniBed™ Carestation Incubator, made possible by the success of Hospitality New Zealand's Eat Drink Play Gala Ball, is an important and much needed addition to the children's hospital. This advanced equipment provides a controlled, safe micro-environment for vulnerable babies who struggle to maintain their body temperature and need careful monitoring.





Stunning photography for new Radiology Suite

Wellington Regional Hospital recently celebrated the installation of new cutting edge x-ray technology, the first of its kind in Australasia. This marked the start of a project to install eight new digital radiography machines across Wellington and Kenepuru Hospitals by the end of the year. Pru Burns, Acting Radiology Manager at Wellington Hospital, described the upgrade as “a major leap forward from systems installed as far back as 2000, which now operate on outdated radiography technology.” **Wellington Hospitals Foundation Trustee, Simon Woolf** has generously donated stunning photography that transforms the new radiology space - creating a more welcoming environment for both patients and staff. His images, including an aerial view of Wellington, the iconic cable car, and a peaceful waterfall scene from Ōtari-Wilton’s Bush, beautifully capture the city’s vibrant blend of urban landscape and natural beauty.

Gaming for Good

We are delighted to partner with the US based **Child’s Play Charity** whose generous grant has enabled the purchase of four bespoke Mobile Gaming Trolleys for Te Wao Nui Children’s Hospital. These trolleys will bring a great deal of enjoyment to our young patients across the Medical and Surgical wards, Outpatient Clinics, and the Child Development Service. With a variety of engaging games suitable for all ages - from our youngest tamariki to the tech-savvy teenagers - the gaming trolleys will provide a welcome distraction and help ease the stress and anxiety often associated with hospital stays.



Hospital Playspecialists Megan Stothart and Robyn Crook with Lynne Cowley, Charge Nurse Manager, Te Wao Nui Child Health Service



Rosemary Escott, Nurse Manager, NICU

Words of Comfort

The NICU can be an overwhelming and challenging place to be. Amidst the clinical environment, filled with monitors and medical care, the simple act of reading to a precious baby takes on profound meaning. Research shows many positive benefits from reading, for both premature and critically sick babies and their families, and we are pleased to support this by funding a library trolley for the NICU Book Club.

“The NICU is so crowded and a hard place to be. Reading to my baby was a minute of intimacy that I really needed.”

“When I read to her, I had the impression I was really with her. She was in the middle of the room on a HIFI ventilator, with lots of action around her, and I couldn’t hold her, but I think I really calmed her when I read.”

“I would never have thought to read to such a young baby. I didn’t know what to say (when I first saw him) ... the nurse told me I could read to him if I wanted to and gave me a book. I started to read and then the words came.”

Volunteer Cuddle Programme - Where Comfort Meets Care

Life doesn’t stop when you have a premature or critically ill baby that needs NICU care, and parents can’t always be with their baby as much as they’d like. That’s why the Foundation is very excited to launch our new Volunteer Cuddle Programme for the NICU.

Research shows that human touch is the first sense to develop and is vital for a baby’s emotional, social, and physical development. When Mum and Dad can’t be

there, our Cuddle Buddies will be on hand to provide much needed comfort to babies through gentle holding and cuddling.

This simple yet powerful care benefits everyone in the NICU. For babies, it reduces stress, boosts weight gain, and supports their overall development. For parents, it offers a little peace of mind, knowing their baby is receiving loving contact when they can’t be there. And for NICU staff, it means that even when they’re busy with medical care, they know the emotional needs of babies are still being met.

To support the NICU you can donate at whf.org.nz

Jo, Lisa, Amanda and Leta



A message from the Chief Executive

Now 8-months into the role, I've loved the opportunity to meet some of the incredible people that make up our community – from patients and families, to the skilled medical staff and healthcare professionals in our hospitals across the region, to our donors, supporters, and volunteers.

The sense of care and generosity that sits around our work at the Foundation is absolutely incredible, and to each and every one of you – I'd like to say thank you. The stories in this newsletter are but a glimpse of the great work that you are helping to enable. Thank you for your support.

Many of you will be aware of the challenges facing our healthcare system. As the official charity supporting the hospitals across our region, the role of the Foundation has never been more important, and it's been amazing to learn more about the great work being done.

I've learnt that hundreds of people just like you volunteer their time every week to support our hospitals. Together, they contribute more than 50,000 hours every year, and make a tangible difference for the lives of patients and staff – especially in situations of high pressure and stress.

While many people know us for the beautiful new Children's Hospital, it's also been amazing to learn about the hundreds of other projects and initiatives that we've been able to fund thanks to the generosity of people just like you – from life-saving medical equipment and technology, to specialist care and support for patients and their families, to world-class training and simulation suites to ensure our medical teams are the best they can be.

I feel incredibly proud and excited as we work to level up to deliver even greater impact and support for our hospitals across the region, and I look forward to working with you on the journey ahead!

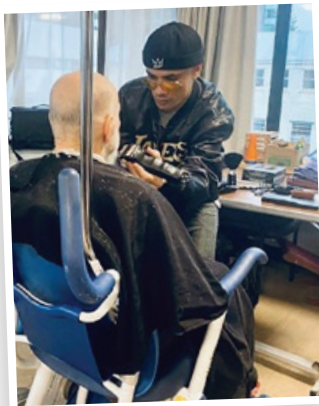


Guy Ryan,
CE, Wellington Hospitals Foundation.

Hospital Volunteers

In addition to launching our exciting new Volunteer Cuddle Service, we've seen significant developments across our Volunteer Service at Wellington, Te Wao Nui, Hutt, and Kenepuru Hospitals, thanks to the dedication of our incredible volunteer teams.

Our thanks to all the amazing volunteers who supported our Annual Street Appeal for the children's hospital. It was fantastic to see so many familiar faces alongside many new ones. Your support is invaluable, not only to the Wellington Hospitals Foundation team, but also to the children and families who depend on Te Wao Nui Children's Hospital for their care.



Recently we had the great pleasure of bringing together some of our dedicated Emergency Department volunteers for a team training session.

“As ED volunteers, we usually work solo on our shifts. This evening's meetup over pizza gave us the chance to connect with other ED volunteers and share our experiences. We also learned more about the amazing work of our security and orderly teams and picked up some valuable tips on staying safe while volunteering. I'm already looking forward to next year's meetup!”
KAYE, ED Volunteer

We were pleased to purchase a new washer/dryer for Kenepuru Hospital's Day Ward, where people come for regular infusion treatments. Many of these patients are undergoing cancer treatments and wheat packs (also made by our caring volunteers) are used to warm the arms, helping to dilate the blood vessels making veins easier to find. The soothing heat from wheat packs can also help alleviate muscle tension and provide comfort, enhancing the overall treatment experience.

Being in hospital can be tough. For older patients who need long-term care and rehabilitation, the challenges are even greater. We were delighted to welcome students and tutors from the Premier Institute of Education (Hairdressing) to the Older Persons Rehabilitation Services at Hutt Hospital. They offered haircuts and manicures, lifting spirits and helping patients feel more like themselves.



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 bequest 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. Thank you. Email admin@whf.org.nz to find out more.



Warm hearts and cosy PJs

Keeping children warm in winter is more than just about comfort - it's essential for protecting their health, especially against respiratory illnesses like Respiratory Syncytial Virus.

Cold weather makes kids more vulnerable to viruses like RSV, which can cause serious respiratory infections in young children. A huge thank you to all the generous donors who supported our Jammies in June Appeal, raising over \$19,000 this winter. That's a lot of cosy PJs!



Hazel and Jaycian wearing their cool new PJs!

Other items and projects funded

- Renal Peer Support Workshops
- Merino wraps for NICU
- Television for the Mental Health, Addictions and Intellectual Disability Service.
- TENS machines for Palliative Care
- Switch Adapted Toys for the Child Development Service to support Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule assessments
- Toys and decals for Te Wao Nui's "Quiet Wait Room."
- Sponsorship of Mental Health Awareness Week
- Sponsorship of World Allied Health Professionals Day
- Baby stretch and grows for NICU
- Merino wool for our Volunteer Knitting service
- New equipment for the Disability Leadership and Occupational Therapy teams at Wellington, Kenepuru, and Hutt Hospitals. This equipment, includes hearing aids, alternative call bells, iPads with meditation apps, and Buzzy4Shot devices that will improve the hospital experience for people with disabilities and neurodivergence.

It is reassuring to know that our hospitals are here for us when we need them most. 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 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 Supergenous to supercharge your kind gifts. The Supergenous online platform makes it easy to claim your donation rebates back and they give you the option to regift your rebate back to us as a new donation. See more at <https://www.supergenous.co.nz/superpartners/wellington-hospitals-foundation>

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Thank you to all our Charity Partners and Major Supporters

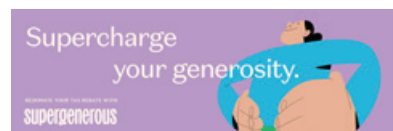
Our sincere thanks to all our charity partners and major sponsors.

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- Make a regular or 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 in 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.
- Become a Charity Partner and collaborate with us in support of your hospitals. Email: Shona.Brunton@whf.org.nz to find out more.



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