



your 2024
Impact and
Gratitude Report

A message from the Executive Director



Firstly, let us say thank you. Thank you for your ongoing support, ensuring health professionals and researchers are equipped with the resources they need to make exceptional care a reality for all.

In 2024, our community once again united to make a difference, and what you helped us achieve is nothing short of extraordinary. The stories, the achievements, and lives changed are a direct result of your belief in the cause, your commitment, and your generosity.

Together, with the support of the community, we invested \$2.3 million in health and medical research and \$1.4 million in patient care across the Flinders medical precinct and in the wider community in 2024. But this inaugural Impact and Gratitude Report isn't just about the numbers and milestones that you have made possible. It's about the people behind those statistics. It's about the families whose lives have been touched by our work, the donors who have made that possible, and the community that rallied around those in need.

Your generosity is not only having a real impact right now, but will improve health outcomes in our community for generations to come. A legacy we can all be proud of.

The need for our community to continue to support improving health care outcomes through research never stops, which is why we never will. We are grateful for your dedicated support in the past and into the future.

As you read through this report, remember that this is your story too. Every dollar, every moment of support, has brought us closer to the goal of creating a world where care reaches every corner, where innovation breaks down barriers to better health outcomes, and where lives are changed without limits.

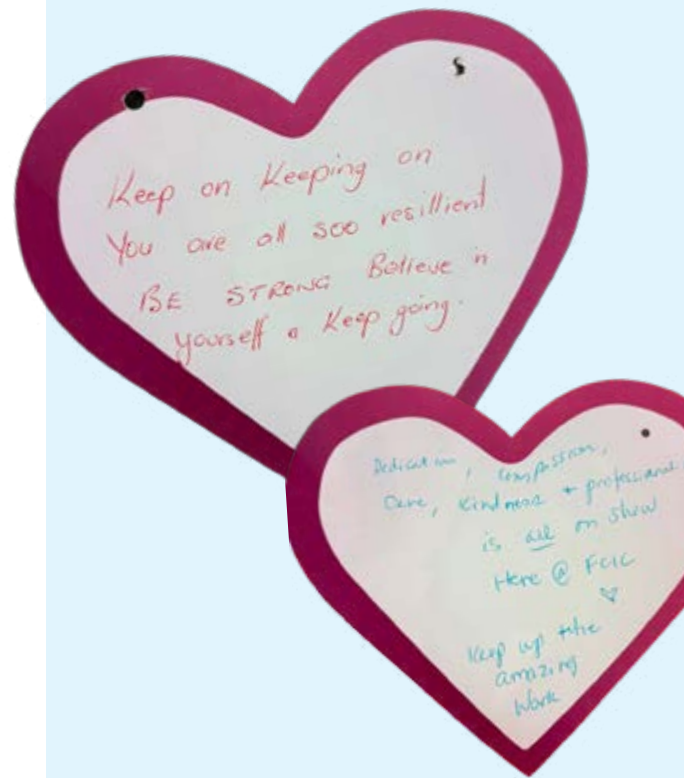
Your generosity in whatever way you choose to support us, through your partnership, donations or in the future, through a gift in your Will, enables us to ensure exceptional care is available, without exceptions.

Ross Verschoor
Executive Director
Flinders Foundation



With your support, we have changed and saved lives, without exceptions, in 2024.

Because of your support, we can improve treatments and care for our local Southern Adelaide community and enable global ground-breaking discoveries for future generations.



Hearts of Gratitude

Written by grateful patients and their family members, these hearts hang in the Flinders Centre for Innovation in Cancer, established by Flinders Foundation in 2012. This building would not have been possible without the generosity and commitment of the community.

Because of your *exceptional support in 2024...*

Flinders Foundation invested \$3.7 million in health and medical research and patient care projects.

including...

\$1.4 million

to provide exceptional care to patients, including state-of-the-art equipment.



\$515,000 in cancer research,

allowing researchers to unearth life-saving discoveries and kinder treatments.



\$140,000

on equipment for babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.



\$1 million

to develop a purpose-built Child Safety and Wellbeing Health Service facility to support vulnerable, abused, neglected and at-risk children, **with a further \$500k to be provided in 2025.**



\$500,000

in funding to support researchers from Flinders University and the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network, **contributing to a total of \$2.3 million spent on health and medical research in 2024.**

The need never stops ...

... and neither do we

Every day, thousands of people in southern Adelaide rely on world-class healthcare to live longer, healthier lives. **But behind every patient, every family, and every life-changing treatment, there's a community that makes it possible—you.**

The dedicated team that is part of the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network (SALHN) provide vital public health services to more than 380,000 people across the region. In just one year:



120,000 emergency department presentations

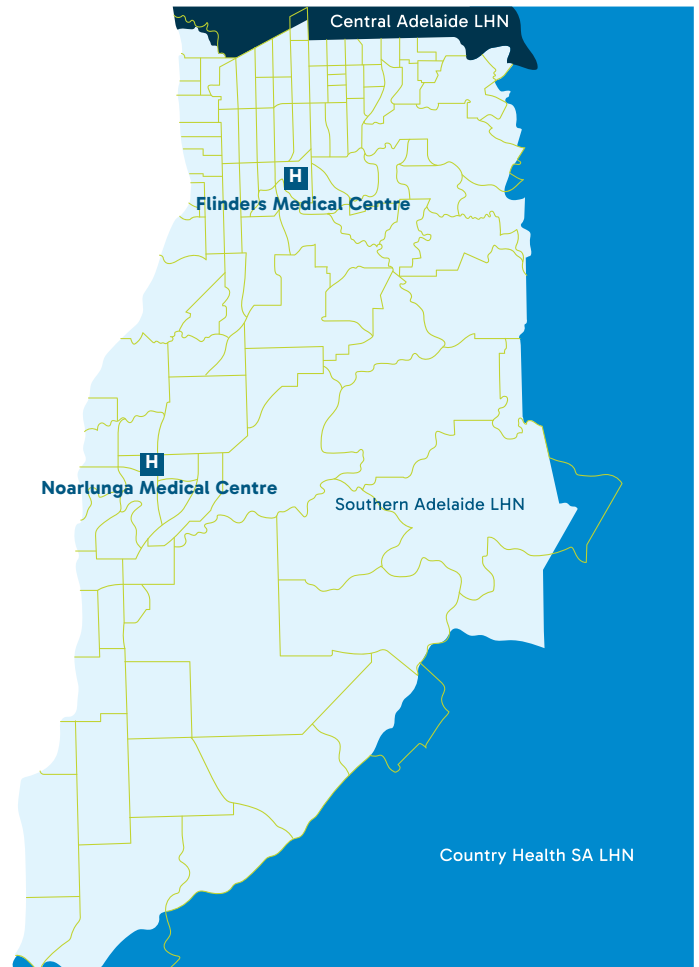


149,000 patients cared for



3,200 babies welcomed at Flinders Medical Centre

These numbers highlight the scale of care provided, and reveal the increasing demand for life-saving treatment.



SALHN's latest Local Area Needs Assessment confirms the urgency:



The region has an ageing population, with nearly **20% of South Australia's total population expected to live here by 2036.**



1.4% of the population are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, with a **median life expectancy as low as 55-61 years in some areas.**

Meanwhile, chronic health conditions continue to rise:

- Cancer rates in southern Adelaide exceed the state average.
- Onkaparinga Council has higher-than-average cases of asthma and lung disease.
- The most prevalent conditions affecting our community include arthritis, cancer, mental health issues, asthma, diabetes, and heart disease.

We must ensure an ageing and growing population in Southern Adelaide, and beyond, continues to receive exceptional care.

Through your support, we fund patient care initiatives and life-changing research to improve health outcomes for generations to come.

How you all came together to ensure *exceptional support*

Putting the fun in fundraising

Thanks to the exceptional support of the community, in 2024 we continued our fundraising efforts to fund groundbreaking research and life-changing patient care.



The Flinders Foundation Pink Yellow Blue Disco

Raised close to \$400,000 for **cancer research and care.**



Adelaide City Plunge

64 brave participants took *The Plunge* and doubled our target raising close to \$110,000.



Lumary City-Bay Fun Run

128 participants walked, ran and shuffled to raise nearly \$40,000 in the event's 50th year.



Dry July

50 participants raised over \$23,000, surpassing the original goal of \$11,000.



Photo credit: Nathan Godwin Photography



Every pedal stroke brings us closer to a *cure.*

Tour de Cure

Over \$400,000 was raised for **cancer research and care** with 73 riders and 35 crew on the 2024 Tour de Cure SA Discovery Tour!

Since 2007, Tour de Cure has been dedicated to curing cancer and funding vital ground-breaking research. Flinders Foundation is the exclusive partner of Tour de Cure in South Australia, with funds supporting cancer researchers across the Flinders health precinct.

Putting the spotlight on *you*

Community partnership with Drakes Supermarkets

We are incredibly fortunate to partner with some incredible local organisations, including Drakes Supermarkets, who have generously contributed over \$470,000 to support life-changing health and medical research and patient care at Flinders since 2001.

Through initiatives like the annual Charity Showbag, Drakes, together with their amazing suppliers and customers, are making a real difference in the lives of South Australian patients and families affected by a range of diseases and illnesses.

An exceptional legacy

Diagnosed with bladder cancer in 1988 while travelling around Australia with wife Pixie, Ralph was operated on and cared for by the urology service at Flinders Medical Centre.

Ralph remained indebted for the care he received at Flinders and passionate about supporting men with similar cancers, including prostate cancer, until his passing in 2020.

Ralph and Pixie left a generous gift to Flinders Foundation which will support cancer research for many years to come.

Read about the exceptional research being done in this space and how you can create a legacy you and your family can be proud of.



The gift that keeps giving

For more than a decade, Julie Lovering has been connected with Flinders Foundation, but since 2020, her support has taken on an even deeper meaning. As a regular donor, Julie is helping drive progress in research and treatment for multiple myeloma—a cause incredibly close to her heart.

Living with multiple myeloma herself, Julie knows firsthand the challenges of this disease. But rather than focusing on her own journey, she is determined to make a difference for others facing the same diagnosis.

Julie's story is a testament to the impact of regular giving. By contributing consistently, she is helping researchers and clinicians advance life-changing discoveries—creating hope for patients now and in the future. Her kindness and selflessness embody the spirit of Flinders Foundation supporters, proving that every gift, no matter the size, can lead to long-lasting change.

"My cancer journey is now in its 9th year, and I have been lucky enough to be able to start another new drug when my previous treatments were no longer working.

I specifically asked for my money to go direct to the laboratories where the researchers are trying to find a cure for Myeloma. I thought if it doesn't actually help me specifically, it hopefully would help other patients down the track.

I feel that by committing to a regular direct debit payment, I have been able to give directly to the laboratories and researchers that aligned with my interests. It does give you a very rewarding feeling to know you are helping so many people."

How your support provides exceptional patient care

a safe haven
for vulnerable children

In November 2024, we were proud to support the opening of the new Southern Adelaide Local Health Network Child Safety and Wellbeing Health Service, made possible through generous community partners.

This dedicated \$3 million facility—co-funded by Flinders Foundation and the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network—was created with one purpose: to provide a safe, welcoming space where children facing trauma, abuse, or neglect can receive the care, protection, and support they deserve.

Each year, around 1,700 vulnerable children are welcomed into this comforting environment, where a team of experts provide medical, psychological, and comprehensive care assessments to ensure their safety and wellbeing.

Thoughtfully designed with calming interiors, indoor decorative trees, and peaceful courtyard spaces, this centre is more than just a building—it's a place of **healing and hope for children when they need it most.**



Photo credit: Tom Roschi Photography



Making cancer treatment *kinder*

Thanks to your incredible generosity during Dry July, we more than doubled our original fundraising goal—raising over \$23,000!

This support has helped provide a handheld ultrasound machine at the Flinders Centre for Innovation in Cancer (established by Flinders Foundation in 2012) making a real difference for patients undergoing chemotherapy. This specialised device helps medical staff find veins more easily, reducing discomfort and stress for patients who already face so many challenges.

For patients like Kylie Constant, who is receiving treatment for stage 4 metastatic breast cancer and was a Dry July participant herself, this machine means fewer painful attempts and a smoother experience. Cancer treatment is tough enough—we're committed to making it as gentle and supportive as possible. **Thank you for being part of this meaningful change.**

You have supported a wide range of initiatives that allow exceptional patient care to be provided at Flinders.

Thank you!

How your support *powers exceptional research*

You can read updates on our annual health seed grant rounds on our website to view the full extent of your impact.

Find out more
Scan me!



Improving health outcomes and creating positive change

Together with Flinders University, we contributed \$500,000 across 31 innovative projects led by researchers from Flinders University and the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network, in a bid to improve health outcomes and create positive change within our community and across the globe. The research projects are tackling areas such as cancer, mental health, motor neurone disease, children's health, and more.

In addition, four cancer-related Health Seed Grants were also funded totalling close to \$100,000. This important research will help to improve the lives of patients affected by ovarian cancer, multiple myeloma and asbestos-related cancer, mesothelioma, as well as patients living with cancer in conjunction with other chronic health conditions.

Honouring Ryan's legacy through exceptional research

Imagine facing a stage 4 cancer diagnosis, unsure if you'll live to see your child be born. That was the heartbreaking reality for Ryan Hodges—a fit and healthy 32-year-old with no family history of cancer.

Thanks to the incredible doctors at Flinders and the precision dosing research team, Ryan was given seven more precious years to create memories with his wife, Helen, and their son, Ollie.

Though Ryan is no longer with us, his legacy of strength and gratitude lives on through the Ryan Hodges Fund, established in his honour to give back to those who gave him more time and to support others facing similar battles.



In 2024, we were proud to announce that the Fund, in partnership with Flinders Foundation, has committed \$150,000 to two research positions, expanding the Precision Dosing Program.

The two new Fellows of the Ryan Hodges Fellowship, Dr Ramin Hassankhani and Eugene Tan, are carrying forward this important work—advancing cancer treatments and offering renewed hope to those affected by this disease. Ryan's impact continues, ensuring that more families have the chance to share precious moments together.

Continue your support

We are so very grateful for your support. If you would like to support groundbreaking research and exceptional care in other ways, please visit our website.

Find out more
Scan me!

