

Annual Review 2020

Healthy kidneys
for all Australians



Prevention
Detection
Support
Research

Overview

Kidney disease is insidious and deadly. The biggest weapon we have in protecting the health of people at risk of kidney disease is to help reduce the number of people who progress to kidney failure.

Tens of thousands of Australians lose their life to kidney disease every year. Further to this, 1.8 million people annually are hospitalised with chronic kidney disease. The need to shift the national conversation around kidney disease to one centred on kidney preservation has never been greater. The development of new drugs and treatments to slow down, or even halt, the progression to kidney failure provides further impetus for this focus.

In the meantime, we made further progress to reach the 1.5 million Australians who remain unaware they have the early markers of kidney disease. We began calling on these Australians at risk to get their kidney health checked. This will continue to be a key priority for Kidney Health Australia.

During this unprecedented year, we rallied to help those affected by kidney disease to understand the impact of COVID-19 on their illness and potential treatments. This includes transplants, which were significantly impacted by the pandemic.

With many of our community in continual isolation to protect their health, we developed initiatives to ensure our kidney community could continue to receive support and manage their condition, and remain connected with each other.

During 2020, we continued to strengthen our bonds with our clinical and research community to further drive research and treatment innovations for kidney disease. We also increased our online support capabilities to ensure people living with kidney disease have access to our resources, no matter where they live.

We thank our hardworking employees, our supportive kidney community and generous donors, and our dedicated clinical community for their unflinching support and extraordinary efforts to carry us through an extremely challenging year.



1.5m
Australians are unaware they have the early markers of kidney disease



Why early detection is vital

At 39, Shane Jeeves was living a normal, happy life with his wife and five teenage daughters. One day, he started to experience states of extreme exhaustion regularly and suddenly. Concerned about his feelings of fatigue, he went to his GP to get a check-up. His results showed abnormally high blood pressure, which his physician attributed to hypertension.

After his initial high blood pressure diagnosis, a routine blood test picked up extremely high creatinine levels. From there, a visit to a nephrologist and a biopsy resulted in a diagnosis of Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis which is a form of nephritis which causes inflammation of the kidneys and scarring of the kidney tissues – a common cause of kidney disease.

After being told to keep an eye on his high blood pressure and kidneys, Shane resumed normal life and his active sporting lifestyle. Shane thought he was doing ok as he felt fine and fit, but in 2018 his kidney function declined significantly. He was admitted to hospital in early 2019 and was shocked to learn he only had 6% function remaining.

For Shane and his family, this diagnosis was devastating as he had to immediately go onto dialysis to stay alive. The demands of his dialysis treatment took its toll on all areas of their lives, from the time they could spend together as a family to how they would survive financially.

Through his own lived experience, Shane became an advocate for raising awareness of the silent nature of kidney disease.



In September 2020, he volunteered to front our #nofilter campaign to focus more attention on the need for early detection. His enthusiasm for the campaign and an indefatigable 'do anything' attitude won our hearts over. Sadly, due to a sudden heart attack, Shane passed away at the age of 48 in December 2020.

His widow Jodie and five daughters, Lauren, Hannah, Eliza, April and Jess are passionate about continuing to carry on Shane's legacy with the #nofilter campaign. For our 2021 campaign, they are bravely sharing their story about life without Shane. We cannot thank them enough for their support and courage in driving awareness of kidney disease while still grieving over the loss of a dear husband and father.

Check your risk

To find out if you're at risk of kidney disease, take the **Kidney Health Australia** risk test at [kidney.org.au/kidneyrisktest](https://www.kidney.org.au/kidneyrisktest)

For more information, ring our free Helpline on **1800 454 3663**

Our work

We remain focused on delivering in four key areas:

- to implement powerful and effective **prevention** programs targeting major kidney disease risk factors
- to promote awareness of kidney disease and drive community and clinical participation in the early **detection** of kidney disease, particularly in high-risk groups
- to deliver effective **support** programs to enable those with kidney disease live their best possible life
- to mobilise **research** into the detection, prevention, and innovative treatments for kidney disease.

Our community

- People living with kidney disease
- Families and carers
- Volunteers
- Donors
- Health Professionals
- Advisory Groups
- Ambassadors
- Staff and Consumer Groups
- Our generous sponsors and partners

Key challenges

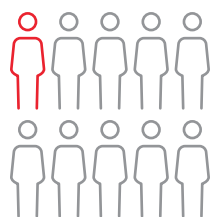
The cost of chronic kidney disease to the community

63

On average, 63 people die every day with kidney related disease.

1.5m

1.5 million people are unaware they have the early markers of kidney disease.



1 in 10 Australian adults have signs of kidney disease.

Currently there is **no cure** for kidney disease

16%

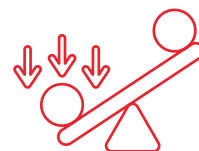
Kidney disease is a factor in 16% of hospitalisations in Australia.



Takes a devastating toll on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

1 in 9 deaths

Kidney disease contributes to 1 in 9 deaths a year, more than breast cancer, prostate cancer and road deaths.



Disproportionately affects the most vulnerable in our society.

\$5bn

Costs the economy more than \$5 billion a year.

Key impacts

How we're addressing the challenges

We continued to lead the charge in shifting the paradigm from kidney failure to kidney preservation through our early detection awareness efforts:

6.7m+

Reached over 6.7 million Australians with early detection and kidney disease messages.

74,000+

Over 74,000 people engaged in our early detection campaign to check their risk factors.

35,600+

Over 35,600 people completed the online risk test, a 105% increase from 2019.

We continued to provide valued essential education to healthcare professionals on detecting and managing chronic kidney disease:

69,000+

69,000+ educational resources distributed to consumers and healthcare professionals.

24,000+

24,000+ copies of the CKD Management in Primary Care Handbook and CKD Go! App and other resources for health professionals distributed.



Over 18,000 healthcare professionals engaged in our online learning.

We continued to drive more financial support to benefit our community:

\$7.5m

\$7.5 million raised to help drive our community support programs and research.

\$95,000+

Over \$95,000 raised through our inaugural Red Socks Appeal.

We continued to provide support when it was needed most during the pandemic:



Eight regional families undergoing transplant procedures received free accommodation.

720+

Over 720 dialysis sessions on the Victorian Big Red Kidney Bus relieved hospital overflow through the long Melbourne lockdown.

130,000+

Over 130,000 people reached and engaged via our COVID-19 and kidney updates.

We made greater efforts to connect those living with kidney disease to their peers online, to help counteract the isolating impacts of lockdown:



Kept our youth and local community groups connected through the 'Kidney Youth Australia' peer support group and Kidney Connect Program.



340 more people joined our online community groups on Facebook.

Peer-to-peer

Developed a new peer-to-peer program to support those new to kidney disease, ready for launch in 2021.



Message from the Chair

Reshaping for a stronger future

As the leading voice for kidney health in Australia, we are focused on improving the lives of all those affected by this largely preventable and under-funded condition. At the beginning of 2020, we were determined to build upon our numerous successes of the previous year. Little did we know how we would be challenged, or what we'd learn to help us tackle kidney disease on the other side of the pandemic.

The global pandemic magnified our purpose. We knew we had to be visible on the front lines to maintain the invaluable services, information and funding that support the kidney community. Despite the challenges, we were able to deliver the latest information in a way that was still responsive, personal and life-altering.

On behalf of the entire Board, I'd like to acknowledge how the Kidney Health Australia team also completed a number of important large-scale projects this year. I would like to express my gratitude to those who worked tirelessly on the National Strategic Action Plan for Kidney Disease (NSAP). With its release, we are one step closer to actively addressing the existence of chronic kidney disease in Australia with decisive and integrated action. We acknowledge the trust they have placed in us to help lead and direct the priority areas most pressing to the prevention of kidney disease, and the preservation of kidney health.

The team also completed two vital projects:

- *State of the Nation 2019 Report: Improving Outcomes for Adolescents and Young Adults with Kidney Disease*
- community consultations to inform the development of the new CARI Guidelines for Management of Chronic Kidney Disease for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

These grants help us to address two notable cracks in the treatment of kidney disease and the support of those enduring it. One in three kidney transplants fail in young people within two years of leaving paediatric care. We are committed to developing a robust program to help young people to be supported and confident in self-managing their condition. Similarly, kidney disease remains a leading cause of death and disability for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We are dedicated to providing better access to information and services to this disadvantaged group of Australians.



To all my co-directors, I'd like to extend my sincere thanks. I heartily acknowledge your continued dedication, expertise and commitment to our shared vision of a stronger kidney future for all Australians. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest Kidney Health Australia board members, Dr Steve Francis, Lachy Haynes and Sandy Chakravarty. All bring a lived kidney experience to the Board that is invaluable to maintaining our organisational focus, expertise and business acumen.

I would also like to acknowledge the invaluable work and dedication of our staff, volunteers and supporters. Your unflagging efforts in the face of this challenging year have been exemplary. Together, with continued leadership from Chris and the senior managers, the future of Kidney Health Australia looks bright.

I would particularly like to thank PJ Hartshorne for his 12 years serving on the Kidney Health Australia Board. He provided valuable support and insight into the strategy, finance and technology needs of Kidney Health Australia and we wish him well for his future endeavours.

Professor Carol Pollock
Chair
MB, BS, PhD, FRACP, FAAHMS

Message from the CEO

Generosity and resilience when it was needed most



It almost goes without saying that this has been a truly momentous year. As CEO, I'm incredibly proud of the resilience and agility shown by our team, volunteers, supporters, health practitioners, carers and community during this time. I would like to thank every person for their invaluable contribution. I also cannot say 'thank you' enough to our extended kidney community. We could not have survived and excelled through this year without your constant dedication and support.

Due to the nature of the pandemic, many of our popular annual fundraising events, including the Big Red Kidney Walk and the Kidney Kar Rally had to be cancelled. Despite this, our wonderfully generous supporters rallied behind our new Red Socks Appeal and Kidney Kids Giving Day. I am extremely proud of how our fundraising and marketing teams rose to the challenges of 2020. I'm even more thankful for how energetically and enthusiastically Kidney Health Australia's initiatives in response to COVID-19 were received by the community at large.

Our awareness campaign, #nofilter, was successful at showing the realities of life for those on dialysis. In 2020, we reached over 6.7 million people with our early detection message. The importance of #nofilter and those who featured within it cannot be understated. In particular, I'd like to express my heartfelt thanks to Shane and his entire family. His passing has affected the entire kidney community. To Jodie and her children who will stand in Shane's place for the upcoming 2021 #nofilter campaign, I extend my sincere gratitude and admiration.

Completing this vital work under these conditions did not come without sacrifice and difficult decision-making. I want to take this opportunity to thank all those staff members who took a 20% pay reduction during the most difficult months of the pandemic.

I'd also like to acknowledge the support we received from the Federal Government via the JobKeeper subsidy. With it we were able to ensure all our Kidney Health Australia team remained employed throughout the course of the pandemic. We are committed to supporting everyone on the Kidney Health Australia team to return to work comfortably and safely. We want to be recognised as an employer of choice. This is just one part of our ongoing commitment to the hardworking and selfless staff of Kidney Health Australia.

We were also particularly fortunate this year to realise a generous bequest from one of our long-time supporters. This bequest, along with our cost-saving and innovative fundraising efforts, enabled us to achieve a net surplus of \$2.3 million. This funding enables us to firmly set our sights on delivering even more vital services and research. With every bit of increased visibility, support, conversation and action, we strive even closer to achieving our main goal: a future where every Australian can enjoy good kidney health.

I would also like to acknowledge the tremendous contribution of our outgoing Clinical Director, Associate Professor Shilpa Jesudason. Shilpa has worked tirelessly for the benefit of people with kidney disease throughout her tenure.

The pandemic forced us as an organisation to be more agile, selfless and collaborative in our efforts to help our community. These behaviours will continue to serve us well as we aim to shift the national conversation around kidney disease. We want to highlight its preventable nature and the new treatment options that lie just on the horizon.

I'd be grateful for all your support as we continue to address kidney disease in 2021 and beyond.

Chris Forbes
Chief Executive Officer

Clinical Director's report

Supporting our kidney community through COVID-19



Throughout 2020, we worked as a team to pivot our efforts to better support patients living with kidney disease throughout the course of the pandemic. We did this in a number of ways. For one, we offered more digital support and access to vital information, including via regular Facebook live events and webinars designed to educate patients and health professionals. We also kept the wider kidney community informed with trusted and up-to-date information through our new website and growing social media channels.

On a personal note, I was proud to represent Kidney Health Australia within national working groups for the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology (ANZSN) and Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ). These working groups are important platforms to address the needs of kidney patients. During the last year, they were especially instrumental in lobbying the government to recognise the risk COVID-19 posed to patients with chronic kidney disease.

In March 2020, we launched the first ever National Strategic Action Plan for Kidney Disease (NSAP). At the core of the Action Plan is a 35 action-point roadmap for improving prevention, care and research of kidney disease. The funding attached to the Action Plan supports:

- new initiatives for early detection of chronic kidney disease
- consumer engagement in kidney research
- genetic kidney disease care
- living guidelines for kidney disease.

We are extremely proud of the role we've played to help bring the kidney community together to achieve this important strategic milestone on a national scale.

2020 also saw the completion of the consultation work around the Kidney Health Australia Youth Program. Initiated in July 2018 and published in 2020 with Federal Government funding, the Youth Program set out to develop and pilot initiatives to better engage and support young people. The outcome was a *State of the Nation* report on young people with kidney disease in Australia. The report outlines key recommendations for a future program of support to better equip young people to make the challenging transition from paediatric to adult care.

Along with the *State of the Nation* report, we also delivered a National Consensus Statement. This outlines what best practice care looks like for young people transitioning to adult kidney care. Underpinned by extensive clinical and community consultation, this work set out to improve the wellbeing and broader health outcomes of young people living with kidney disease. It is heartening to see so many young people, clinicians and primary care providers already engaging with and benefiting from these resources and their outcomes.

Our team also continued their important work in the Indigenous kidney health treatment area. As part of this focus, we completed the Yarning Kidneys community consultations. These sessions are designed to inform and guide inaugural guidelines for chronic kidney disease care for First Nations Australians. We were thrilled to secure a further \$770,000 of Federal Government funding to develop and disseminate the guidelines throughout the communities that will benefit from them most.

My role as Clinical Director with Kidney Health Australia came to an end at the close of 2020. It has been my privilege to serve the patient community for the last four years, and an honour to meet so many passionate and devoted patients and carers who have a shared desire to improve the situation for patients living with kidney disease.

A/Prof. Shilpa Jesudason
Clinical Director
MBBS, FRACP, PhD

Board Members



Prof Carol Pollock
MB, BS, PhD, FRACP, FAAHMS
Chair



Peter Haddad, AO
MSc, BEc
Board member



PJ (Peter Jon) Hartshorne
Bsc Civ. Eng, MBA
Board member



David Parker, AM
B.Ec (Hons), LL.B (Hons)
Board member



Monojit (Mono) Ray
BSc. LL.B, LL.M, Grad Dip Legal Practice, GD Enterprise Management,
Solicitor of the High Court of Australia and the NSW Supreme Court
Board member



Rhonda Renwick
GradD BA, Bachelor of Sciences
PSY, MAICD
Board member



David Morgan
BA (Hons), M. Int. Law
Board member



Dr Steve Francis
PhD, MA BA (Hons)
Board member (May - Dec)



Lachy Haynes
MS, GraD, B.Ec
Board member (May - Dec)



Sandy Chakravarty
GAICD, CPA, MBA, MEcon, BEc
Board member (May - Dec)

*Board Member
biographies located
at back of report.*

Awareness and education

Despite kidney disease being one of the leading reasons for hospital admissions, awareness and understanding of the seriousness of the disease is still low. Our public and primary care education programs are making an impact in bringing the disease into the public eye, and helping people to understand the associated risks.

90%

of kidney function can be lost before any symptoms appear

Engaging more Australians to check their risk

A significant part of the work we're doing in the fight against kidney disease is shifting the national conversation to kidney preservation. Preserving the kidney health of Australians at risk means potentially slowing or stopping the disease early before it has a chance to develop to the point of kidney failure.

We launched our early detection campaign, #nofilter, in September 2020. The campaign aims to reach more Australians at risk of kidney disease and encourage them to seek a kidney health check from their GP. It also shines a light on the often-hidden impacts of kidney disease on people's lives.

To do this, we need the community to:

- understand the deadly nature of kidney disease so they pay more attention to their kidney health
- be able to identify if they are at risk of developing kidney disease
- understand that early diagnosis is achievable if they take action
- know what steps to take to early diagnosis to delay or prevent kidney failure so they can live their best possible life.

The campaign featured father of five, Shane, who was diagnosed with kidney disease after presenting with high blood pressure when he was only 39 years old. Kidney disease had an overwhelming and life-altering impact on Shane and his family. In the campaign, Shane bravely shared the emotional and physical toll that dialysis took on his and his family's life.

Over 6.7 million people were touched by the campaign and 28,000 were immediately prompted to take Kidney Health Australia's risk test. Shane's story resonated strongly with the community at large and we are humbled by his family's continued involvement in this campaign.

Our impact

6.7m+

Reached over 6.7 million Australians with early detection and kidney disease messages.



Over 35,600 people completed the online risk test in 2020, a 105% increase on 2019.

74,000+

Over 74,000 people engaged in our early detection campaign to check their risk factors.



Josh Riddell and Sarah Payne

Sarah's priceless gift to brother Josh

Josh and Sarah's story is one of ultimate sibling sacrifice and resilience. When Josh was 17, he developed an aggressive form of Lupus. After 10 ICU admissions and multiple surgeries, many of his doctors predicted he would not survive. Josh fought against the odds and after three years of being in and out of hospital, he left with his life. He also left with other enduring health problems, including the need to be on dialysis.

As his sister, best friend and primary carer, Sarah was deeply affected by Josh's ongoing pain and suffering. When Josh's health hit a further low point in late 2020, he made the decision to go into palliative care.

Stepping in as a family member and carer, Sarah advised him to look into organ donation first. As luck would have it, she was an organ donor match.

In December 2020, both Josh and Sarah prepared for the life-giving surgery. Happily, the transplant surgery was a complete success and both brother and sister are enjoying their much-deserved good health.

The love and deep connection between Josh and Sarah is truly inspiring. While their story has a happy ending, they wish to save others going through the pain and debilitating impacts of living with kidney failure. By sharing their story, they hope to raise more awareness and support for kidney disease, and encourage the 1.5 million Australians unaware they have early signs of kidney disease to get tested early.

Looking ahead to 2021

Early detection continues to be a key strategic priority. We aim to replicate the positive results of the 2020 #nofilter campaign into 2021 and beyond. The 2021 campaign will continue to engage people and encourage high risk Australians to understand their risk factors, take the kidney test and see their GP for a Kidney Health Check.

The campaign will see Shane's widow Jodie and her five daughters carry on the fight in Shane's name. Our appreciation for their support and courage cannot be understated. Shane's tragic passing affected everyone involved in the campaign and made us more determined than ever to shine a stronger light on early detection.



Delivering high quality education to healthcare professionals

Our impact

3,500+

Delivered 43 education sessions via face to face and digital formats, with over 3,500 health professionals registering for these sessions.



Developed and delivered a national webinar series providing eight sessions on the detection and management of kidney disease, reaching over 2,600 health professionals.

20,000+

4th edition CKD Management in Primary Care handbook launch in late May with over 20,000 health professionals downloading or buying a copy.

25% increase

Launched new online learning content that saw a 25% increase in the number of healthcare professionals engaging with online learning.

As the peak body for kidney disease in Australia, we deliver high quality education and clinical guidelines to the primary care sector. We do this to help them detect kidney disease earlier and deliver optimal care to those diagnosed with chronic kidney disease (CKD).

Increasing our online education reach

Through our Primary Care Education team, we have offered an extensive primary care program since 2001. Normally, these sessions and modules are held around the country for health professionals working within primary care, including general practitioners, nurses, Indigenous health workers and pharmacists.

In 2020, our ability to deliver face to face education was severely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.

However, the restrictions proved a catalyst to increase our online approach to providing resources and support to a wider network of healthcare providers through regular webinars.

These webinars covered a range of topics, from patient care during COVID-19 to new clinical practices for chronic kidney disease. The shift online meant we doubled our target of healthcare professionals. This has given us the impetus to continue this approach into the future.

Despite the challenges presented during 2020, our team delivered key goals with the launch of the 4th edition of our definitive guide to the detection and management of CKD, along with optimising the delivery of our education program to healthcare professionals.

Our heartfelt thanks to all the nephrologists and renal nurses who presented our education sessions in 2020. We'd also like to thank the funding partners and professional organisations who supported this invaluable work.

Thanks to our stakeholders and partners, we continued to deliver education materials of the highest standard. In particular, our Primary Care Education Advisory Committee for Kidney Health Australia (PEAK) continues to provide support in the development and review of our primary care work. We would not be able to deliver this work without the dedicated nephrologists, GPs, renal nurses, primary care nurses and educators who make up PEAK.

We continue to be an accredited CPD Education Provider with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP). Our education is endorsed through Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM), the Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association (APNA) and National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers Association (NATSHIHW).



Dr Namrata Khamal's presentation was absolutely sensational. It is quite clear that she is incredibly passionate about this area and teaching. Renal matters are always tricky for even the most experienced people including nephrologists.

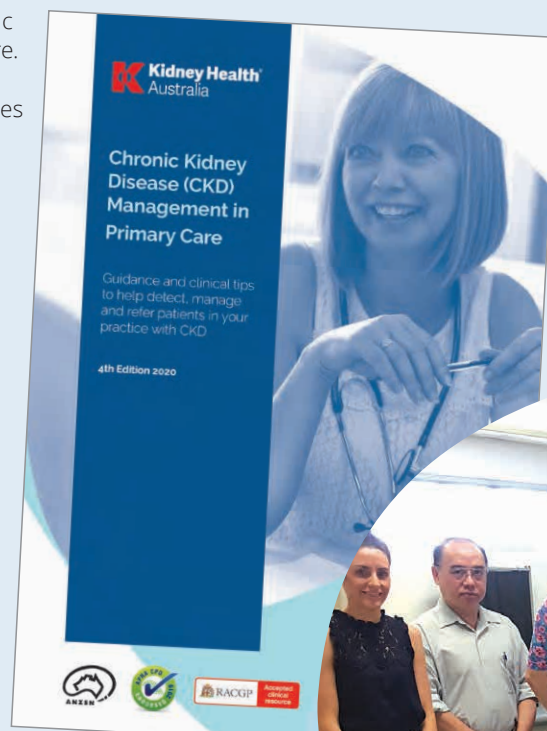


Workshop participant

Launch of the 4th edition CKD Management in Primary Care handbook

In late May 2020, we launched the 4th edition of the Chronic Kidney Disease Management in Primary Care handbook. This is the definitive guide to the detection and management of chronic kidney disease in Australia.

The updated edition was the culmination of over two years of development, research and writing to ensure that this remained the go-to source of information in Australia on managing chronic kidney disease in primary care. The handbook was launched digitally with the clinical articles reaching over 35,000 health professionals.



“The information was presented in a practical and simple, easy-to-understand manner, which makes sharing/using this knowledge in practice much more focussed and easier.”

Nurse from Perth WA

CKD Ambassador Program

In 2020, we also continued to provide opportunities for primary care clinicians to demonstrate excellence and best practice in their field. Normally, our CKD Ambassador Program takes participants through a 12-month quality improvement activity with the end goal being endorsement as a CKD Ambassador upon completion of the program.

We are pleased to see that round two of the program has 12 practices enrolled, with over 90 health professionals participating in the program.

Healthcare professionals from North Shore Medical Practice

Looking ahead to 2021

Looking ahead, we are inspired by the extraordinary uptake of our national monthly webinar series. We aim to return to a mix of face-to-face and digital learning. However, we are continuing to focus our efforts on expanding and enhancing our online webinar offering to our growing health professional network.

As we move into 2021, we are also focusing on the continued implementation and delivery of the updated CKD Handbook, the CKD Go! App and our ongoing clinical content through teaching modules and resources. We will explore additional resources to further support our professional health community, including a new health professional CKD support program toolkit, CKD anaemia content, patient referral channels and patient support and information packs.



Improving quality of life

With many of our community isolated during 2020, we focused on delivering more support online, pivoting services to deliver value where they were needed most, and keeping our vulnerable community connected.

Improving access to our resources

As the peak body for kidney health, we aim to provide the most accurate and up-to-date information across all our resources and platforms. In 2020, we turned our attention to updating the quality of design, content and accessibility of our website. We wanted to do this to improve the user experience for those with kidney disease, or anyone looking for information to better manage their kidney health.

This type of digital transformation project is a significant undertaking. We consulted with key stakeholders in our community, including those with a lived experience of kidney disease, health professionals, carers and volunteers, to ensure the new website would improve their user experience.



The result is a refreshed website that is user-friendly, easy to understand and more in-line with the interests and needs of our wider kidney community. It also has the capacity to continue to grow and adapt to their changing needs.

A \$3.5 million pledge to fight kidney disease

On World Kidney Day in March 2020, Federal Health Minister Greg Hunt pledged \$3.5 million to help organisations fight the pervasive nature of kidney disease. This announcement was part of the official launch of the National Strategic Action Plan for Kidney Disease (NSAP).

On the day, Dr Katie Allen MP launched the Action Plan on behalf of Minister Hunt. The Action Plan prioritises 35 actions across three priority areas with the strategic aim to address the most pressing needs of kidney disease over the next 10 years.

Kidney Health Australia CEO, Chris Forbes with Youth Ambassador, Seb Wolfenden and Dr Katie Allen MP

We are proud to be the leading voice guiding the Action Plan, which reflects the critical needs of the wider kidney community. We would like to thank the Federal Government for their continued support of actions that raise awareness about this preventable disease.



Keeping our community connected

Supporting our kidney community is always our focus. During a year of self-isolation, this support became even more crucial to keep us connected with one another. Kidney Health Australia set out to help those in our community overcome the barriers caused by social distancing.

Many in our kidney community are immunocompromised, and thereby more vulnerable to the potential life-threatening effects of COVID-19. To safeguard themselves and reduce their exposure, 2020 was largely a year of virtual connection wherever possible.

We used multiple channels and approaches to keep our community informed and connected.

We are proud of the way our team responded to the new virtual environment and the needs of the community during this time. Regardless of what the future has in store, we plan to continue to build on our community outreach activities.



Looking ahead to 2021

Our goal is to continue to quickly identify and respond to the pressing issues most concerning our community, from information access through to the need to stay connected and safe. This will be supported by the next phase of our digital transformation which will be the launch of a new CRM system to improve the effectiveness of our digital communication and support, as well as our internal operations.

We will also continue to provide resources, webinars and tools for peer support to our kidney consumers through Facebook and other support groups. Our new peer-to-peer initiative will be launched in 2021 to connect our community even more. This will ensure those who are newly diagnosed can get support from others who have the wisdom and experience of living with kidney disease long-term.

Our impact

35,000

35,000 consumer resources distributed.

6%

6% growth in social media followers.

340

Attracted 340 new members to Facebook groups for parents and carers, transplant donors and recipients.

130,000+

Reached over 130,000 people through Facebook live events, web page views, webinars and direct emails. This content covers all issues related to the management of kidney health in the face of COVID-19.



940,000 page views of new website.

720

720 dialysis sessions provided through the Big Red Kidney Bus Program during the height of COVID-19, alleviating pressure on our partner hospital, Monash Health.

2 Key Documents

Released two key documents focusing on the specific challenges faced by young people with kidney disease - the *State of the Nation Report: Improving Outcomes for Adolescents and Young Adults with Kidney Disease* and a Consensus Statement.

Pivoting key services to maintain support

The outbreak of COVID-19 affected everybody in our kidney community. For those living with chronic kidney disease, our Transplant Houses and Big Red Kidney Buses make a substantial difference to their day-to-day lives. When the pandemic and subsequent lockdown orders hit Australian shores, both programs encountered and overcame a number of challenges.

Our Transplant House and Big Red Kidney Bus Programs are a lifeline to our kidney community. With the onset of the pandemic, a number of changes had to be made to enable us to continue to provide these vital services.

If you would like to plan a trip on our **Big Red Kidney Bus** in 2021 or would like more information on our **Transplant House** program, please call us on **1800 454 363** or email **careteam@kidney.org.au**



Supporting transplant patients and their families

During a normal year, the Transplant House Program provides transplant recipients and donors with the support and services they need to recover from surgery and be close to loved ones. With dedicated housing in Adelaide, Melbourne and Perth, our Transplant Houses can help support kidney disease patients and their families from remote and rural areas year-round. Unfortunately, due to lockdown measures, operations were postponed, resulting in a lower intake of patients than previous years.

Even though some states and territories were able to resume surgeries mid-year, the challenges of recovering safely in the midst of a pandemic still remained.

While we weren't always able to extend our usual face-to-face hospitality due to distancing restrictions, our team adapted to a self-check-in model. This helped to ensure that the eight families who were able to use our facilities still felt supported and welcomed from the moment they arrived at a Transplant House.

We would like to acknowledge the transplant patients and their families who placed their trust in us. We'd also like to thank the Emorgo Foundation and Foundation House for their continual support and provision of accommodation for our Transplant House Program.

Big Red Kidney Bus provides a vital service during lockdown

In a normal year, the Big Red Kidney Bus tours numerous locations throughout New South Wales and Victoria. The main goal of the Bus is to provide people on haemodialysis with the opportunity to enjoy a much-needed holiday with their loved ones.

In January 2020, the devastating bushfire season raged through a large portion of the country affecting travel plans and access to some of our most beautiful and regular Big Red Kidney Bus locations. Soon after, the pandemic effectively suspended the possibility of interstate travel. As a result, the services offered by the Big Red Kidney Bus were cancelled after only a couple of locations were visited in February and March.

With transplant operations affected by the pandemic, there was a subsequent increase in the number of patients needing dialysis while waiting for surgeries to resume.

By offering the Bus to our Victorian partner, Monash Health, Kidney Health Australia helped cater for the overflow of dialysis patients. Over 720 dialysis sessions took place during the height of the pandemic, alleviating the pressure on Monash Health services and staff.

It is our hope that we can soon resume regular service of the Bus and welcome many of the patients we assisted during this time the holiday of a lifetime post-COVID-19.



Story of Geoff Kirkland

A lasting legacy to benefit others

Geoff's doctors advised him to stop his dialysis treatment and transition to palliative care in November 2020. Feeling he hadn't done enough to fundraise for the kidney community, it was his dying wish to raise as much as possible for Kidney Health Australia, in particular for the Big Red Kidney Bus.

An enduring advocate for the work of the Big Red Kidney Bus, Geoff wanted to help other dialysis patients in the kidney community. After spending a final Christmas together with his family, Geoff passed away in late January 2021. To honour his memory, Geoff's family undertook an online fundraising campaign to raise much-needed funds for the Bus in lieu of flowers. They successfully raised over \$1,400 for the Bus Program, helping those who rely on the program to stay close to their families while on holiday.

Geoff's dedication and support of Kidney Health Australia and others living with kidney disease will not be forgotten. We're indebted to Geoff and his entire family for their support and selflessness in the face of heartbreak and loss.

Developing the CARI Indigenous Guidelines

For over 20 years, Kidney Health Australia has been a foundational partner of CARI (Caring for Australia and New Zealanders with Kidney Impairments). The partnership aims to help improve health outcomes for Indigenous communities.

In 2017, the Federal Government provided funding to Kidney Health Australia to conduct community consultations to develop evidence-based clinical practice guidelines for the management of chronic kidney disease for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Yarning Kidneys consultations began in 2019 with final consultations planned in 2020 with metropolitan and regional communities.

Of the maximum 18 consultations planned, our team was able to successfully and safely consult with 11 jurisdictions in the time frame specified prior to the COVID-19 outbreak. The information gathered from Indigenous representatives during these valuable sessions will allow us to further develop the CARI Guidelines to be more responsive and more aligned with overall health outcomes for these communities.



It needs to go further than education – advocacy from the people caring for us is so important. Not just from the visiting nephrologists, but from local GP's right through to Aboriginal health and social workers. These people who we know and trust need to encourage and support us. We need those people to fight for us to get on the wait list.

Yarning Kidneys participant



Looking ahead to 2021

The Federal Government pledged an additional \$700,000 in June 2020 to the development of CARI Guidelines. The writing and dissemination of the CARI Guidelines process is set to continue in earnest throughout 2021 and beyond. Over the next two years, the CARI Guidelines writing group will conduct the consultation and writing process.



Growing our Volunteer Network

Volunteers help us provide vital support to people affected by kidney disease. Apply to volunteer with us, call **1800 454 363** or email **volunteering@kidney.org.au**

At Kidney Health Australia, our volunteers strengthen the reach of our programs and services by providing much-needed support in their local communities.

Many volunteers have a lived experience with kidney disease. They might have had it, cared for someone who has been affected by it, or has lost a loved one to it. This wonderful group of carers, survivors and givers freely offer their time across all areas of the organisation. They help with a variety of things, from fundraising events and community programming to office administration.

In 2020, our regular volunteering activities and opportunities were severely impacted by COVID-19. With events and face-to-face meetings largely cancelled or postponed, our volunteer outreach team had to find new and inventive ways to keep our community connected and inspired.

Our team's response to the pandemic was to focus efforts on growing our Volunteer Network by improving all supporting elements of the volunteer journey, from application, to onboarding and induction. The goal was to be more responsive to harnessing volunteer skills by creating simpler processes with proper resources and making every volunteer's time as fulfilling and rewarding as possible.

Looking ahead to 2021

We know many of our volunteers are keen to help in 2021. We are preparing to welcome our volunteers back to face-to-face events in a COVID-safe and welcoming environment and launching a more comprehensive Volunteer Program.



I had a great time with all the volunteers and it was a fun and rewarding activity to engage in during the holidays.

Volunteer, Christmas Present Wrapping Fundraising Event Dec 2020

Redefining our Kids and Youth Program

Young people face distinct challenges when going through the diagnosis and care realities of kidney disease. These disruptions are not only connected to physical health, but mental and social development as well.

In 2020, we released two important documents outlining the challenges faced by young people with kidney disease:

- *The State of the Nation Report: Improving Outcomes for Adolescents and Young Adults with Kidney Disease*
- a parallel Consensus Statement outlining best practice care and support, along with associated recommendations for action.

The national consultation process informing the development of both documents found that young people with kidney disease need:

- increased support and help with education
- assistance navigating their own health challenges
- help with the healthcare system and other relevant support services.

Helping young people and their families navigate the transition to adult care can be a challenge. To address the existing needs gaps, our Kids and Youth team worked in collaboration with the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne to produce a Transition and Transfer education booklet, along with associated transfer resources for hospitals. One thousand booklets were distributed to all paediatric units and some adult hospitals nationally.

Helping our younger kidney community stay connected

While our national kid's camp was sadly cancelled in 2020, our team worked to help young people stay connected and informed about their own condition during the height of the pandemic, by:

- producing Kidney Youth Champions videos that were promoted through social media and the new Kidney Health Australia website
- organising virtual catch-ups with the Kidney Youth Champions via an online peer support forum, the Kidney Youth Australia group. This group now has over 100 members and is growing exponentially
- launching the Kidney Health Australia Parents and Carers Facebook Group to allow those in the wider kidney community to share their experiences.

Looking ahead to 2021

Our plan to hold a national Kidney Kids Camp is back on the table for 2021. We have also planned some exciting new state-based activities to extend our reach to all kidney kids and youth, and their families. We will be working with our clinical stakeholders to develop a more substantial and seamless program of support for kids and youth up to 24 years of age.



Our giving community

In the face of 2020's challenges, our generous kidney community stepped up their efforts to help us support those impacted by kidney disease. We are immensely grateful for the support we received from our donors, fundraisers, corporate and government partners. We couldn't have done it without you.

Your impact

\$95,000

\$95,000 raised through our inaugural Red Socks Appeal.

\$113,000.

Over \$113,000 raised by our generous kidney community for our Kidney Kids Giving Day, including \$30,000 in matched funds from Nexon, The Randall Foundation and Central Coast Community Group.

\$7.5m

\$7.5 million raised for Kidney Health Australia, including \$3.2 million of income from Estates realised in 2020.



Kidney Health Red Socks Appeal

Wear a pair to show you care

Thousands of participants take part in our Big Red Kidney Walk across Australia each year. Unfortunately, the outbreak of COVID-19 meant that this yearly anticipated event had to be cancelled. In response, our fundraising team knew they had to reinvigorate our enthusiastic supporter base.

Every year, tens of thousands of Australians living with kidney disease spend countless hours hooked up to a dialysis machine to stay alive. The Red Socks Appeal came from a lesser known fact about dialysis - the treatment can cause cold feet.

Our inaugural Kidney Health Red Socks Appeal was launched in November 2020 to help raise awareness of kidney disease and encourage the wider community to support our fundraising efforts.

Thanks to the innovative spirit of our team and amazing donor and community, we were able to launch the Red Socks Appeal as a virtual campaign. This allowed our community to connect and make an impact together, no matter where they were.

Special thanks to kidney ambassadors, Simone Stumer and Brendan Foley, and our fundraising manager, Claire Baxter, who fronted our campaign.





Story of Simone Stumer

Helping to spread the word

Simone was 13 years old when she was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease. Through the years, it's had a huge impact on her life. At 19, she experienced total kidney failure and had to go on dialysis five days a week for over three years. Four years after receiving her first transplant in her mid-twenties, the kidney failed. Now in her early thirties, she's back on dialysis four days a week and is currently on the waiting list for a second transplant.

During the height of the pandemic, Simone's life was turned upside down even more. As someone with a suppressed immune system, she had to make huge changes to her life to protect herself from the virus. She moved out of the flat she shared with friends in the city and back in with her parents, who live one and a half hours outside of the city. She experienced extreme isolation for many months, going out only for dialysis at the clinic. She also had to make a three hour round trip for her treatment, on top of the many hours required to undergo the weekly dialysis regimen.

Fortunately, she has been well-supported by her friends, family and her employer. Without the strength of her support network, Simone would be in a very different situation in terms of her health and overall wellbeing. Wanting to raise awareness of how kidney disease affects younger people, Simone setup social media channels 'KD And Me' to showcase her regular lived experience to inspire others to live life to the fullest, regardless of their diagnosis.

On top of that, Simone is also a Queensland patient ambassador for Kidney Health Australia. In this role, she helps to spread information to the general public about kidney disease and what everyone can do to protect their kidney health. We are honoured to have her as part of the patient ambassador team.

Results from our inaugural Red Socks Appeal

We were so delighted with how our kidney community came together to show their support and raise awareness of kidney disease through this new campaign. Throughout the campaign, participants were encouraged to share their kidney stories and complete challenges in their red socks. Whether they chose to Run, Roam, Ride or simply purchase some socks, every participant became part of an important new conversation starter about kidney disease, and how it affects those living with the condition. We hope this initial success will turn this fun and inspirational campaign into a household name, helping to expand our ever-increasing donor base throughout the wider kidney community and general public.

Thanks to our fantastic ambassadors – ex-footballer Tom Lonergan and US Olympian, Jon Rankin – who offered their public support to the campaign and helped to generate enthusiasm and support for the fundraising and physical events. Thanks to their support and involvement, we generated over 47 media mentions and reached an audience of over 1.9 million. We'd also like to thank Fitness Australia for their support throughout the campaign.

Wear a pair to show you care!

Contact us about the upcoming 2021 appeal at redsocksappeal@kidney.org.au

Fundraising Appeals



Kidney Kids Giving Day

Kidney disease impacts everyone who encounters it, but it can have a particularly detrimental impact on children and young people. Kidney Kids Giving Day gave us and the wider kidney community the opportunity to support the future of kids and young people living with kidney disease.

Our Kidney Kids Giving Day was held in September 2020. The target was an ambitious one: to raise \$60,000 in 24 hours. With a rallying cry of "Let's turn \$30,000 of donations into \$60,000 of kidney kindness!" we were hopeful of meeting our target.

The success of the campaign exceeded all our expectations. Together, our generous kidney community came together to raise over \$83,000 of critical funds for kids and youth living with the daily challenges of this debilitating and deadly disease. We're also grateful for the \$30,000 of matched funding we received from Nexon, The Randall Foundation and Central Coast Community Group.

As a registered charity and not-for-profit, we are indebted to the generosity of our extensive donor and volunteer community. Despite it being a rocky year throughout Australia – including with the bush fires and the COVID-19 pandemic – our kidney community rallied behind all of our fundraising appeals.

With your support, we were able to continue to engage more people with our early detection message, help those living with kidney disease to experience life to the fullest, and fund vital research.

Brisbane racing event

Fortunately, the lifting of event restrictions in late 2020 meant that our volunteers could get back into the community face-to-face.

This year, we partnered with Brisbane Racing and supplied volunteers to their race meets in December. Throughout the month, volunteers helped to raise awareness of kidney disease among race attendees and successfully raised more than \$6,000 for vital research and services.

We're happy to be extending our partnership with Brisbane Racing Club into 2021 and look forward to bigger crowds and increased fundraising potential post COVID-19.

Christmas wrapping event

With many of our regular yearly events cancelled due to COVID-19, an opportunity arose to galvanise our Volunteer Network and support an inaugural Christmas wrapping event in Queensland.

The team and 80 volunteers raised \$13,410 and helped bring more attention to our cause. We were uplifted by the community spirit at this event, which included local council member Ryan Murphy and MP, Mr Steve Minnikin participating as wrapping volunteers.

A huge thanks goes out to Westfield Carindale, without which this event would not have been possible. We are incredibly grateful for the generous donation of all the Christmas paper, bows, ribbon and signage for the event.





Story of Seb & Raph

Inspiring other young people

Brothers Seb, 20 years old, and Raph, 9 years old, were both born with congenital nephrotic syndrome – Finnish type. Both brothers also received kidney transplants from their parents. Seb received his first kidney transplant from his father when he was three years old. After 14 years of good health, his kidney function started to worsen once more. Three years and over 20 surgeries later, he was beginning to lose hope of living a normal life like his friends. Thankfully, Seb was given a second kidney from a neighbour at 19 and is now enjoying his good health once more.

But this wasn't the end of the family's experience with kidney disease.

His younger brother Raph also had to endure the complications of a congenital nephrotic syndrome diagnosis. Fortunately, Raph's mother was a donor match. They both underwent transplant surgery and Raph is enjoying school life with his friends in between undergoing plasma exchange treatment.

While both Seb and Raph have been through a lot with their individual diagnoses, they don't let it slow them down. Seb has been involved in the Kidney Kids and Youth Program for many years, having attended Kidney Capers and Kidney Kids Camp throughout his childhood. He is also a Kidney Youth Champion, helping mentor and support other young people living with kidney disease. Raph was looking forward to his first Kidney Kids Camp this year, however due to COVID-19 it has been postponed. We are hoping we can welcome both Seb and Raph to our Kidney Kids Camp in the future.



Story of Allan O'Brien

Allan is 37 and has been fighting kidney disease for nearly 10 years. In January 2019 (after 18 months on dialysis) Allan received a kidney transplant through the paired kidney program from a friend. He then spent nearly three months in Kidney Health Australia's Emorgo Kidney Transplant House in Melbourne, recovering with his wife and three young children by his side.

Allan and his family were extremely grateful for the accommodation provided by Emorgo Kidney Transplant House during this time. To show their ongoing support, Allan, his wife and a few close friends went all out and held a Gala Fundraising Dinner for Kidney Health Australia in his hometown of Shepparton. The event was a huge success with Allan securing most of the expenses at cost price, getting local businesses on-board as sponsors and raising an incredible \$24,000!

“Kidney Health Australia did so much for me and my family, the least I could do for them was put on a fundraiser. Organising my event was great fun, it may be the start of my event management career!”

Allan O'Brien

Our Bequests Program

For over 50 years, Kidney Health Australia has received millions of dollars in bequest gifts from generous supporters, for which we are immensely grateful.

Leaving a bequest is the ultimate gift. It ensures that people affected by kidney disease, along with their families and carers, are supported through their kidney journey. This generous support empowers our vital programs and services and provides much-needed funds for ground-breaking kidney research.

In 2020, we continued to grow the number of committed supporters who had left a gift in their Will. Gifts in Wills have a lasting impact on future generations and greatly contribute to the services and support which we provide to the kidney community. Likewise, we tripled the number of supporters who are considering taking this most generous decision. Perhaps most significantly, this past year we received over \$3.2 million in bequest gifts realised from generous supporters.

We cannot emphasise enough how grateful we are for this show of generosity and support. These gifts are vital to the sustainable future of Kidney Health Australia and all those who rely on the work we do to survive and thrive in spite of a kidney disease diagnosis.

Leave a gift in your Will

Leaving a bequest to **Kidney Health Australia** is your gift to the next generation. Your gift could help save the lives of future generations and free others from the challenges of kidney disease. To find out how to leave a bequest to **Kidney Health Australia**, visit kidney.org.au/bequests



Story of Sally and Julian

A rewarding experience

Sally was diagnosed with kidney disease after the birth of her two children. Her creatinine levels kept rising, until she went into kidney failure. After being on dialysis, including undertaking home dialysis, Sally's husband, Julian was a match for a kidney transplant. Sally underwent her kidney transplant in 2009.

Sally first became involved with Kidney Health Australia through our Teleconnect program. As part of the program, she would speak to people diagnosed with kidney disease at the initial stages of their diagnosis, before going on dialysis and pre and post-transplant.

Sally says that often when navigating the medical system, there is an assumption that you have knowledge of your condition, but this is not always the case. It puts into perspective, how important connecting with other kidney patients can be.



Not a day goes by when I think how grateful I am to those who have supported me, and this is why I have chosen to leave a gift in my Will to Kidney Health Australia. ”

Sally's husband, Julian has also made this wonderful decision – a most generous gift that will have a lasting impact on future generations.

Our research progress

Kidney Health Australia has a long tradition of supporting kidney research in Australia. For over 50 years, we've raised and distributed more than \$30 million of funds towards kidney research in Australia.

Our impact

\$150,000

\$150,000 of research grants awarded to support improvements in kidney disease care.

Through all of our research efforts we always come back to our core mission: to reduce the impact of kidney disease on all Australians through the support of our research endeavours. We do this work in a number of ways.

Firstly, we place particular importance on community participation in all our research. We do this to ensure we are always working to support and highlight the priorities of the Australian kidney community. Secondly, we offer a structured research agenda and programs that are endorsed by our community and organisational collaboration. Finally, we fund vital research projects that aim to improve the life of those living with kidney disease and, ultimately, contribute to finding a cure.

In 2019-20 we awarded three research grants on the topic of 'Making kidneys last longer'. In line with our consumer focus, our Research Grant Program prioritises projects that clearly demonstrate consumer and/or community involvement or engagement at some or all stages of the research cycle. These research grants were distributed based on their alignment with our three key research areas of focus:

1. Basic science
2. Psychosocial
3. Clinical science/population health.



Making kidneys last longer

Research aim:

To better understand and reduce the risk and burden of graft rejection in CALD patients.

Factors influencing transplant outcomes for patients from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

*Dr Kimberley Crawford,
Monash University*

Individuals from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) and non-CALD populations backgrounds often experience inequalities in the transplantation process and transplantation outcomes. In fact, research suggests that there are disparities between these two groups in all aspects of kidney failure progression and management.

This study seeks to understand the factors influencing successful and unsuccessful transplant outcomes for recipients from CALD backgrounds. The overarching aim of this study is to better understand and reduce the risk and burden of graft rejection and potentially graft loss in CALD patients. Perspectives will be collected from all relevant stakeholders including the CALD community transplant recipients, family members and health professionals involved in post-transplantation care.

Research aim:

Finger prick testing at home to reduce travel burden on kidney transplant recipients.

Feasibility and acceptability of finger-prick blood sampling to monitor immunosuppressant concentrations in kidney transplant recipients.

*A/Prof Jennifer Schneider,
University of Newcastle*

Kidney transplant recipients regularly undergo monitoring of their blood immunosuppressant levels. This is done to avoid toxicity and reduce the risk of organ rejection. More often than not, this requires recipients to travel to clinics where a phlebotomist takes the blood sample. While this is a necessary part of this treatment, it can often negatively impact a patient's work or personal commitments.

The study will see whether a blood spot sample can replace currently required numerous clinic blood samples. It will also ascertain whether patients, like those with diabetes, are willing to use a finger prick to collect the blood drop on a device at home and post for analysis in a laboratory, rather than at a clinic.

Research aim:

Preventing transplant loss through better understanding of immune risk.

Characterisation of T-follicular-helper and B cell subsets to aid risk stratification in antibody mediated injury in kidney transplantation: Beyond donor specific antibodies.

*A/Prof Kate Wyburn,
The University of Sydney*

The main reason kidney transplants fail is due to antibodies that specifically attack the transplant kidney, known as donor-specific antibodies (DSA). Currently, a blood test is performed to detect DSA and determine immune risk. However, there are limitations to this test, and not all antibodies cause kidney transplants to fail.

This study will examine the cells that make these antibodies to provide a more individualised assessment of immune risk. Under the expertise of a multidisciplinary team, this study will also focus on how to help tailor management plans and aims to better understand potential treatments to prevent transplant loss.

Finances

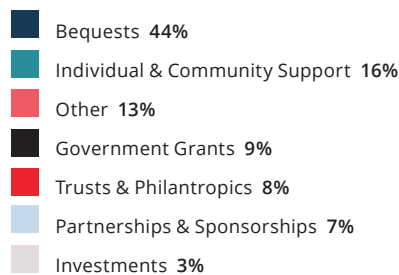
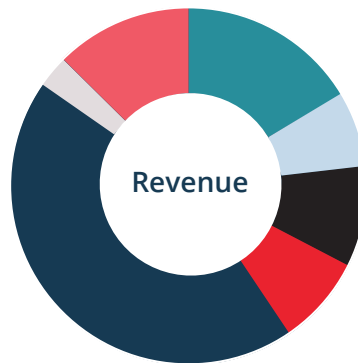
For more information, you can view our complete financial statements on our website: kidney.org.au/annual-reviews

2020 was a year where Kidney Health Australia demonstrated agility and benefited from the transformative works of 2019.

We continue to work tirelessly to support the thousands of Australians who are affected by kidney disease on a daily basis. The entire Kidney Health Australia team and larger kidney community remain incredibly grateful for a large (\$2.3M) unexpected bequest that was realised at the beginning of 2020.

Initially, we had planned for 2020 to leverage the changes that had been implemented in 2019. However, the pandemic quickly removed many revenue growth and diversification opportunities and even stopped a number of our traditional revenue activities. Our year had changed very suddenly from what we thought it would be.

Thankfully, a number of elements aligned to ensure our underlying business result was break-even. This included the reduction in our fixed-cost base from some of the difficult changes made in 2019, along with some support from the Federal Government's Job Keeper subsidy and, last but not least, some selfless sacrifices by our staff. All these positives have enabled us to preserve the wonderful gift from the estate of Alan Herbert Thompson.



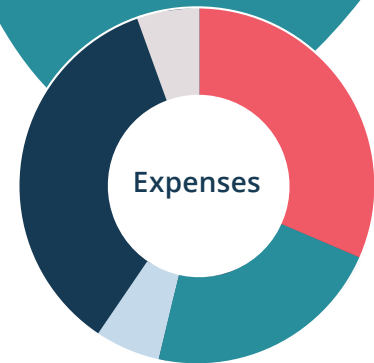
2020 Revenue

Despite not conducting our annual Kidney Kar Rally or our Big Red Kidney Walks due to COVID-19, our total revenue of \$7.5M was only 14% down on 2019. New fundraising activities such as the Red Socks Appeal and Kidney Kids Giving Day were key contributors and we expect to see them grow in future years.

Financial Position

A significant amount of our revenue in 2020 was received in-specie rather than cash. Despite the negative impacts that COVID-19 had on investment markets throughout the year, our financial assets have almost doubled to \$5.2M throughout 2020.

Our long-term goal is to remain a high-performing, accountable and financially viable community organisation for generations to come. With clarified focus, strategic investment, continued collaboration and aligned partnerships, we are well-placed to reach our overall mission of a kidney disease free future for all.



2020 Expenses

Changes made in 2019 to refocus the business significantly reduced our fixed-cost base and resulted in our total expense of \$5.1M being 42% down on 2019.

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2020

Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Assets		
Total current assets	2,249,749	2,346,582
Total non-current assets	6,642,008	5,058,528
Total assets	8,891,757	7,405,110
Liabilities		
Total current liabilities	2,478,460	2,939,033
Total non-current liabilities	75,031	321,143
Total liabilities	2,553,491	3,260,176
Net assets	6,338,266	4,144,934
Equity		
Total equity	6,338,266	4,144,934

Thanks to the community

To deliver high quality support to our kidney community we depend on the generosity of our supporters, the expertise of our dedicated clinical network, and feedback from our passionate consumer advocates. We'd like to thank the following individuals for their support in 2020 and for helping to make a fundamental difference to the lives of people with kidney disease.

All our donors are vital to ensure we can continue providing vital services and support to our kidney community and invest in research to improve treatments and eventually eradicate kidney disease so future generations can benefit from lifelong kidney health.

Major Supporters

We wholeheartedly thank the following major supporters and community groups for their generous support in 2020.

Amber Vincent
Andrew Kim Morgan
Anthony Chick
Barbara Cimetta
Betsy Polasek
Brett Courtenay
Central Coast Community Group
Christine Kenworthy
Darren Musili
David Vincent
Diane Schaffer
E R MacDonald
Elizabeth Ramsden
Georgina Orchard
Gwenda Dunstone
Henry Foster
Jan Baer
Jill Lever
Jim Murison
John Eastment
John Clout
Judith Galloway
Jun Rung
Karen Dooley
Karen Forrester
Ken Downie
Kevin Levine
Kris Promnitz
Lions Club of Robina
May Short
Melville & Suzanne Edwards
Nexon Asia Pacific
Nicholas Aitken
Fulton Hogan Construction
Paul Laing
Peter Haeusler
Peter Griffiths & Family
Peter & Erica Marriott
Quin Scalzo
Richard Muirden
Rita Andre
Silvie Jarrett
Stephen Morgan
Steven Penglis
Wendy Coghill
William Petrie

Make a donation

Every donation helps us to deliver vital support services to people affected by kidney disease. Donate today kidney.org.au/donate

Bequests Realised in 2020

We acknowledge and remember the following generous donors whose bequests were realised in 2020.

Estate of Alan Herbert Thompson
Estate of Anneke Van Kammen
Estate of Betty Muriel Caddey
Estate of Brian Harvey McDonnell
Estate of Edith Audrey Burville
Estate of Edith Isabell Robertson
Estate of Gerald Stuart Strachan
Estate of Helen Dorothea Whitfield
Estate of Hilda Nancy Pleass
Estate of Joyce Mary Moore
Estate of June Mary Coggan
Estate of Louise Elizabeth Kilpatrick
Estate of Monica Eileen Carroll
Estate of Norma Verna Rebecca McLeish
Estate of Norma Frank Southby
Estate of Paula Louise Jane Moloney
Estate of Ronald Charles O'Donnell
Estate of William Jory



Trusts and Foundations

We are proud of our enduring connections with organisations who share our values and support us to realise our vision of a future free of kidney disease. We thank you for your ongoing generosity.

Bofac Foundation
Centenary Foundation
Clark Family Trust
Clem Jones Group
Emorgo Foundation Pty Ltd
H & H Cohney Foundation
Harry Carter Trust
JDR Family Trust
Jeanetta Winkless Foundation
L R Cazaly Trust Fund
Mazza Family Endowment
Nancy Hannah Dorothy Penhallurick Fund
Percy Baxter Charitable Trust
Pethard Tarax Charitable Trust
Phillips Family Foundation
Rees Family Foundation
State Trustees Australia Foundation
The Barbara Luree Parker Foundation
The Eirene Lucas Foundation
The Gaudry Gift
The Isabel & John Gilbertson Charitable Trust
The James & Hughes Charitable Trust
The Randall Foundation
The Stan Perron Charitable Foundation
The Sunraysia Foundation

Corporate Partners & Affiliates

Thanks to our generous pharmaceutical partners in 2020:

Amgen Australia Pty Ltd
Astellas Pharma Australia Pty Ltd
AstraZeneca Pty Ltd
Baxter Healthcare Pty Ltd
Boehringer Ingelheim Pty Ltd
& Eli Lilly Australia Pty Ltd
Fresenius Medical Care Australia Pty Ltd
Roche Products Pty Ltd

Primary Care Education Advisory Committee for Kidney Health Australia (PEAK) Volunteers

Our Primary Education program would not exist without the dedicated nephrologists, GPs, renal nurses, Primary Care nurses and educators who make up PEAK.

Primary Care Education Advisory Committee for Kidney Health Australia (PEAK) Members

Prof David Johnson (Chair), QLD
Dr Chris Bollen, SA
Dr Leanne Brown, QLD
Ms Kathy Godwin, NSW
A/Prof. Shilpa Jesudason, SA
A/Prof. Ivor Katz, NSW
Prof. Robyn Langham, VIC
A/Prof. Craig Nelson, VIC
Mr Tim Perry, NSW
Dr Richard K S Phoon, NSW
Prof. Kevan Polkinghorne, VIC
Dr Angus Ritchie, NSW
Dr John Saunders, NSW
Ms Wendy Shepherdley, VIC
Dr Caitlin Sum, SA
Prof. Tim Usherwood, NSW
Mr Peter Williams, VIC
Dr Sheena Wilmot, NSW

Primary Care Volunteer Presenters

Dr Angus Ritchie
Ms Carly Luff
Ms Cassandra Stone
Dr Chii Yeap
Ms Debbie Pugh
Dr Georgina Irish
Dr Govind Narayanan
Dr Hari Nandakoban
Ms Janine Hale
Dr Karen Dwyer
Ms Katherine Birse
Ms Kelly Lambert
Ms Laura Lunardi
Dr Leanne Brown
Ms Lisa Shelverton
Prof Mark Thomas
Dr Namrata Khanal
Dr Paul Lawton
Dr Prue Howson
Dr Richard Baer
Dr Richard Phoon
Dr Samantha Bateman
Dr Shahadat Hossain
A/Prof Shilpa Jesudason
Dr Stephen May
Prof Stephen McDonald
Dr Suda Swaminathan
Ms Tanya Smolonogov

Kidney Health Australia Yarning Kidneys Advisory Group

A/Prof. Shilpa Jesudason, SA
Prof. Alan Cass, NT
Dr Janet Kelly, SA
Dr Martin Howell, NSW
A/Prof. Jaquelyne Hughes, NT
Dr Odette Pearson, SA
Ms Rochelle Pitt, QLD
Ms Jess Styles, ACT

National Kidney Consumer Council

Mr Paolo Cardelli, SA (Chair)
William Handke, ACT
Dr Brooke Huuskes, Vic
Shaun Johnson, WA
Luke Macauley, SA
Barry Mackinnon, WA
Fabian Marsden, NSW
David Morgan, Vic
Shyam Muthuramalingam, SA
Tamara Paget, SA
Cilla Preece, Qld
Peter Williams, Vic

South Australia State Consumer Group

Paolo Cardelli (Chair)
Linda Christy
Jacquie Dennis
Ramon Gadd
Rhanee Lester
Rama Mohan
David Roberts
Joy Roberts
Jason Size

Kidney Health Australia Research Advisory Committee

Prof. Steve Chadban
Mr Chris Forbes
Mr Peter Jon Hartshorne
A/Prof. Shilpa Jesudason
Prof. Richard Kitching
Dr Lisa Murphy
Prof. Carol Pollock
Mr Peter Williams (consumer)

Clinical Youth Advisory Group

A/Prof Shilpa Jesudason, SA
Dr Thomas Forbes, VIC
Dr Anna Francis, QLD
Professor Matthew Jose, TAS
Dr Sean Kennedy, NSW
Dr Nick Larkins, WA
Dr Lisa Murphy, VIC
Mr Luke Macauley, SA



Board Members

Prof Carol Pollock

MB, BS, PhD, FRACP, FAAHMS
Chair

Carol is an academic nephrologist and author of over 350 publications relevant to kidney disease and its treatment. She is an inaugural Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (2015) and recognised as a 'Distinguished Professor' by the University of Sydney (2012). In 2014 she was the recipient of the Ministerial Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Research. She was Scientific Chairman of the 2013 World Congress of Nephrology and is the current Chair of the NSW Bureau of Health Information. She is also a Director of the Photobionics Research Institute, Deputy Chair of the Australian Organ Tissue and Transplant Authority, Director of Certa Therapeutics and a member of Council of NHMRC. Carol was appointed to the Board of Kidney Health Australia in 2014 and appointed Chair in 2017.

Peter Haddad, AO

MSc, BEc
Board member

Major General (Rtd) Peter Haddad retired from the Australian Army in 2005 after 38 years' service. He has held senior policy and management positions at Defence Headquarters in Canberra and in the Defence Acquisition and Sustainment Organisation. He commanded Support Command where he was responsible for the logistic support to all Army, Navy and Air Force units. His final appointment was as Chief of Logistics where he was responsible for supporting all Australian Defence Force operational deployments. In his post military career, he has held positions with the Commonwealth Games, as an Adjunct Professor at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University and with the Victorian Government providing support to the defence industry sector. He is the principal of a consultancy company specialising in defence in defence industry, logistics and supply chain management. Peter was appointed to the Board of Kidney Health Australia in 2017 and was appointed as Deputy Chair in 2020.

PJ (Peter Jon) Hartshorne

Bsc Civ. Eng, MBA
Board member

PJ was appointed to the Kidney Health Australia Board in May 2008 and departed in May 2020. PJ served as Chair of the Finance Committee from 2017 until 2019 and was also a member of the Remuneration and Succession Planning Committee.

After spending six valuable years with McKinsey and Co, he established the Infinity Group back in 1994. He went on to consult for numerous top 100 companies in the areas of Strategy, Technology, and especially the CRM domain. PJ is still the Managing Partner of Infinity, a privately held professional services firm operating in Australia, India and the United Kingdom. He is also Chairman of Melbourne's pre-eminent Ice Hockey team, The Melbourne Ice Limited, and Chair of Softball Australia.

Monojit (Mono) Ray

BSc, LL.B, LL.M, Grad Dip Legal Practice, GD Enterprise Management,
Solicitor of the High Court of Australia and the NSW Supreme Court
Board member

Mono has held numerous leadership and non-executive roles throughout his career. He is the Managing Director and co-founder of Connect Alex, a business that builds and defends profitable market share for companies by creating highly personal relationships, through smartphones. He was a senior partner at PwC and has served on a number of industry bodies. Mono has also worked closely with State and Federal regulators to design policy and legislation. Mono brings organisational leadership, business innovation, strategic management and communication expertise to the Board, along with professional and financial services experience at Board, Senior Executive and Ministerial levels. Mono was appointed to the Kidney Health Australia Board and the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee in 2017.

David Parker, AM

B.Ec (Hons), LL.B (Hons)
Board member

David has extensive experience in economics and public administration with a long professional involvement in policy and regulatory matters across a range of sectors. He was a Deputy Secretary in the Commonwealth Government's Department of Agriculture and Water Resources and in the Department of Environment and the Commonwealth Treasury. Over his 25 years of service at Treasury, David worked on financial sector liberalisation, tax reform, macroeconomic forecasting and policy, competition policy, energy policy and international economic issues. David is the current Chairman and CEO of the Australian Clean Energy Regulator and was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 2012. He was appointed to the Board of Kidney Health Australia in 2010, having previously chaired Kidney Health Australia's National Consumer Council.

Rhonda Renwick

GradD BA, Bachelor of Sciences PSY,
MAICD

Board member

Rhonda is a transport industry proprietor, organisational psychologist, educator and mother of three. In 2008 she became the sole director of Latrobe Valley Bus Lines with depots in Morwell, Traralgon and Moe. With her extensive expertise in Indigenous health and community-based enterprises, Rhonda founded Kindred Spirits Foundation (KSF), a philanthropic trust with a vision to harness relationships as a vehicle for change. The foundation supports individuals and their communities to make and sustain the connections they need to recognise challenges and create long-term solutions. Kindred Spirits Foundation has been a driving factor in community projects such as the Big Red Kidney Bus initiative. Rhonda was appointed to the Kidney Health Australia Board in 2017.

David Morgan

BA (Hons), M. Int. Law

Board member

David retired from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in 2014 having served overseas as a diplomat and representative of Australia in international trade and environment organisations. His policy experience includes helping to develop Australia's gene technology regime and other health and safety issues. From 2004 to 2009 he was a Visiting Fellow at the University of Melbourne. David is the Chair of the Emorgo Foundation, a Director of the Victorian Bridge Association and a Councillor of the Australian Bridge Foundation. He received a kidney from his father in 1989. David was appointed to the Kidney Health Australia Board in 2014 and served as Chair from March 2016 to December 2017.

Dr Steve Francis

PhD, MA BA (Hons)

Board member (May – Dec)

Dr Steve Francis has worked as a senior manager in the not-for-profit sector in the areas of fundraising, government relations, advocacy, policy and strategy. With a PhD in anthropology and over 20 years' experience working with charities such as Australian Red Cross and the Centre for Multicultural Youth, Steve's expertise centres on creating bespoke fundraising and engagement solutions for the sector. For the past 10 years, he has focused on growing and managing technology businesses that create social good and generate sustainable revenue streams. Steve is a managing director and company secretary at FrontStream Pty Ltd, Australia's pre-eminent event fundraising platform. FrontStream is a for-profit business that supports charities to implement real fundraising solutions for peer-to-peer and online donations. Steve was appointed to the Kidney Health Australia Board in 2020.

Sandy Chakravarty

GAICD, CPA, MBA, MEcon, BEc

Board member (May – Dec)

Sandy is a highly experienced strategic leader, non-executive and executive director with global and Australian experience spanning more than 25 years. She has senior executive and board experience in diverse sectors including health care, professional services, government and not-for-profit. Sandy is also an accomplished chair of audit, risk and finance committees and has previous board experience at the International Women's Development Agency, Link Community Transport, Eating Disorders (VIC), the National Association of Women in Operations and the Australian Red Cross Blood Service. A highly regarded and collaborative leader, Sandy is capable of steering organisations to growth in a sustainable way and helping them to harness change through technological and business transformations. She is an adaptive thinker, good at connecting the dots to evaluate options to deliver outcomes to manage risk. Sandy was appointed to the Board of Kidney Health Australia in 2020.

Lachy Haynes

MS, GradD, B.Ec

Board member (May – Dec)

As a partner at PwC, Lachy advises participants in the renewable energy, waste and water markets on strategic decarbonisation and circular economy opportunities. Within PwC's Infrastructure Lead Advisory (ILA) Group, Lachy is heavily involved with project development and financing, market entry and expansion, and commercialisation. Lachy has a global perspective, having lived and worked in London and Santiago for over ten years. He contributes his commercial acumen, systems thinking and creative mindset to the Kidney Health Australia Board. Aside from his professional background and current position at PwC, Lachy brings personal experience to his role at Kidney Health Australia having lived with chronic kidney disease prior to a kidney transplant in 2006. Lachy was appointed to the Board of Kidney Health Australia in 2020.

How you can support us

We're committed to our mission of improving the lives of everyone affected by kidney disease.

There's a number of ways you can help us to achieve this mission.

Give regularly

Become a Kidney Crusader and help us lead the fight against kidney disease.

Sign up to a monthly donation kidney.org.au/give-monthly

Leave a gift in your Will

Leaving a bequest to Kidney Health Australia is your gift to the next generation. Your gift could help save the lives of future generations and free others from the challenges of kidney disease.

To find out how to leave a bequest to Kidney Health Australia, visit: kidney.org.au/bequests

Make a donation

Every donation helps us to deliver vital support services to people affected by kidney disease.

Donate today kidney.org.au/donate

Partner with us

We have a range of opportunities where your organisation can work with us to support people with kidney disease, from workplace giving, staff volunteering, corporate investment to in-kind support.

For more information call us on **1800 454 363** or email careteam@kidney.org.au

Join Team Kidney

Challenge yourself by taking part in one of our fun events. You'll help us raise vital funds to support people affected by kidney disease, and make some new friends along the way.

Sign up at kidney.org.au/teamkidney

Get involved with the Red Socks Appeal

Wear a pair to show you care! Join in a local walk event or simply wear a pair of socks to spread awareness about kidney disease.

Contact us about the upcoming 2021 appeal at redsocksappeal@kidney.org.au

Volunteer with us

Our volunteers are an invaluable part of the kidney health community. By volunteering with us you'll meet new friends, develop valuable skills and contribute to a cause that is saving lives.

Apply to volunteer with us, call **1800 454 363** or email volunteering@kidney.org.au



Connect with us:

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