

# Annual Review



# Contents

## Who we are

Our Vision	4
Our Mission	4
Our Values	5
Strategy	5
About Mater	6
About our ministries	7
Our rebrand	8
Message from Mercy Partners	9
Message from The Chairman	10
Message from Mater CEO	11
Our highlights	12

## Our care

Mater Cancer Care Centre Redland provides treatment close to home	14
Mater helps bring new hope to patients with cystic fibrosis	16
\$3.6 million to fight rare lymphoma	17
Bridging gaps to reduce stillbirth	18
My Baby's Movements app to reduce stillbirth by 30 per cent	19
Mater's Clubfoot Clinic is making a difference	20
Simulation bridges discipline boundaries	21
Orientation program strengthens interpreter service	22

## Partnering with our community

Emotional Health Unit open to support our young people	24
Partnership reduces risk of preterm births	26
Growing community connections	27
Medical research is a cause close to Maureen's heart	28
Simulation training prepares Royal Flying Doctor Services	29
Mater Research Awards and Young Investigator Symposium	30
Golden Casket partnership reaches \$14m in donations	32
Australian Made tick of approval for Mater Nappies	34

## Our people

Gillian inspired to trek new heights	36
Mater People recognised in Australia Day Honours	38
Mercy Day Mission Award winners	38
Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards	39
Celebrating long service among our Mater People	40
Mater's 16th annual Teaching and Learning awards	41
Mater researchers named Women in Technology winners	42
Dr Ryan Frazer named Clinical Educator of the Year	43
Thrive with Mater	44

## Our achievements and milestones

Sara Saeidi – Refugee Scholarship DoN	46
Betty McGrath Fellowship Scheme boosts Mater research activity	48
Closing the gender gap in research	49
From small beginnings, big things grow	50
Mater's commitment to sustainability grows	51
Transport helps smooth patients' healthcare journey	52
Mater Education wins Queensland Reconciliation Award	53
20 years of evolution in education	54
20 year milestone for Australia's first dedicated private paediatric hospital	55
Food service innovation attracts awards	56
Mater Young Adult Health Centre receives prestigious award	57
Speaking With Good Judgement® celebrates success	58
Awards trifecta for Digital Technology and Information	59
Refugee Maternity Service cares for 2500 women	61

## Our performance

Mater Group	62
Holy Cross Services	62
Mater Health	63
Mater Education	63
Mater Research	64
Mater Foundation	64
Clinical Safety and Quality	65
Community benefit	66
Mater statistics	67
Dedicated Auxiliaries make a difference	69

## Our governance

Mater Misericordiae Limited Board of Directors	70
Guiding the Mater Group Strategy	72
Mater Misericordiae Limited Board Committees	73
Mater Executive	74
Mater Foundation Committees	75
Ways you can support Mater	76
Our supporters	78
In Memory	80

### Our Vision

Empowering people to live better lives through improved health and wellbeing.

We believe every individual has the right to access world-class health services and information so that they can live every day to the fullest. We want to empower people, whatever their health goals are, to positively engage in good health knowing they can depend on Mater to support them spiritually, emotionally, socially and physically.

We are advocates for health and wellness without discrimination, and we are proactive and innovative in this role. Where we see opportunities to help people thrive and flourish, we make it our business to create solutions and make it happen.

### Our Mission

In the spirit of the Sisters of Mercy, Mater offers compassionate service to the sick and needy, promotes an holistic approach to healthcare in response to changing community needs and fosters high standards of health-related education and research.

Following the example of Christ the healer, we commit ourselves to offering these services without discrimination.

Mater acknowledges that our healthcare services are provided on traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lands, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

### Our Values

The Mater Values of Mercy, Dignity, Care, Commitment, and Quality guide our interactions with those for whom we are privileged to care, our colleagues and the many people with whom we interact every day.

- Mercy** The spirit of responding to one another.
- Dignity** The spirit of humanity, respecting the worth of each person.
- Care** The spirit of compassion.
- Commitment** The spirit of integrity.
- Quality** The spirit of professionalism.

### Strategy

Mater is on a Mission to revolutionise the way our community experiences good health and wellbeing.

Mater was built on a foundation of collaboration and a shared vision to meet unmet community need—an approach that’s shaped and inspired us for more than a century. That vision hasn’t changed but how we deliver our services has.

Our group strategy outlines how we are adapting to a rapidly-changing world. It identifies the strategic priorities that will allow Mater to meet its goals and empower people to make better healthcare choices, every day. Most importantly, it provides a clear and actionable roadmap to the future.





# About Mater

Mater brings together health, education and research for a healthier community, all supported by our philanthropic arm, Mater Foundation.

A Catholic not-for-profit ministry of Mercy Partners, Mater is guided by the spirit of the Sisters of Mercy who first established Mater in 1906 when they built the first Mater Private Hospital. This was the start of a tradition of care and compassion for the sick and needy that continues to inspire us today.

Through our extensive network of hospitals, health centres and related businesses, a nationally

accredited education provider and a world-class research institute, we're working together to meet the needs of the community and improve health and wellbeing.

Like our founders, we are dedicated to providing our services through a sincere commitment to our Mission and core values of Mercy, Dignity, Care, Commitment and Quality.

# About our ministries

Mater combines our collective expertise and resources across health, education and research to deliver new services in new ways, and to support our community in making better choices about their health and wellbeing. Through an integrated approach to health, education and research, Mater continues to fulfil our Mission to meet the healthcare needs of our community and deliver safe, high quality, compassionate care to our patients.

## Mater Health

Mater Health has grown to become an iconic provider of healthcare services for the community by delivering high quality, compassionate care in line with Mater's Mission and Values. Committed to delivering a world class health service for our patients across all stages of their healthcare journey, Mater Health aims to improve patient care with a consistent focus on providing safe, low variability, evidence-based healthcare that meets the needs of the community.

Collaborating with Mater Research and Mater Education, Mater Health strives to develop new methods, practices and techniques for better patient outcomes. This collaboration means our expert clinical team, and patients, have access to advanced and innovative approaches for the management of illnesses and disease, as well as information about cutting-edge techniques in medical and surgical procedures.

Our network supports thousands of people each year and comprises of hospitals, health centres and health related businesses.

## Mater Education

Mater Education is a nationally accredited independent, hospital based Registered Training Organisation, that develops and delivers courses across Mater and in regional Australia.

Mater Education offers a range of courses for undergraduate, postgraduate and pre-vocational students, through to highly-experienced practising clinicians. As a leading provider of contemporary inter-professional healthcare education, training and simulation with world class clinical programs, facilities and faculties, Mater Education aims to improve healthcare delivery and outcomes. Through this comprehensive model of simulation education and learning, Mater is able to develop a confident, competent and contemporary healthcare workforce.

## Mater Research

Mater Research is a recognised leader in medical research and is committed to discovering new ways to prevent and treat conditions to help our community lead healthier lives.

Working across Mater Health's network of hospitals and services and in partnership with The University of Queensland and the Translational Research Institute in Brisbane, Mater Research is able to combine medical research with clinical practice, operating with a true 'bench to bedside' philosophy. Mater Research is committed to working closely with Mater Health, Mater Education and Mater Foundation and a growing network of partners and collaborators to turn scientific discovery into the best possible treatment, care and outcomes for patients and the wider community.

## Mater Foundation

Mater Foundation is the community-based fundraising organisation that supports the work of Mater Health, Mater Education and Mater Research.

Community support has been fundamental to Mater's evolution since 1906 and as a philanthropic entity, Mater Foundation raises funds through a wide range of different programs by inspiring and engaging people and businesses to partner with Mater. Through this philanthropic engagement, Mater Foundation is committed to revolutionise healthcare for our community through investment in care, education and world-class research.



# Our rebrand

## Rebranding to honour our past and to symbolise our future

Mater has been an icon of compassion and mercy throughout Queensland and Australia for more than a century.

During that time, Mater has earned its place in the hearts and minds of many people and has become a much-loved part of the community.

When the Sisters of Mercy first established a 20-bed private hospital in Brisbane's North Quay in 1906, it was the start of an exceptional journey. It was this small fee-paying hospital which provided the much-needed funds to help the Sisters of Mercy realise their vision to help the sick and needy.

They began Mater's unique brand of healthcare, one the community continues to turn to for compassionate, high quality, holistic care.

To reflect Mater's changing strategic direction and to reposition Mater as a group that incorporates health, education and research, in November 2018 a new Mater brand was unveiled.

Honouring our Catholic heritage, our new brand builds on the charism of the Sisters of Mercy while positioning Mater as a contemporary and dynamic identity with an exciting future.

It demonstrates that Mater is evolving and adapting to our rapidly changing world in order to continue to meet community needs. With expertise across health, education and research, we are now one united group, working together to improve the health of our community.

The new Mater logo was inspired by stained glass, representing both Mater's heritage and future, and uses colourful building blocks to show Mater's diversity across our services. Individually the colours signify our ministries and together they symbolise our commitment to collaboration and working together as one. Our new brand brings us together, because together we are better for our community.



# Message from Mercy Partners

As the founder of the Sisters of Mercy Catherine McAuley once said, "we can never say 'it is enough'".



These words resonate strongly for Mercy Partners this year as we have celebrated our 10th anniversary year. This means focusing on engagement and partnership and ensuring we never stop contributing to a world where the healing mercy of God is experienced through the ministries it sponsors in the name of the Church. Through leaders, mission leaders and working groups, ministry engagement with Mercy Partners has been unwavering and demonstrates the commitment of each of our ministries to our Mission.

The theme for our anniversary year, 'Travelling a Well-lit Path', honours those who have gone before us: the founders of Mercy Partners and Mercy Partners ministries. They have provided us with a legacy of compassion, mercy, justice and hospitality

that many people in the Mercy ministries continue to work tirelessly, in the mission of the Church, to fulfil.

Mercy Partners has been privileged to see the Mercy values expressed in so many ways as Mater engages with its Mission and this Annual Review provides us with a glimpse into just a fraction of the work that has taken place in the last year at Mater.

From the opening of a Mater Cancer Care Centre at Redland enabling people to receive their cancer care closer to home, the new Emotional Health Unit offering much-needed specialist mental healthcare to young adults which is evidence-based and consumer driven, to scholarships offered to those from a refugee background to support them to pursue a career in nursing. All are tangible expressions of our Mission, with many, many more demonstrated by our ministries every single day.

On behalf of the Mercy Partners Council, I acknowledge and thank the Mater Board, Executive, all staff and volunteers for their dedication and ongoing commitment and for continuing to operate in the tradition of Catherine McAuley and the founding Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy.

**Dr Ricki Jeffery**  
Chair, Mercy Partners Council



# Message from The Chairman

Mater has reached an exciting juncture in its history with the announcement that Mater will unify its health services in South East Queensland, Central Queensland and North Queensland under a single board of governance.



In healthcare, as it is in many other industries, change is constant and with the move to unification a new governance structure is required to deliver the transition.

I am delighted to have been appointed by Mercy Partners to lead this transition as Chairman of this project as it reflects Mater's commitment to world-class healthcare in a local environment.

Firstly though, I would like to formally acknowledge both Brian Flannery and Terry Crawford for their significant service and commitment to the Mater Board, both serving as Board Directors and Chairman of the Board. It is an extraordinarily complex role to be in governance of healthcare anywhere, any time but particularly in an organisation as complex as Mater. We are grateful for their dedication, passion and guidance in shaping Mater into the organisation it is today.

I feel the weight of the responsibility I have been tasked with and I haven't taken it on lightly but I do take it on with a deep certainty and confidence in the group, I know that together we will deliver a sustainable hospital system, aged care service, and community service for Queenslanders.

In becoming one, Mater will be able to fully utilise our network of resources and integrated health, education and research across all our services to improve the health and wellbeing of our community.

Health is not a commodity it is a human expression of compassion. That's what drives us and enables us to be innovative, to be open, and be willing to always consider change.

We want all Queenslanders from rural and regional areas to the major cities and towns to be able to access world-class medicine and care.

At Mater we are all part of the Mission that was established by the Sisters of Mercy over a hundred years ago and now under the stewardship of Mercy Partners Council we are responsible for ensuring we continue to build on their legacy.

It is with this view to enhance and sustain our commitment to the Mission that the One Mater Project has been developed and I look forward to working with Mater People in the coming months as we form a new governance structure and begin to deliver on a new era for Mater.

**Mr Francis Sullivan**  
Chairman, Mater Misericordiae Ltd Board

# Message from Mater CEO

My return to Mater in January 2019 to fulfil the role of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) has been something of a homecoming. I began my medical career as an intern at Mater in 1982 and later spent more than a decade working in neonatology at Mater Mothers' and Children's Hospitals.



While a great deal has changed in the years since my first Mater experience, the rich tradition of care and compassion established in 1906 by Mater's founders, the Sisters of Mercy, remains today.

Each and every day Mater is living out its Mission to respond to unmet community need and provide a holistic approach to healthcare, all in the context of our rapidly changing world.

I feel very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to lead Mater at such an exciting time in its evolution. The past year has seen the launch of our new Mater brand, which carries the Mater legacy forward while repositioning our organisation as the collaborative group it has come to operate as today. Over many years Mater's separate ministries of health, education, research and foundation have been developed and nurtured as vehicles for innovation and excellence. Now, through the Mater Group strategy—and reflected through our new brand—these ministries have been brought together to maximise resources, share our expertise and continue to create high quality, evidence-based care that is truly collaborative and responsive to community needs.

The strategy provides an inspired roadmap for our future that will guide us as we seek to empower people to live better lives through improved health and wellbeing. In working toward this goal, we are also ensuring that our organisation is sustainable, relevant and at the cutting-edge of excellence in care.

The recent decision to unite Mater's health services in South East Queensland, Central Queensland and North Queensland under a single unified

board of governance adds another rich layer to the evolving Mater story. This transition will see Mater services across Queensland come together in 2020 so that we can deliver an even broader compliment of services for Queensland patients.

The Mater Annual Review is an opportunity to communicate a deeper understanding of who we are and what we do and to showcase our achievements for 2018-19. In these pages you will find stories of dedication, teamwork, innovation and excellence. They tell of the breadth that is Mater and of the dedicated staff who arrive at work each day ready to make a difference for patients, their families, and the broader community.

I have learned a great deal in my first six months as Mater CEO and I know I will continue to learn and grow in this role. I believe it is only fitting that I thank Mercy Partners, the Mater Board, and in particular the previous Chair of the Board, Terry Crawford, for the wonderful support provided to me during this period of transition. I am very grateful also to my predecessor, Professor John Prins and the Mater Executive team, for their wisdom and thoughtful leadership, which provided the strongest of foundations to continue delivering Mater's Mission and Values. Finally, I wish to thank all Mater People for their commitment to ensuring Mater is 'here' for the community.

**Dr Peter Steer**  
Chief Executive Officer



# Our highlights



**505 871**  
patients seen  
\*inpatients & outpatients



**10 442**  
babies born



**65 518**  
emergency  
attendances



**\$17 455 630**  
distributed by  
Mater Foundation



**7294**  
paid employees  
\*as at 30 June



**\$9.5 million**  
Mater Research  
secured external  
grant funding



**84 267**  
hours  
contributed by  
Mater volunteers



**541**  
students  
graduated  
from Mater  
Education's RTO

## Coming together to deliver on our Mission

We are our Mission. For more than a century, we have existed to respond to unmet community need; to provide compassionate care to those who need it most. Our Mission and values are our constant guide to make appropriate decisions for a sustainable, community through the integration of health, education and research.



# Mater Cancer Care Centre Redland provides treatment close to home

Giles Stimson was diagnosed with stage 4 colorectal cancer in December 2018 and was one of the first patients to start treatment at Mater Cancer Care Centre Redland which opened in May 2019.

The cancer diagnosis came as a shock to Giles, his wife and two children when a scan for a chest infection picked up tumours in his liver.

What was meant to be a happy festive period was marred by doctors' appointments, tests and worry about what the future held.

"It was an absolute bombshell but what made the knock so much easier was finding out that I could receive treatment at Redland close to home, and not have to travel to Brisbane," Giles said.

He immediately began high dose chemotherapy and target therapies in an effort to shrink the tumour.

Giles said it was the exceptional care he received at Redland from his specialist and the oncology nursing team, coupled with his positive outlook, that helped him get through the challenging days.

"Together with the chemotherapy and my healthy eating and positive mindset, I'm hitting this cancer very well," he said.

"The space is welcoming and it's dedicated to cancer patients like me. The layout has been well thought out and it offers patients the option to have their privacy or open up their area to talk with other patients," he said.

The new oncology service at Mater Private Hospital Redland means more patients like Giles can be treated locally in their community.

The original private oncology service provided treatment for more than 200 patients a year, across three days per week, and this has now expanded to five days at Mater Cancer Care Centre Redland.

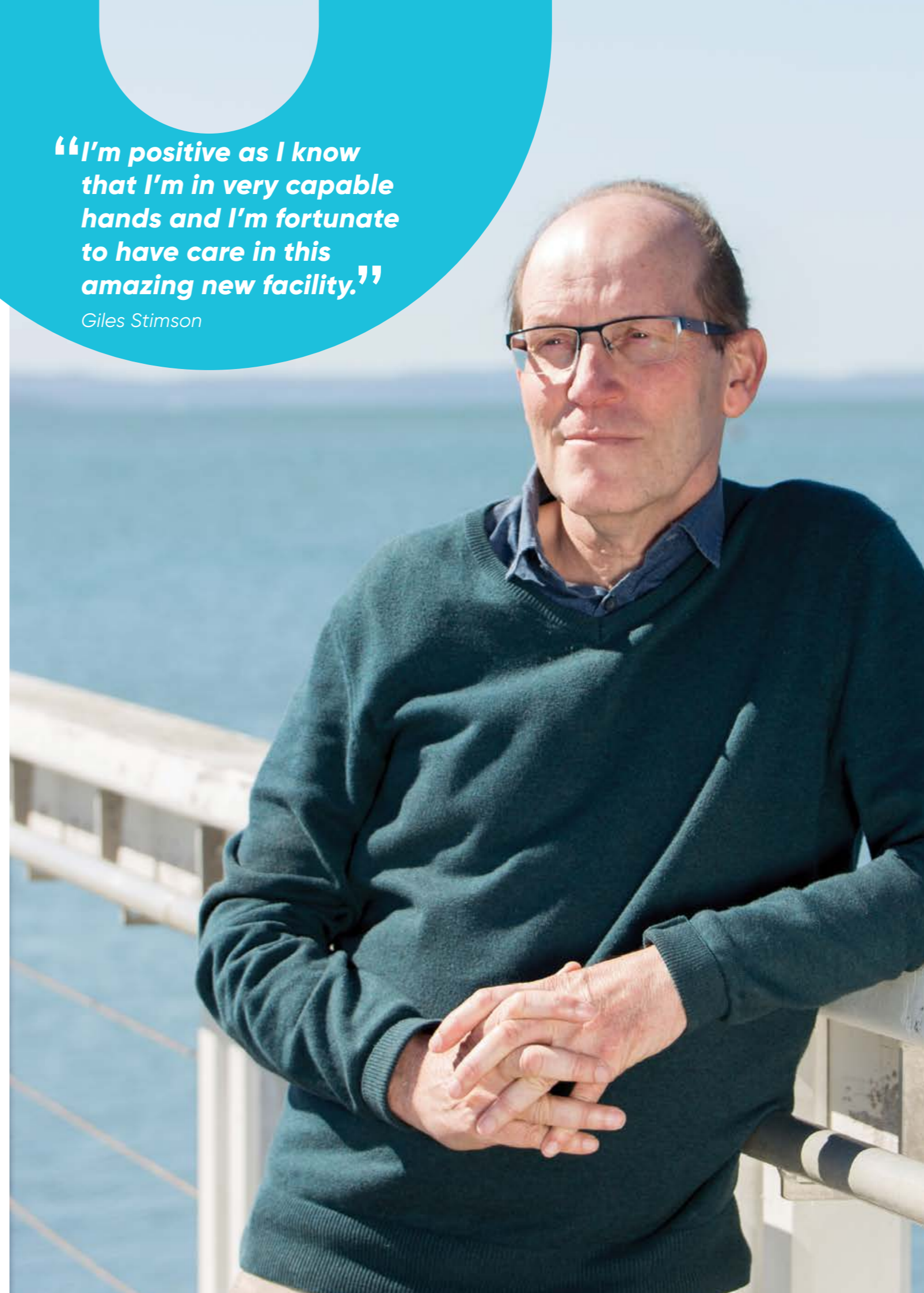
Mater Private Hospital Redland Director of Clinical Services Tracey Hutley said the centre was built to cater for the increased demand for private day oncology services.

"Since the service began in 2013 we have seen significant growth which has allowed us to expand this important service to help more patients within our local area."

"Patients will greatly benefit from being treated in Mater Cancer Care Centre Redland as it is a purpose built space designed to improve the patient's experience while undergoing cancer related treatment," she said.

**"I'm positive as I know that I'm in very capable hands and I'm fortunate to have care in this amazing new facility."**

*Giles Stimson*





Dr Lucy Burr treating a patient with cystic fibrosis



## Mater helps bring new hope to patients with cystic fibrosis

A new triple-combination drug trialled at Mater could increase the life expectancy of patients with cystic fibrosis (CF).

In Australia, a baby is born every four days with CF. Currently, there is no cure for the genetic disorder which primarily affects the lungs and digestive system, reducing life expectancy to 37 years of age.

Mater's Director of Cystic Fibrosis and Mater Research—The University of Queensland (MRI-UQ) researcher, Dr Lucy Burr said Mater had seven patients enrolled in Phase 2 of an international clinical trial, which aimed to treat the underlying cause of the condition, in approximately 90 per cent of CF patients.

"The new drug known as VX-445, in combination with two existing treatments, has demonstrated lung function improvement of around 10 per cent—which is really significant for cystic fibrosis patients," Dr Burr said.

"Patients in our trial had significant increases in their lung function that they hadn't been able to achieve previously."

As co-author of the research paper documenting the trial and its outcomes, Dr Burr said the early phase study showed some very exciting progress.

"For CF patients, most will die from lung disease, so improving or maintaining their lung function is the mainstay of treatment," she said.

Dr Burr explained that in CF, a protein called CFTR doesn't do its job to transport salt and water in and out of cells.

"The development of drugs targeting the CFTR is an exciting step forward for CF care," she said.

"When you're targeting the actual problem there's great potential for these medications to change and lengthen the lives of patients with CF," Dr Burr said.

The international clinical trial was conducted across 38 sites in the United States, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Australia. Mater is currently participating in Phase 3 of the trial.

Professor Maher Gandhi



## \$3.6 million to fight rare lymphoma

Funding green lights Mater trial to improve treatment for rare lymphoma

In February 2019 Mater Research CEO Professor Maher Gandhi was awarded \$3.6 million in Federal Government funding to activate a national trial of new cell-based immunotherapies for the treatment of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma.

Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma is a rare but aggressive form of non-Hodgkin lymphoma. It has an overall survival rate of only 10 months.

Working closely with his research team Professor Gandhi will use a proven trial design to rapidly identify patients with diffuse large B-cell lymphoma who go on to develop primary refractory disease. Once identified, the team will modify the patient's own T-cells to fight the cancer.

"T-cells are often called the workhorses of the immune system and in this trial we will be giving a patient their own T-cells back, after they have

been modified into chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cells to fight the cancer," Professor Gandhi said.

"It is like giving them a 'living drug' and we hope that these cells will be able to recognise and kill cancer cells."

Current clinical trials using CAR T-cells have found they work well against relapsed B-cell lymphoproliferative disorders, but access to them is limited, due to factors such as cost.

The trial will be undertaken over five years and will commence in 2020.

Patients will be recruited for the trial through the Australasian Leukaemia and Lymphoma Group, the only not-for-profit blood cancer clinical trial group in Australia and New Zealand.

# Bridging gaps to reduce stillbirth

Mater's Stillbirth Centre for Research Excellence (Stillbirth CRE) is piloting a new model of maternity care that has had success in reducing rates of stillbirth in the UK, after it was granted \$1.3 million in Federal Government funding.

The funding, delivered through the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), is being used to implement and evaluate a 'maternity bundle of care' designed to reduce stillbirth rates by improving routine clinical care in five key areas:

- detection and management of fetal growth restriction
- awareness and management of decreased fetal movement
- support for women to stop smoking
- awareness of maternal safe sleeping positions
- decision-making around timing of birth for women with risk factors.

The Stillbirth CRE is working in partnership with state government health departments in New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland and key stillbirth advocacy organisations, the Stillbirth Foundation Australia and Still Aware, to roll out the pilot.

Mater researcher and Director of the Stillbirth CRE Professor Vicki Flenady said while the priorities for prevention of stillbirth are well established in Australia, the 'maternity bundle of care' focuses on upscaling practices in stillbirth prevention to bridge gaps that still exist.

"Our aim is to bridge these gaps by ensuring clinicians, women, their partners and their support networks in the community are aware of the importance of these elements and steps they can take to reduce the risk," Professor Flenady said.

"This project will reach more than 50 per cent of births in Australia and we hypothesise at least a 20 per cent reduction in stillbirths after 28 weeks' gestation, saving the lives of more than 100 babies each year and their families the despair of loss," she said.

If successful the project will be expanded to reach other states.

Other outcomes expected from the project include a reduction in other adverse neonatal outcomes and improvement in women's experience of care.

**"We hypothesise at least a 20 per cent reduction in stillbirths after 28 weeks' gestation, saving the lives of over 100 babies each year."**

*Professor Vicki Flenady*



Mater's My Baby's Movements team with mum Lizzie Harms and daughter

## My Baby's Movements app to reduce stillbirth by 30 per cent

Awareness app helps women monitor their baby's movements

A new mobile phone app developed by Mater clinicians allows expectant mothers to track their baby's movements and could reduce the rate of stillbirth in Australia by 30 per cent.

Director of the Centre of Research Excellence in Stillbirth (Stillbirth CRE), based at Mater Research—The University of Queensland, Professor Vicki Flenady said the My Baby's Movements app is designed to increase a mother's awareness of her baby's movements and encourage her to report concerns early.

Stillbirth affects more than 2000 Australian families each year, despite many being preventable.

"Stillbirths seem to occur in an apparently healthy and normal mum and baby and sometimes the only sign that your baby isn't okay is a decrease in movements," Prof Flenady said.

"Over half of women who have had a stillbirth reported that their baby slowed down in movements but they didn't know to do anything about it."

The My Baby's Movements app was developed in consultation with pregnant women and women who have experienced stillbirth and is being trialled at 26 hospitals across Australia and New Zealand.

The trial will include birth outcome data for almost 300 000 women in order to determine whether it reduces stillbirth rates.

Emerald mum Lizzie Harms is one of the trial's participants.

Ms Harms experienced stillbirth with her second baby, Daisie, who was born at 27 weeks.

She said she now recalled warning signs throughout the pregnancy but at the time didn't know to think anything of them.

Ms Harms used the My Baby's Movements app during her third pregnancy.

"I started using the app at 28 weeks and felt at ease straight away. There were many moments I'd wake up and think I can't feel a kick. That reassurance or prompt to seek medical attention was there—it can be all it takes," she said.

"The app is education for women to trust their instincts...a baby should be moving. You should know when your baby is active and if it's not active during that time something has changed and something is going on," Ms Harms said.

"If this is going to prevent one stillbirth—if a mum can get up to the hospital in time and they can get bubby out—it has the chance to really change lives," she said.



# Mater's Clubfoot Clinic is making a difference

Meet toddler Tiberius Kodor today and it is hard to believe the little boy who runs and jumps with abandon was born with two club feet.

Tiberius was treated at Mater Children's Private Brisbane Clubfoot Clinic in 2018 and his parents say they will be forever grateful to the clinic for ensuring their son leads a full and active life.

Clubfoot describes a range of foot abnormalities present at birth in which a baby's foot is twisted out of shape or position due to the tissues connecting the muscles to the bone being shorter than usual. One in three babies born with clubfoot will have it in both feet.

The Kodor family is from Papua New Guinea and when Tiberius was born with the condition in early 2018 they quickly discovered that accessing treatment locally would take up to eight months to complete and might not result in full mobility.

It was through searching the internet that Tiberius' mother Samantha learned about the Mater Children's Private Brisbane Clubfoot Clinic—where the treatment was likely to take only eight weeks—and she embarked on a mission to have him treated there.

Clubfoot Clinic Physiotherapist Tracey Bulow said getting the family to Australia took some time.

"There was a lot of communication, collaboration and development of treatment plans required in order for Tiberius to access our clinic," Ms Bulow said.

In mid 2018 the Kodor family arrived in Australia and Tiberius began a nine week treatment plan.

This involved five weeks of casting, followed by a surgical procedure known as bilateral achilles tenotomy undertaken to lengthen the tendons and provide normal movement in the feet.

Following three weeks recovery, Tiberius began wearing boots and bar orthosis—critical to treatment success in cases of clubfoot—which had been generously donated by a family whose son had completed treatment.

Today Tiberius' feet look like any other child's and he has no mobility issues.

Mater Children's Private Brisbane's clubfoot team have extensive experience in the treatment of clubfoot and offer specialised expertise and treatment for children of all ages with clubfoot.



Tiberius Kodor receiving treatment for clubfoot



Melanie Barlow at the Center for Medical Simulation in Boston.

## Simulation bridges discipline boundaries

As a leading provider of interprofessional healthcare education, training and simulation, Mater Education is committed to supporting quality healthcare service delivery through expertise in education and continuing professional development.

The Simulation Fellowship Program is a joint initiative of Mater Health and Mater Education, funded by Mater Foundation, and supported by Mater Research with several simulation research papers published this year. The program has been designed to strengthen the use of innovative simulation training at Mater and includes three simulation fellowships offered in 2018/2019 to ensure the benefits of simulation are felt across Mater and beyond.

For the first time in 2018, Mater offered an Allied Health Simulation fellowship to broaden the opportunity beyond nursing and medicine.

Director of Clinical Simulation Dr Sarah Janssens said the fellowships provide development pathways and enhance skills across teams.

"The Allied Health Fellowship has enabled cross professional training and enhanced understanding of roles and skill sets across the professions," Dr Janssens said.

"Simulation helps bridge discipline boundaries to build relationships, change culture and continue collaboration."

"When you put teams through a simulation exercise that takes them out of their comfort zone, bonding happens, and that builds relationships and team building outside of the context of the simulation."

As well as the Simulation Fellowships offered at Mater, Director of Simulation Melanie Barlow also had the opportunity to undertake a fellowship with world-renowned leaders in simulation, the Center for Medical Simulation (CMS) in Boston. Ms Barlow spent six months in Boston and said the fellowship allowed her to expand on her skills.

"Deepening my skills in debriefing and learning more about educational research were the key driving forces for choosing this fellowship," Ms Barlow said.

"From my learnings in Boston I hope to continue to grow Mater Education's offerings of simulation faculty development programs and develop educational research opportunities," she said.

"Mater is now recognised nationally for our simulation expertise. It was a deliberate strategy to develop our staff to deliver high quality simulation based education, including effective learning conversations through the debriefing process.

"By training more people in simulation-based learning, I truly believe we can continue to strengthen the skills and knowledge of our Mater staff, continuously improve our systems and positively impact patient safety," Ms Barlow said.



# Orientation program strengthens interpreter service

Every year at Mater approximately 18 000 interactions with patients and family members will involve the assistance of an interpreter.

To support our delivery of interpreting services that are both intuitive and readily accessible, the Cultural Diversity Unit and Mater Education team have been working with staff across the organisation to build awareness and competency with on demand phone interpreter interactions.

Through the Inter-professional Clinical Orientation Program (ICOP) Mater People participate in simulated scenarios involving clinicians, support staff and patients with limited English proficiency.

These live phone interpreter sessions are followed by a robust debrief process, where they can work through gaps in understanding around protocols and further explore any scenario-specific issues that arose.

Since it began in 2016 the program has resulted in a 60 per cent increase of phone interpreter calls, providing a clear flow-on effect to improved patient experience and stronger health outcomes.

In 2019 Mater also introduced a new Interpreter Management System (IMS) for the management of interpreter bookings.

IMS has many enhanced features creating a better user experience along with providing opportunities for more efficient engagement of interpreter services.

Interpreter services are integral to patient safety and experience and Mater now employs interpreters in seven languages—Mandarin, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Arabic, Somali, Persian/Farsi and Dari.



Members of Mater's Cultural Diversity Unit and interpreter team.

## The community lies at the very heart of what we do

The Sisters of Mercy built Mater on the spirit of giving and this tradition continues today as we meet the needs of our changing community. We do this through a number of programs and services.



# Emotional Health Unit opens to support our young people

Mater patient Kelsie Dummett, has had to deal with her fair share of illness.

Kelsie has been treated for a chronic immune condition at the Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane for the past six years.

The gravity of her condition and regular stays in hospital led her to experience mental illness.

"I didn't fit in the adult category or the children's ward. When I looked for emotional support, I found it challenging and I was quite isolated as a result," Kelsie said.

When Mater opened its new Emotional Health Unit in June 2019; the first service of its kind in Queensland dedicated to young people aged 16 to 25 experiencing mental illness, Kelsie was thrilled.

"I would have benefited from the Emotional Health Unit when I was younger as I was going through so many changes," she said.

"Having specific treatment and care in one place, specific to young adults, is comforting for young people who are already going through so much."

The Emotional Health Unit—part of the Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane— comprises a private inpatient ward called the Amanda Flynn Clinic, as well as a Recovery College and consulting suites, all caring for young adults who suffer from anxiety, depression and other mental health conditions.

Mater partnered with the Amanda Flynn Foundation to establish the Amanda Flynn Clinic. The clinic is made possible thanks to the generosity of Mr Peter Flynn of the Amanda Flynn Foundation, which was formed in honour of his daughter Amanda.

Sadly, Amanda hid the suffering of mental illness which ultimately took her away from her loving family. Amanda passed away from suicide at only 27 years of age.

Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane Director A/Prof Simon Denny said the Emotional Health Unit, which caters for both inpatients and outpatients, filled a gap in the mental health care services offered to young people in South East Queensland.

"Unfortunately, 75 per cent of mental health conditions emerge between the ages of 16 to 25 years and suicide is the leading cause of death in young people," A/Prof Denny said.

"We also know that the transition from paediatric to young adult mental healthcare isn't always seamless for patients," he said.

"This is why the Emotional Health Unit has been established, to deliver specialist evidence-based and consumer driven mental healthcare to young people."

ClearThinking Queensland has assisted Mater in developing the unique service.



**"Having specific treatment and care in one place, specific to young adults, is comforting for young people who are already going through so much."**

Kelsie Dummett





# Partnership reduces risk of preterm births

A birthing program established by three South East Queensland health organisations, including Mater, has almost halved the risk of preterm birth rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies.

Birthing in Our Community was established in 2013 by the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH), the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service (ATSICHS) Brisbane and Mater in response to a need for women who are pregnant with an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander baby to access culturally and clinically safe care throughout their pregnancy and at birth.

Research results published in the Lancet's eClinical Medical Journal in June 2019 highlighted significantly improved results for women having a baby through the Birthing in Our Community program.

Lead researcher Mater Research—The University of Queensland's Professor Sue Kildea said the results were unprecedented.

"This service was built on the best available evidence, knowing that nationally the preterm rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies have not reduced since Closing the Gap was announced in 2008," Ms Kildea said.

"To see such positive results is extraordinary," she said.

"Every mum at Birthing in Our Community gets their own midwife 24/7 working side-by-side with a multidisciplinary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce to make sure all our women feel confident and safe to access the care they need for themselves and their babies.

"The program aims to strengthen families, as well as develop the workforce to ensure all staff are culturally capable of caring for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families."

Mother-of-three Rebekah Hauiti went through the Birthing in Our Community program for all three pregnancies and it's a decision she's thankful she made.

"After my first experience with Birthing in Our Community I knew this was the path I wanted for my other pregnancies. I couldn't imagine accessing antenatal care any other way," Ms Hauiti said.

"Being able to have continuity of care with one midwife meant the world to me. We were very close and I trusted her, knowing that my wishes for my birth would be heard," she said.

# Growing community connections

Situated in the fast-growing suburb of Springfield, Mater Private Hospital Springfield is a key service at the heart of its community.

Its proximity to local schools, childcare centres and aged care facilities has led to important community connections and each year the Mater Private Hospital Springfield team develops and embraces initiatives to enhance this link between healthcare and community.

In 2018/19 the team supported a range of community events including a pop-up stall at the local shopping centre, supported by the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, hosted visits by community groups and welcomed a group of local Kindergarten students to the hospital for a tour. During their visit, the children read a story in the Chapel, talked all things food with the hospital chef and enjoyed a healthy morning tea in the Healing Garden.

Performance and Service Development Coordinator, Krystal Lording said it was a joy to host children on these tours.

"The expressions on their faces when they arrive are priceless, coupled with their eagerness to ask questions and tell their own stories make these visits really special for both the children and the Springfield team," Krystal said.

During Men's Health week in June the Springfield team, along with Urologist, Dr Stuart Philip facilitated an event at Aveo Springfield to provide residents with an opportunity to learn about some of the signs and symptoms of common urological

conditions. Those who attended found the session informative and were very eager to be involved in future sessions.

In addition, the angelic voices of local school choirs are becoming a feature at Mater Private Hospital Springfield each December.

In 2018 the St Peter's Lutheran College Choir along with the Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School Choir brought the spirit of Christmas to the hospital and patient Audrey Chapman said the experience brought tears to her eyes.

"Hearing them sing made my day—in fact it made my whole stay," Mrs Chapman said.

St Peter's Lutheran College music teacher Sally Grennan said the activity had become a favourite with students.

"The students say they love seeing the smiles on the faces of the staff and patients as we move around the hospital," Ms Grennan said.

Mater Private Hospital Springfield Director of Clinical Services Suzanne Hawksley said the activity was a wonderful example of the rich Greater Springfield community spirit.

"It can be hard for patients having to spend time in hospital as it gets closer to Christmas. We really appreciate these local schools sharing their students beautiful voices and bringing Christmas cheer to our staff and patients."







Maureen Stevenson with Mater Foundation CEO Nigel Harris.

## Medical research is a cause close to Maureen's heart

Maureen Stevenson is passionate about advancing healthcare through medical research.

At 77, having watched several close family members succumb to cancer and other forms of disease, and having been through her own breast cancer battle, the pursuit of new knowledge and novel treatments is something Maureen champions through charitable donations.

Maureen is well-known in medical and research circles for her generous philanthropy and Mater is honoured to be one of the lucky beneficiaries.

Ask her about her altruism, however, and the response is unassuming.

"I do it because I can," she said.

"And I believe in the work all of these organisations are doing."

In the past Maureen has made substantial donations to the Mater Foundation in support of breast cancer and research. She has now also committed to leave a gift on her Will to Mater Foundation.

She says learning about the progress of research projects that her donations are helping to facilitate and connecting with other donors has become a key part of her life.

"When my husband passed away four years ago I became more involved in all of the charities we supported," she said.

"I really look forward to hearing about the work being done and the specific research projects underway. It is fascinating and I really enjoy it."

## Simulation training prepares Royal Flying Doctor Services

The Royal Flying Doctor Services has drawn upon Mater Education's expertise to deliver simulation training for both medical and nursing staff in an ongoing partnership between the two organisations.

In late 2018 the Royal Flying Doctor Services was looking to update and provide their Queensland Clinical Training and Development team with evidence-based knowledge relating to the development, delivery, debriefing and evaluation of simulation based activities.

Mater Education ran a two day interactive Introduction to Simulation Methodology workshop where attendees were encouraged to consider how simulation methodology concepts and principles could be applied as they engaged in activities to support their colleagues through simulation activities.

Royal Flying Doctor Services Clinical Training and Development Manager Ronan Sweeney said the workshop went well beyond their expectations.

"The learnings achieved made for a perfect platform to build upon as we continue to design and implement the best possible high quality education for our clinical workforce," Mr Sweeney said.

Royal Flying Doctor Services nurses also underwent training in simulation through Mater Education. A one-day Neonatal Resuscitation training program for flight nurses caring for patients in rural and remote Queensland was delivered at the Royal Flying Doctor Services Townsville Base by Education Coordinator—Alison Michaels.

Ms Michaels said the training session replicated real-life scenarios flight nurses face.

"Obviously, a flight nurse who is working on their own in a small aircraft, 10 000 feet in the air and hours away from the nearest hospital is very different from the birth suite in a hospital facility," she said.

Following the program's success Mater Education is seeking opportunities to increase its support for regional and remote communities through simulation and education programs.



Alison Michaels (left) with the Royal Flying Doctor Services team



# Mater Research Awards and Young Investigator Symposium

The significant contribution of researchers as well as up and coming research talent was celebrated at the recent 2018 Young Investigator Symposium and Mater Research Awards for Research Excellence held on Friday 30 November.

Mater Research annually recognises researchers, support staff and others who have made significant contributions to the institute throughout the year at the Mater Research Awards for Research Excellence, while the Young Investigator Symposium showcases the best and brightest of Mater Researcher's talent with each researcher presenting a short overview of their research.

Congratulations to the recipients of the following awards:

## **Sr. Regis Mary Dunne Medal**

For outstanding research contribution, awarded to a researcher who has excelled in relation to opportunity:

Awarded to Associate Professor Andreas Schibler, Director of Paediatric Critical Care research group.

## **Sr. Madonna Josey Medal**

For outstanding contribution to Mater Research, awarded to an individual who has made significant contribution to the operations of the Institute:

Awarded to Associate Professor Ingrid Winkler who leads the Stem Cells and Cancer Research Group.

## **Sister Eileen Pollard Medal**

For incorporating research into clinical care provision, awarded to an individual who has consistently translated research into clinical practice:

Awarded to Associate Professor Luregn Schlapbach, who leads the Sepsis, Infection and Inflammation theme as part of the Paediatric Critical Care research group.

## **Sr. Michaeleen Ahern Medal**

Awarded for outstanding levels of performance in the supervision, mentoring and training of postgraduate research students:

Awarded to Professor Josephine Forbes, who provides substantial leadership for the Chronic Disease Biology and Care Program and is fostering numerous biomedical-clinical interactions at Mater.

## **Doctor Laurence Catley Clinical Student Award**

Awarded to a clinical researcher who has made a significant contribution to Mater Research and the Community:

Awarded to Chris Flatley.

## **Research Higher Degree Student Award**

Awarded to a scientific researcher who has made a significant contribution to Mater Research and the community:

Awarded to Miss Mia McLean.

## **Mater Research Early Career Researcher award**

Awarded in recognition of exceptional work undertaken at Mater Research:

Awarded to Dr Sandra Richardson. Dr Richardson is a Senior Researcher in the Genome Plasticity and Disease research group.

## **Simon & Nell George Award**

Awarded to Dr Glenn Gardener.

Introduced in 2016 in recognition of the long-standing support of the George family for Mater, particularly in the care of neonates and maternal health. This award is made in recognition of the exceptional work undertaken at Mater by Dr Glenn Gardner in the area of maternal and early childhood health.

The award also recognises Dr Gardner's support for the work of Mater Foundation which includes donor interactions, public education and support for fundraising activities.

Dr Glenn Gardener is the Director of Maternal Fetal Medicine. He was recognised as a finalist for 2018 Queensland Australian of the Year. He was nominated for his pioneering work as the only specialist in Australia performing fetal surgery for congenital diaphragmatic hernia and spina bifida.

## **Bill Siganto Award**

Introduced in 2016 in recognition of the long-standing support of the late Bill Siganto and his family for Mater, this award is for clinical or biomedical research in recognition of exceptional work undertaken at Mater in the area of prostate cancer.

The award was presented to Professor Janet Hardy, co-lead of the Cancer Biology and Care Program and also leads the Palliative Care Research Group.

## **David Serisier Travel Award**

Awarded to outstanding early career researchers to attend an international conference of their choice.

Awarded to Aleena Wojcieszek.

## **PhD students travel awards**

Mia McLean

Chris Flatley

Johanna Erhani

## **Early Career Researcher Clinical Seeding Grant – Biomedical**

Dr Seth Cheetham is a researcher in the Genome Plasticity and Disease group. He was awarded the grant for his work investigating the role of junk DNA in cancer regulation.

## **Early Career Researcher Clinical Seeding Grant – Clinical**

Dr Nisha Jagasia is a staff specialist in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. She was awarded the grant for her project on sentinel lymph node mapping in gynaecological cancers.

## **McGuckin Fellowships**

The McGuckin Fellowships support early and mid-career researchers to achieve success in developing sustainable research careers. In honour of Professor McGuckin the fellowships provide competitively acquired funding to high performing researchers that have demonstrated commitment to Mater Research and to the Mater Group Strategy.

Dr Patricia Moreno Carreira, a Senior Researcher in the Genome Plasticity and Disease research group, was awarded the mid-career fellowship.

Dr Mitchell Sullivan, a Mater Research Career Track Fellow working in the Glycation and Diabetes research group, was awarded the early career fellowship.

## **PhD Completions**

Rebecca Jenkinson

Simranpreet Kaur

Belinda Lequertier

**Congratulations to all the recipients and nominees for their dedication and outstanding contributions to Mater Research.**







Nigel Harris, Dr Luke McLindon and Golden Casket General Manager Andrew Shepherd

## Golden Casket partnership reaches \$14 million in donations

As Mater Foundation's longest-standing corporate partner, Golden Casket has donated \$14 million to help fund a number of Mater Research projects to improve health outcomes for mothers and babies.

The partnership between Mater Foundation and Golden Casket spans 28 years and with every \$500 000 donation, researchers are able to continue their important research projects from which patients experience the benefits.

In June 2019, Golden Casket's donation helped facilitate research at the Mater Mothers' Hospital's Natural Fertility Service, which has more than a 50 per cent pregnancy rate with couples who undertake its Restorative Reproductive Medicine program.

Thanks to the Natural Fertility Service (NFS), former patient Katrina Kane is now living her dream of being a mother.

"The road to parenthood was a long one, which involved addressing multiple aspects to enable me to achieve a pregnancy and the NFS was there to help me every step of the way," she said.

Golden Casket's June 2018 donation of \$500 000 supported the RIDSTRESS study which showed a 50 per cent reduction in emergency caesareans when women were given Sildenafil, commonly known as Viagra, during labour.

Mater Research Institute-UQ Professor Sailesh Kumar said he and his team of researchers were incredibly grateful to Golden Casket for helping to make their research projects happen.

"The success of these trials and others we are doing at Mater, rely on the generosity of the community and donations like these," Prof Kumar said.

Mater Foundation Chief Executive Officer Nigel Harris thanked Golden Casket for their ongoing support of Mater and their commitment to research.

"Golden Casket's significant contribution each year has allowed Mater researchers and clinicians to make significant headway in improving care and treatment for women and their babies," Mr Harris said.

"Golden Casket is passionate about supporting Queensland families just as we are at Mater. By giving babies the best possible start to life, they are on their way to a happy and healthy childhood."

Golden Casket is just one of many companies who generously support Mater.

"Continued support from Queensland companies is playing an important role in helping us transform healthcare to benefit the broader community," Mr Harris said.

"Corporate giving really does come full circle in benefiting their staff, their customers and ultimately, all Queenslanders."





# Australian Made tick of approval for Mater Nappies

Mater Baby Products were developed with over 3000 midwives and mums from across Australia. The knowledge, expertise and experience of our co-creators is expressed in every feature of the Mater Products, allowing us to deliver products of the very best quality, efficacy and safety. Proceeds support Mater Little Miracles to fund specialist life-saving care and research for babies Australia-wide.

The range of Mater Baby Products are a true reflection of partnership with community and the range continues to grow. In April 2019 a further two sizes of Mater Nappies gained Australian Made certification.

Mater Nappies in Newborn and Infant sizes (1 and 2) join the Crawler and Toddler sizes (3 and 4) to complete the range of Australian Made certified nappies and skin care offered by Mater Baby Products.

Mater Baby Products Director Tania Alves said the Australian Made certification was an important achievement.

"The Australian Made certification is a recognised, trusted and powerful symbol of Australia's high standards," Ms Alves said.

"As an Australian healthcare provider it is vital that we are able to guarantee the quality of our products. We developed this range with Mater Midwives and mums and our objective was to produce an entire product range in Australia that helps support the local community."

Mater Nappies are made from ultra-soft breathable material, are dermatologically tested and proven to not cause skin irritation.

Now in its seventh year of operation, Mater Baby Products continues to expand its distribution channels, creating a stronger presence online and in supermarkets, such as Woolworths.

The range is also no stranger to receiving industry accolades.

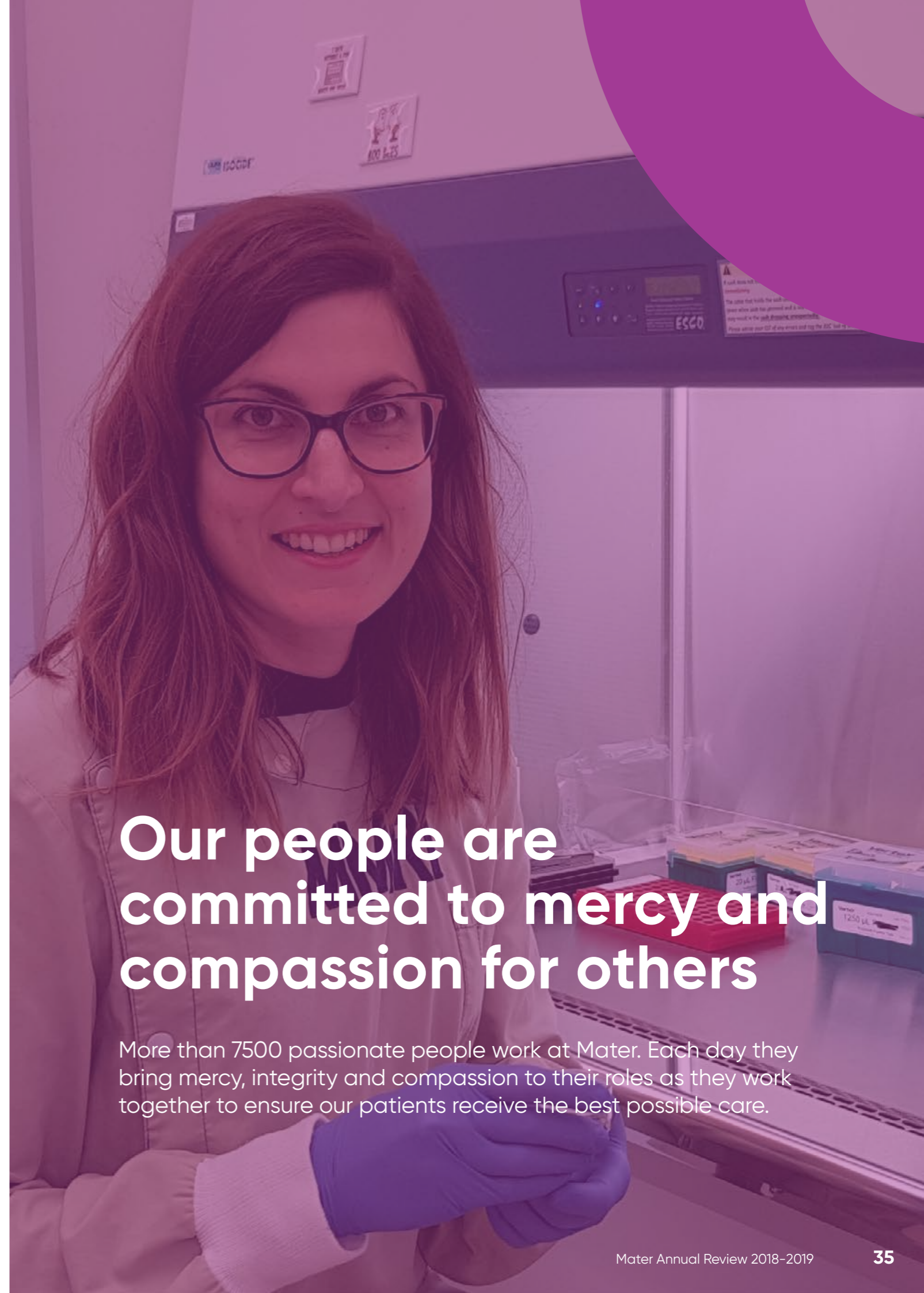
At the 2018 Australian Mother & Baby Magazine Awards the range won a silver award for its Mater Baby Wash and was finalist in the nappy, baby moisturiser and nappy rash product categories for Mater Nappies, Mater Baby Moisturiser and Mater Nappy Balm.

Proceeds from Mater Baby Products support Mater Little Miracles to fund specialist life-saving care and research for babies Australia-wide.

Mater Baby Products are available for purchase through the Mater Baby Products' online shop and selected local Woolworths Supermarkets and pharmacies nationally.

[materbabyproducts.com.au](http://materbabyproducts.com.au)

**"The Australian Made certification is a recognised, trusted and powerful symbol of Australia's high standards."**



## Our people are committed to mercy and compassion for others

More than 7500 passionate people work at Mater. Each day they bring mercy, integrity and compassion to their roles as they work together to ensure our patients receive the best possible care.



## Gillian inspired to trek new heights

Twenty years ago, after the birth of her twins, Mater little miracle mum and staff member Gillian Miller agreed to let her babies participate in a research trial to investigate sulphate therapy, which has been shown to reduce the risk of adverse neurodevelopmental outcomes, such as cerebral palsy, in pre-term infants.

Gillian remembers her pregnancy in the early days with excitement and anticipation, however this quickly turned to fear and trepidation when she gave birth to twins Jack and Grace at only 24 weeks and three days. Like many other premature births, there was no obvious reason for her giving birth this early.

"I was having a great pregnancy—staying active and eating healthily to do the best for my unborn babies. Then one day I finished work at the Mater Children's Hospital and the next moment I was giving birth in the Mater Mothers' Hospital!"

Jack weighed only 810 g and Grace was even smaller at 723 g. They were both rushed to Mater Mothers' Hospital's Neonatal Critical Care Unit (NCCU) where they were ventilated.

"After their birth we were told that they had around a 50 per cent chance of survival and that the risk of them experiencing mild to significant disability was high," Gillian said.

"At that point we were just happy for them to be alive. However, Jack suffered a brain haemorrhage and did not survive the day.

"For the next 92 days I spent my waking time with

Grace on the rollercoaster that was our nursery journey—made bearable only by the excellent care and expertise of the medical, nursing and allied health staff."

Gillian said it was important to her and her husband Glen for Grace to be a part of several research projects while in NCCU.

"It's only through research that we can make changes that positively impact the quality of life of babies and their families."

In May 2019 Gillian took part in Miles for Miracles, a trek following Japan's Nakasendo Trail to support important research to benefit babies born prematurely.

Gillian raised \$10 490 to support Mater's research into sulphate therapy, which has been shown to reduce the risk of adverse neurodevelopmental outcomes, such as cerebral palsy, in pre-term infants.

"Never a day goes by that I don't think of our loss of Jack and give thanks for the Mater little miracle that is Grace—given the amazing, full life she is living, against what at times seemed like overwhelming odds," Gillian said.

**"It's only through research that we can make changes that positively impact the quality of life of babies and their families."**

Gillian Miller





# Mater People recognised in Australia Day Honours

Mater clinicians Dr Ian Airey, Dr Geraldine Moses and Dr Carrie Hillyard were recognised in the 2019 Australia Day Honours list.

The Order of Australia is the principal and most prestigious means of recognising outstanding members of the community at a national level.

Dr Ian Airey is Director of Acute Care Services at Mater Health and was awarded a Medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia in the General Division for service to the community through Wesley Mission Queensland.

Dr Airey has had a long involvement with Wesley Mission Queensland as a member of the Albert Street Uniting Church and is Chair of the Wesley Mission Queensland Council.

Mater Research Board Deputy Chair Dr Carmel Hillyard received a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her significant service to science, particularly in the area of medical biotechnology research, and to the community.

Dr Hillyard is a Fellow and member of the board of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering and as co-founder of CM Capital, she led the Life Sciences practice at the company for more than 10 years.

She also mentors a number of young women scientists and is a strong supporter of the Grants for Outstanding Women at Mater Research through Mater Foundation.

Dr Geraldine Moses (DClinPharm) is a Consultant Medicines Information Pharmacist at Mater and was awarded Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia for significant service to medicine as a pharmacist, particularly through advisory and educational roles.

Dr Moses is a Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia, Fellow of the Australian College of Pharmacy, and honorary Lifetime Member of NPS MedicineWise.

# Mercy Day Mission Award winners

Each year on Mercy Day, Mater celebrates our identity as a Catholic healthcare organisation and the heritage of our founders, the Sisters of Mercy.

Mercy Day (24 September) is the anniversary of the date on which Catherine McAuley (1778–1841) established the House of Mercy in Dublin in 1827. Four years later, Catherine founded the Sisters of Mercy, who established Mater in 1906.

Mercy Day is an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of all Mater People to upholding our Mission to provide compassionate care to those whom we are privileged to serve.

The Mercy Day Mission Awards are peer nominated and awarded in two categories—Individual Award and a Team Award.

**Winner, Individual Award:**  
**Dr Steve Costello**  
**Director, Mater Private Emergency Care Centre**

"In the spirit of the Sisters of Mercy, Steve has offered compassionate service to the sick and

needy (and injured employees) and promoted a holistic approach to their healthcare in response to changing needs. He has always fostered high standards of health-related education and research. Thanks to his tireless work in educating his doctors he has built a Centre of Excellence in injury management at the Mater Emergency Care Centre, which has helped Mater become a recognised leader in the field of return to work."

**Winner, Team Award:**  
**Queensland Lifespan Metabolic Medicine Service**

"This team demonstrates the Mater Values in every interaction they have with their patients. These patients have very rare conditions that require a lot of support, not only clinically but also emotionally. The team provides holistic care to the patient and their family and go above and beyond to make their attendances at clinic a positive one."



# Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards

Mater nurses and midwives recognised for excellence

Four nurses and midwives were recognised for their exceptional care at Mater's inaugural Mater Health Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards.

Awarded in four categories, named after past Mater nurses who have excelled in their area of expertise, the awards were presented at a ceremony on 8 May 2019.

The Professor Catherine Turner medal was awarded to Haematology Oncology Clinical Nurse Annabel McKay for her genuine and contagious love of nursing.

"Annabel strives for excellence," the nomination stated.

"Excellence in the care she delivers; excellence in the students she mentors and excellence in her teaching as a Clinical Facilitator, Clinical Nurse and Team Leader."

Professor Patricia Snowden presented Nurse Practitioner Rebecca Keating with her award for her commitment, excellent clinical care, compassion and humility working with young adults who have cystic fibrosis.

"Bec has a unique ability to partner with young adults, so they understand how to live well with a chronic illness and feel safe when requiring care," the nomination read.

The Sister Michaela Ahern medal was presented to the Breastfeeding Support Service recognising the team's commitment to implementing innovative and safe practices.

The Breastfeeding Support Service has undertaken a complete review of its service offering and developed a new model to better support women requiring access to the service.

"This initiative has doubled the number of women supported daily and the new model provides a resource to support midwives to improve the quality of breastfeeding support offered 24 hours a day," the nomination stated.

The Susie Wilson Leadership medal was awarded to Nurse Unit Manager Kerry Grafton at Mater Private Hospital Springfield. Kerry was recognised for embracing excellent leadership skills in her first management role.

"Kerry leads by example, setting expectations for her staff and holding staff accountable. She now has a high performing team and recognises good practice in other departments,"





# Celebrating long service among our Mater People

Each year Mater's Long Service Awards celebrate the many hundreds of staff members working across Mater who have made a long-term commitment to being Mater People.

In 2018 almost 600 Mater People had reached the milestones of 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 years of service.

In an awards ceremony held on 20 September each one was acknowledged for their contribution to Mater and for demonstrating Mater's Mission and Values in their work each day.

Special presentations were made to four award recipients— Linda Blackwell, Debra Leeson, Lorraine Walker and Alan Walmsley—who reached the milestone of 45 years of service to Mater.



Long Service Award recipients

# Mater's 16th annual Teaching and Learning Awards

Mater is renowned for its strong learning culture.

Since 2003 we have been celebrating the commitment of Mater People to learning and development in the areas of health, education, and research through the peer nominated Mater Teaching and Learning Awards.

The 16th annual Mater Teaching and Learning Awards were announced on Thursday 22 November, 2018 at a ceremony held at the Royal on the Park Hotel.

Mater Education CEO Donna Bonney said she was delighted to see the large number of nominations submitted for the awards.

"We received 149 individual nominations for this year's awards, which is testament to the strong culture we are developing here where all Mater People learn and thrive together," Ms Bonney said.

Each award highlights an individual who has made a significant contribution to the teaching and learning that makes Mater an exceptional provider of healthcare.

### 2018 Mater Teaching and Learning Awards winners

Group CEO Mission Award—Toni-Maree Henaway

Supervisor of the Year Award—Matthew Hutchins

Student of the Year Award—Shelby Price

Sr Eileen Pollard Graduate of the Year Award—Michael Wyld

Excellence in Translating Research into Practice Award—Renee Muirhead

Excellence in Teaching Award—Peter Griffiths



# Mater researchers named Women in Technology winners

Two Mater researchers were among an outstanding group of women recognised for their contribution to the growth of Queensland's technology industries at the 2018 Women in Technology (WiT) Awards.

The awards, held annually, have become the country's most prestigious showcase for women working in all branches of information and communications technology (ICT).

## Allison Pettit

Mater Research Director of Biomedical Research Associate Professor Allison Pettit was awarded the Life Sciences Outstanding Achievement Award for her ground breaking investigations into bone disease and her contribution to the advancement of female researchers.

A/Prof Pettit is an Australian Research Council Future Fellow and has published more than 60 peer-reviewed scientific publications documenting her work in dendritic cell biology, rheumatology, osteoimmunology and haematology.

In her role as Chair of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee at Mater Research during 2018, A/Prof Pettit drove a number of initiatives championing women in research, including the Mater Research Strategic Grant for Outstanding Women.

## Felicity Davis

Mater Research Group Leader in Breast Physiology and Cancer Research Dr Felicity Davis received the Life Sciences Rising Star Award for her work in unlocking the mysteries of breast cancer.

Dr Davis and her research team are studying the cellular hierarchy in the breast and the signalling pathways that regulate adult stem cells, as well as the unique capacity of the breast to sustain multiple cycles of pregnancy and lactation.

She is a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Career Development Fellow and Senior Research Fellow at Mater Research who has authored 20 research articles and reviews.

**“I hope that during my career I can support the growth of other early career female researchers.”**

*A/Prof Allison Pettit*



A/Prof Allison Pettit (left) receiving the Life Sciences Outstanding Achievement Award



# Dr Ryan Frazer named Clinical Educator of the Year

In his combined roles as Director of Clinical Training at Mater Education and Staff Specialist in the Mater Emergency Department, Dr Frazer creates innovative training programs for junior doctors that bridge the gap between theory and practice.

In October 2018 Dr Frazer's efforts were recognised when he was named Queensland Clinical Educator of the Year.

Presented by the Confederation of Postgraduate Medical Education Councils (CPMEC), the award celebrates clinical educators who have made a major contribution to the education and training of junior doctors.

Dr Frazer was nominated for the award by a number of junior doctors working with him at Mater, who praised his dedication, advice and guidance.

"Dr Frazer is always available to help and alleviate concerns, whether it is related to clinical rotations, junior doctors' wellbeing or career advice," the nomination read.

Dr Frazer has also played a key role in initiating a Near to Peer mentorship program that links University of Queensland medical students with current junior residents at Mater Health to provide them with a dedicated support person as they progress to the role of junior doctor.

He said receiving the award was humbling.

"It is amazing to be recognised for the work I am doing—which is trying to make a difference for junior doctors," Dr Frazer said.

"It is also a great opportunity to showcase the achievements of Mater and the opportunities we can offer to prospective trainees," he said.

**“It is amazing to be recognised for the work I am doing—which is trying to make a difference for junior doctors.”**



# Thrive with Mater

At Mater, we are committed to improving the health of the community and providing the highest standard of care. We recognise that to be successful in caring for others we need to ensure we take care of our own health in wellbeing.

The Thrive with Mater program commenced at the end of 2018, rolling out a program of events and resources designed to engage, empower, and support Mater people to be their best.

During 2019, Thrive with Mater has provided opportunities for all Mater People to engage in activities from a 'whole-person' perspective. The program uses a range of contemporary techniques to deliver insightful, fun, interactive and thought-provoking content.

The calendar of events has featured a broad range of topics, and lifestyle enhancement initiatives from experts in their field that cover four key themes –

My Work, My Wellbeing, My Contribution and My Future.

Director People and Organisation Sharron McMahon said Thrive covers a broad range of issues relevant to all Mater people.

"We have covered areas including mental and emotional health, financial health, mindfulness, community involvement and planning for the future," Ms McMahon said.

"We look forward to continuing to develop and plan Thrive events that extend the program and engage all Mater People in being their best."



## Celebrating our milestones and achievements

A spirit of innovation and fostering high standards of care has characterised Mater since its beginnings in 1906. This year our teams were acknowledged for some outstanding achievements and milestones that underpin the ground-breaking services we provide to our community.





## Sara Saeidi – Refugee Scholarship DoN

To see Seyedeh Sara Saeidi (known as Sara) working in her role as a support worker for Centacare, it is difficult to comprehend the challenges she has faced in reaching this point.

Originally from Iran, Sara moved to Australia six years ago after it became unsafe for her family to remain in her home country.

"We experienced a lot of pressure. We were no longer allowed to wear our traditional clothing or speak our language and it became very dangerous for us," Sara said.

"Coming to Australia by boat was the biggest challenge I have ever been put through. I had lost my home and had to stop going to school for a period of time."

When her family arrived in Brisbane Sara took a course to improve her English and attended Yeonga State High School. It was here that she became focused on a career in health.

"I was thinking I wanted to pursue a career in healthcare because I am passionate about making a difference in people's lives. Caring for people and helping others live a meaningful life is very satisfying and rewarding to me," she said.

After graduating from school, Sara's financial circumstances made it difficult for her to enrol in university.

"As a person seeking asylum, a good education was my primary goal and I felt disheartened when that goal became seemingly impossible," she said.

"I was researching different programs and found out about the Mater Education Open Day. So, I went along and asked lots of questions about whether they would accept my visa and whether I could study with them.

"I was so happy to find out that I could be accepted into the Diploma of Nursing course and that they offered one of only a very few scholarships that I might be able to apply for. This opportunity gave me a wonderful start in transforming my dreams into reality," Sara said.

Sara was fortunate to apply and be accepted for a Refugee Scholarship to study Mater Education's 18-month Diploma of Nursing course. Eight scholarships are provided by Mater Education each year to those from a refugee or indigenous background.

**"I was so happy to find out that I could be accepted into the Diploma of Nursing course"**

Seyedeh Saeidi



education





# Betty McGrath Fellowship Scheme boosts Mater research activity

Four cutting-edge Mater research projects received a boost in November 2018 when they were awarded fellowships under the Betty McGrath Fellowships Scheme.

The scheme—a joint initiative of Mater Health and Mater Research supported by Mater Foundation—encourages greater evidence-based clinical practice at Mater by providing salary support to practising clinicians and other health professionals, allowing them to increase their research activity.

The four winning projects were:

- Neuroprotective role of sulphate among preterm infants (SuPreme study) – Dr Elizabeth Hurrión (Mothers, Babies & Women’s Health Program)

- An investigation into factors influencing glucose control in cystic fibrosis – Rebecca Keating (Chronic Disease, Biology and Care Program)
- Defining the Clinical Phenotype of Neuronal Autoantibody associated epilepsy – Dr Lisa Gillinder (Neurosciences and Cognitive Health Program)
- An in-depth characterisation of T cells within the intra-tumoural microenvironment in Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma – Dr Mohamed Shanavas (Cancer Biology and Care Program)



Dr Sandra Richardson, Professor Kristen Radford, Mater Foundation Executive Director—Philanthropy Lesley Ray and A/Prof Allison Pettit.

# Closing the gender gap in research

Mater Research continues to make strides in closing the research and academic gender gap with the innovative Mater Research Strategic Grants for Outstanding Women scheme.

Established in 2017, the scheme provides two annual grants of \$45 000 to support the work of female researchers at Mater, helping bolster their productivity and profile and allowing them greater flexibility as they pursue their research careers.

In 2019 the grants were awarded to Associate Professor Kristen Radford and Dr Sandra Richardson.

Chair of the Mater Research Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Committee, Prof Vicki Clifton said the barriers for women forging careers in research and academia were multifactorial.

“An academic research career is unforgiving and gender disadvantage accumulates over time resulting in high attrition rates for women,” Professor Clifton said.

“There is also the added burden of carer responsibilities for children and/or sick or elderly dependents that disproportionately impact women, often amplifying the impacts of gender bias,” she said.

*“We need to change the workplace structures that favour a particular professional stereotype in favour of increased female leadership and workforce participation, with the proven outcome being increased innovation and productivity.”*  
**A/Prof Vicki Clifton**

Mater Research is committed to creating proactive solutions and interventions that will accelerate closing the gender gap.

Professor Clifton said the strategic grant scheme was designed to make a real difference in the career progression of female research academics at Mater.





Members of Mater Foundation Board and Executive team

## From small beginnings, big things grow

Mater's philanthropic arm, Mater Foundation, celebrated 30 years of fundraising in April 2019 to support Mater's work across health, education and research.

Originally established as the Mater Hospitals Trust in April 1989, the Foundation formalised what had always been a part of the Sisters of Mercy tradition—working with, and seeking the support of the community to improve healthcare.

As Foundation Board Chair Phil Hennessy recalls, Mater's very establishment was the result of a 500 pound donation which enabled the purchase of Mater Hill in the late 1800s.

"Fundraising endeavours, from balls and art unions to appeals and fetes over the decades, have been synonymous with Mater and aligned to the work of Sisters of Mercy founder Catherine McAuley, who was herself a generous philanthropist and an adept fundraiser," he said.

Catherine McAuley's work continued over the years through two of the original board members who helped create the Mater Foundation legacy—Sister Angela Mary and Betty McGrath.

Fundraising efforts of Mater Foundation have grown exponentially over the years and the Foundation has gone from humble beginnings to now being one of the largest health foundations in Australia.

This year marks a significant milestone in dollar terms, with more than \$150 million being raised by the community to support Mater's work across health, education and research.

"All of this was made possible through the generosity of our donors and community supporters over the past 30 years," Mr Hennessy said.

## Mater's commitment to sustainability grows

Each year at Mater, sustainability programs expand as we look at ways to reduce the impact of our services on the environment.

The 2018/19 financial year saw a number of efficiencies put in place, particularly around recycling, replacing items with sustainable materials, and optimising our energy use.

Mater's Environmental Sustainability Officer Ngaire McGaw said Mater People should be proud of the improvements made to recycling and avoiding single use plastics across Mater.

"During the last financial year, Mater replaced around 194 000 plastic single-use kidney dishes with ones made from sugarcane by-products," Ms McGaw said.

"These kidney dishes are biodegradable and disposed of in mixed cardboard recycling.

"This is a strong start in what is a gradual process to look at more sustainable alternatives across the health business," she said.

Other initiatives include transitioning to paper pill cups for patients and introducing reusable gel hot and cold packs.

Over the past financial year Mater diverted 351 tonnes from landfill, representing a 92 per cent increase over five years.

Ms McGaw said Mater had also expanded its recycling program to include fluorescent lamps, preventing mercury, aluminium, glass, and phosphor powder from leaching into landfill.

"It's exciting that Mater has also begun recycling some single-use stainless steel instruments," she said.

"Existing recycling streams include copper wire, printer cartridges, PVC, Kinguard, secure documents, e-waste, batteries, mobile phones, and scrap metal."

During the year there was also a dramatic expansion in the number of teams participating in the recycling of PVC products.

As of 30 June 2019, 13 Mater teams recycled more than one tonne of PVC products such as Baxter bags for intravenous drips, as well as oxygen masks and tubing.







## Transport helps smooth patients' healthcare journey

In September 2018, Mater's Volunteer Services celebrated 20 years of transporting patients to and from hospital and marked the milestone by launching a new transport service dedicated to supporting cancer patients.

Transport can be a major barrier to healthcare for people experiencing financial hardship, ill health and social isolation.

Since the first patient pick-up by a Mater Volunteer Services' driver in 1998, thousands of patients have been transported to and from Mater for treatment.

The Leo Muller Group sponsored Mater's first patient transport vehicle and today the service is generously supported by Summit Fleet, Leasing and Management.

In collaboration with Mater Cancer Care, the new service operates after hours to ensure that patients

undergoing chemotherapy are delivered home in comfort after treatment.

Volunteer Services Senior Manager Judy Johnson said taking care of this element in a patient's healthcare journey regularly made a big impact.

"Providing the transport is one thing, but adding to this the warmth and kindness shown by our drivers makes the whole experience special," Ms Johnson said.

"We applaud our team of dedicated drivers and thank them for their contribution and commitment to patient care," she said.

## Mater Education wins Queensland Reconciliation Award

A school-based traineeship program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students seeking a career in healthcare was singled out at the 2019 Queensland Reconciliation Awards for fostering reconciliation.

Delivered in collaboration between Metro North Hospital and Health Service, Mater Education, Brisbane North West Trade Training Centre and supporting schools, the Deadly Start program received a Highly Commended Award in the Partnership category at the Awards.

Deadly Start was nominated for going above and beyond the core business to foster reconciliation and paving the way to a better future for Queensland.

Director of Vocational Education and Training at Mater Education Barry Hankinson was honoured to be part of the team that accepted the award.

"We're proud to be involved in the program as it strives to increase the participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in the healthcare workforce leading to greater diversity and cultural awareness in healthcare," Mr Hankinson said.

"The program was created to reach a target of three per cent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment by 2022, provide culturally-appropriate care and to be the catalyst for generational change," he said.

"Deadly Start addresses all three of these challenges from the ground up, by creating a program that takes students from recruitment all the way through to employment, with incredible support structures from simple things like access to transportation to attend training and work, through to quality mentorship with a strategic focus on higher retention rates."



# 20 years of evolution in education

In 1998, Mater Education was established as a hospital-based, independent Registered Training Organisation. At the time it was the only one of its kind, providing contemporary workforce training and development to Mater staff and the broader community.

Twenty years later the ministry continues to lead the way in healthcare workforce training and development and has evolved to become an international leader in healthcare simulation and interprofessional learning.

Celebrating Mater Education's 20th anniversary in 2018, CEO Donna Bonney said collaboration is at the heart of the facility's success.

"One of the greatest outcomes we have seen is the benefit of collaboration between teams," Ms Bonney said.

"By adapting a learning 'from, with and about' each other's approach, we have been able to deliver significant improvements in patient outcomes," she said.

In its two decades of operation Mater Education has been agile and responsive to changes in healthcare, designing education programs centred around evidence-based practice, building contemporary capability across the healthcare workforce and creating healthy workplace cultures.

"When I first started out as an educator the focus was more about how good your clinical specialisation knowledge and skills were," Ms Bonney explained.

"Today, a key focus for us at Mater Education is to be the best facilitators, coordinators and curators of education to develop people in a way that is engaging, experimental and encourages continuous learning and reflection on practice."

Mater Education's expertise in the field of simulation is fundamental to this approach.

By allowing healthcare professionals to experience realistic scenarios, be able to safely and deliberately practice, and get high quality feedback as they learn, medical simulation programs are now considered crucial for the delivery of exceptional healthcare.

**“ One of the outcomes we have seen is the benefit of collaboration between teams. ”**

*Donna Bonney*



# 20 year milestone for Australia's first dedicated private paediatric hospital

On Friday 4 December 2018, Mater Children's Private Brisbane—the first dedicated private paediatric hospital to be opened in Australia—celebrated 20 years of operation.

Today the hospital operates as a 25-bed facility and includes an inpatient ward, surgical and medical day units and Queensland's only dedicated paediatric sleep unit.

The hospital's team of exceptional support staff and outstanding paediatric specialists provide short-stay and day surgical and medical care to children from birth to 16 years of age.

One of the many talented specialists who has been caring for young patients at Mater Children's Private Brisbane during the past two decades is Dr Peter Borzi.

Dr Borzi has worked at Mater since 1987 and was appointed as a paediatric surgeon in 1994. He attended the hospital's opening ceremony in 1988.

"Mater People have a 'can do' approach to things," Dr Borzi said.

"I have witnessed and been a part of the caring and dedicated teams who support our patients and their families and provide them with the highest level of patient-centred care. Twenty years on, the commitment and work ethic remains unchanged," he said.

Mater Children's Private Brisbane is purpose-built to make children and their families as comfortable as possible during the treatment journey; with private single rooms containing an ensuite and a parent's day bed, spacious sibling room options, as well as entertainment and play areas and kitchen facilities in the parent lounge.





Mater's Dietetics and Food Services team

## Mater Young Adult Health Centre receives prestigious award

Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane (MYAHCB) was invited to Washington DC in March 2019 to receive the highly prestigious Hilary E.C. Millar Award for Innovative Approaches to Adolescent Health Care.

Presented by The Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine, MYAHCB Manager Greg McGahan attended the ceremony to accept the award which recognises individuals or organisations involved in adolescent healthcare.

The Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine is a multidisciplinary organisation dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of adolescents and young adults, both physically and psychosocially.

Past recipients of the award across various clinical, educational and research programs include Boston Medical Centre, the World Health Organisation and the Pan American Health Organisation.

Mr McGahan said the award was a great recognition of the staff who contribute to MYAHCB and their focus on delivering exceptional care to young people through advocacy, clinical care, health promotion, professional development and research.

"The Hilary E.C. Millar Award recognises Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane for its consumer engagement, research activities and broad range of clinical programs," Mr McGahan said.

"We're incredibly proud to be recognised among previous recipients that include the World Health Organisation," he said.

Over the last five years, MYAHCB has expanded its offering to meet the greater needs of the community, including inpatient services for young people in hospital, access to specialist health clinics, emotional health support, as well as free, confidential services for young people with substance use issues.

## Food service innovation attracts awards

Mater's efforts in developing innovative foodservice models that support optimal patient clinical outcomes and drive stronger patient engagement were recognised at the 2018 Clinical Excellence Showcase Awards.

The Mater Dietetics and Food Services team took home two awards—the People's Choice Award for Best Presentation and the Contagion Award (idea most likely to spread)—from the annual two day event.

The Clinical Excellence Showcase shines a light on projects creating change and delivering new healthcare benefits to Queenslanders and has become a must-attend event for clinicians and hospital administrators.

Mater was the first hospital in Australia to implement room service and to comprehensively document organisational and patient benefits of room service, as well as having these outcomes published in peer reviewed international journals.



Members of the Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane team with their award



# Speaking With Good Judgement<sup>®</sup> celebrates success

March 2019 marked a year since Speaking With Good Judgement<sup>®</sup> was launched across Mater.

The Speaking With Good Judgement Program aims to empower and encourage all Mater People to give and receive feedback, and create a psychologically safe working environment where people feel safe to have open discussions.

The program assists Mater People to speak up and have conversations, regardless of status, in order to place safety first.

Since the project rolled out, significant milestones have been met, including 2984 Mater employees attending Speaking With Good Judgement foundations sessions across all three campuses, 127 Mater employees have become Speaking With Good Judgement coaches and 19 Mater People are instructors or facilitators for the program.

Reflecting on the 15 months since the program commenced, Mater Education Chief Executive Officer Donna Bonney said the positive outcomes achieved to date could only be made possible through the fabulous commitment from all Mater People.

"I would like to thank all Mater Directors, Managers and employees who have really embraced the Speaking With Good Judgement program goals of supporting the transformation of Mater culture through the respectful, helpful and curious conversations we have with each other," Ms Bonney said.

"We want to support all work areas and teams in providing and receiving feedback with good judgement, and to collectively get better at being better."



Members of the Speaking With Good Judgement team

# Awards trifecta for Digital Technology and Information

Mater's Digital Technology and Information (DTI) division was recognised as leaders in healthcare Information Technology, as the recipient of three awards in 2018.

At the HIMSS AsiaPac Awards Dinner on 6 November 2018, Director Information Management Sallyanne Wissman received the Vendors Choice: Healthcare IT Leader of the Year award.

Voted by the vendor community in the region, the Healthcare IT Leader of the Year award acknowledges a healthcare information technology leader who has contributed to safer care using technology and who has contributed back to the healthcare community by sharing though leadership and best practices.

Sallyanne was presented with the award by Acting Chief Digital Strategy Officer, eHealth Queensland, Narelle Doss.

Mater DTI was also a winner at the Health Information Management Association Australia Conference. Senior Information Management Specialist Joy Smith was awarded Queensland Practitioner of the Year, while Acting Manager



Narelle Doss and Sallyanne Wissman.

Health Records Service Karen Baker was awarded Student of the Year—Karen graduated with a Bachelor of Health Information Management from Queensland University of Technology on 14 December 2018.

## DTI highlights



**>40 000**

Calls answered by the service desk



**59 703**

Service tickets fulfilled



**14 174**

Total number of users supported



**1668**

Changes to production approved





Michelle Steel celebrates 10 years of the Refugee Maternity Service with women who have been involved with the service.

## Refugee Maternity Service cares for 2500 women

Mater Mothers' Hospitals' Refugee Maternity Service celebrated 10 years of providing exceptional, specialised care to more than 2500 women from a range of cultural backgrounds in March 2019.

In late 2008 the Refugee Maternity Service began, providing care through an antenatal clinic at Mater Mothers' Hospital which was kindly supported by the Sisters of Mercy to meet unmet need.

Refugee Maternity Service Midwife Michelle Steel said an evaluation of the service showed it was extremely beneficial for women from refugee backgrounds to be cared for within a dedicated service.

"Pregnant women of refugee backgrounds can present with a range of pre-existing medical conditions including female circumcision and also trauma and torture from devastating events they have experienced," Ms Steel said.

"Prior to the service, mainstream models of care couldn't provide women the level of culturally appropriate care they required," she said.

"The service met this obvious gap by meeting the complex needs of these women and its success is evident in the level of trust they have in Mater midwives and support people caring for them."

In 2016 the Midwifery Group Practice (MGP) was established for pregnant women from a refugee background to receive continuity of care throughout their pregnancy in the community through to delivery in hospital.

While most women accessing the service have African backgrounds, Mater midwives have cared for women from 80 countries, with them speaking 63 different languages.

Mater Interpreters play a key role in the service to ensure there is effective communication between the women and midwife throughout their pregnancy journey.



# Mater

The following reports detail our financial performance, provide scope of our services and show how we've given back to our community.

## 2018/2019 Financial Year

Revenue	Amount (AUD)
Health services fees and funding	\$810 385 811
Grant funding	\$30 944 566
Sales of goods and services	\$119 620 635
Donation equipment, general or building	\$86 086 288
Rental income	\$10 173 700
Investment income	\$2 276 487
Other revenue	\$5 451 565
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1 064 939 052</b>
Expenditure Amount	Amount (AUD)
Labour costs	\$679 272 897
Direct (non-labour) costs	\$173 196 495
Indirect costs	\$164 383 017
Asset/financing charges	\$46 032 633
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1 062 885 043</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$2 054 009</b>

# Holy Cross Services

## 2018/2019 Financial Year

Revenue	\$22 404 912
Expenditure	\$23 480 718
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>-\$1 075 806</b>

# Mater Health

## 2018/2019 Financial Year

Revenue	Amount (AUD)
Queensland Health funding	\$509 842 013
Grant funding	\$15 485 408
Patient fees	\$298 320 940
Sales of goods and services	\$113 246 726
Donation equipment, general or building	\$1 359 581
Rental income	\$10 872 398
Investment income	\$1 372 018
Other revenue	\$5 632 320
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$956 131 404</b>
Expenditure	Amount (AUD)
Labour costs	\$636 120 630
Direct (non-labour) costs	\$186 396 719
Indirect costs	\$97 505 213
Asset/financing charges	\$42 772 844
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$962 795 406</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>-\$6 664 002</b>

# Mater Education

## 2018/2019 Financial Year

Revenue	\$8 389 877
Expenditure	\$7 359 663
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$1 030 214</b>



# Mater Research

2018/2019 Financial Year

Revenue	Revenue Amount (AUD)
Grant income	\$10 822 206
UQ infrastructure funding	\$5 657 225
Commercial funding	\$6 291 543
Donations and bequest	\$17 183 560
Other income	\$71 117
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$40 025 651</b>
Expenditure	(AUD)
Administration expenses	\$4 718 688
Research support expenses	\$11 300 192
Research and development expenses \$	\$19 296 003
TRI equity adjustment	\$1 418 039
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$36 732 922</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$3 292 729</b>

# Mater Foundation

2018/2019 Financial Year

Distributions	Amount (AUD)
Capital works	\$724 608
Clinical programs and support	\$486 906
Education	\$476 079
Equipment	\$1 110 266
Mission	\$77 544
Research	\$14 570 227
<b>Total Distributions</b>	<b>\$17 445 630</b>

# Clinical Safety and Quality

Patient experience helps shape exceptional customer service

Supported through the consistent integration of health, education and research, Mater Health aims to improve patient care with a consistent focus on providing safe, low variability, evidence-based healthcare which meets the needs of the community.

Mater Health has carefully integrated an array of safety and quality initiatives to actively

maintain and improve safety and quality standards for our patients and values consumer experience as a crucial part of enabling us to deliver exceptional customer service and clinical outcomes.

A patient experience survey is sent to every patient upon discharge.

Key feedback gathered through these surveys is summarised below.



**96%**

patients surveyed rated their overall quality of care as "Good" or "Very Good"



**95%**

of patients felt their individual needs were met



**93%**

patients felt they were always treated with respect and dignity



**93%**

of patients were involved in making decisions about their treatment and care



**93%**

of patients were kept informed about their care



**84%**

patients said they were extremely likely to recommend Mater to their friends and family



# Community Benefit

In addition to providing high quality, safe, compassionate and sustainable healthcare, fulfilling Mater's Mission demands a planned approach to meeting community need through our community benefit response.

Guided and overseen by the Mission and Ethics Committee of the Board, Mater's community benefit investment is a tangible expression of how we are fulfilling our duty and commitment to enact the key Catholic social teaching principles of respect for human dignity, preferential option for the poor and the common good. Through a range of community benefit programs, initiatives and activities, we work to make visible our commitment to good corporate citizenship and Catholic social teaching. This ongoing community benefit response comprises activities undertaken in direct response

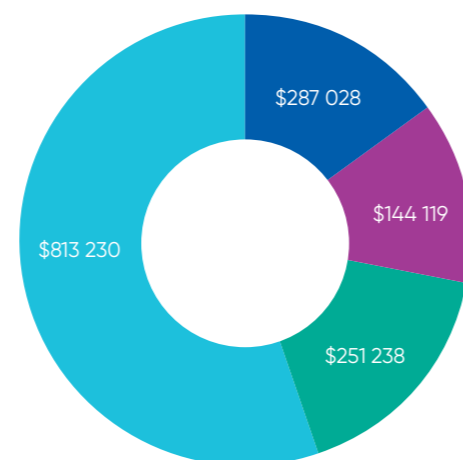
to an identified community need, and where the primary goal is not to bring a direct economic benefit to the organisation. During 2018/2019 a renewed focus on improving transparency of Mater's community benefit response has resulted in reporting against the following categories:

**Four key strategic areas in which Mater contributes are:**

1. People experiencing poverty associated with their health
2. Homeless healthcare
3. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healthcare
4. Refugee healthcare.

Community benefit contributions	Amount (AUD)
Financial assistance such as planned free, waived and discounted services for those experiencing financial poverty	\$287 028
Community health improvement services	\$604 555
Health professions education activities or programs	\$128 946
Subsidised health services	\$2 943 765
Non commercial research	\$14 919 177
Cash and in-kind contributions	\$117 000
Community building activities	\$1 730 732
Community benefit administration	\$60 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20 791 203</b>

Derived from the total amount of \$20 791 203 is



- People experiencing financial poverty associated with their health
  - Homeless healthcare
  - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
  - Refugee healthcare
- All amounts in AUD.

# Mater Statistics

Patients seen (Inpatient & Outpatients)	505 871	(excludes diagnostics attendances)
Babies born	10 442	
Emergency attendances	65 518	

Mater Patients	Patient Discharges	Patient days	Theatre Cases	Beds - ex day
Mater Private Hospital Brisbane	32 872	96 241	*11171 – exc. Neuro theatre	281
Mater Private Hospital Redland	11 592	22 698	4 398	60
Mater Mothers' Hospital	19 388	43 407	3,977	137
Mater Mothers' Private Hospital	9 317	31 199	2 343	113
Mater Children's Private Hospital	4 427	5 765	2 491	37
Mater Hospital Brisbane	50 191	92 771	9 395	185
Mater Private Hospital Springfield	13 303	22 255	9 273	64
Mater Centre for Neurosciences	3 232	11 775	1 727	63
Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane	2 136	5 843	N/A	24
Mater Private Day Hospital Brookwater	3 537	3 537	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>149 995</b>	<b>335 491</b>		



# Mater Statistics

## Emergency attendances

Mater Hospital Brisbane Emergency	50 282
Mater private Emergency Care Centre	15 236
<b>Total</b>	<b>65 518</b>

## Births

Mater Mothers' Hospital	6 188
Mater Mothers' Private Hospital	3 997
Mater Private Hospital Redland	257
<b>Total</b>	<b>10 442</b>

## Outpatient clinical attendance

Mater Mothers' Hospital	118 934
Mater Private Hospital Springfield	27 834
Mater Hospital Brisbane	204 895
Mater Young Adult Health Centre Brisbane	4 213
<b>Total</b>	<b>355 426</b>

## Diagnostic service attendances

Mater Mothers' Hospital	92 289
Mater Hospital Brisbane	294 505
<b>Total</b>	<b>386 794</b>

# Dedicated Auxiliaries make a difference

The dedicated volunteers of the Mater Hospital Brisbane Auxiliary, the Mater Mothers' Hospital Auxiliary and Mater Private Hospital Redland Auxiliary have contributed to Mater for more than 40 years; raising funds to support technological advances and advances in treatment for Mater patients.

The Mater Hospital Brisbane Auxiliary raised funds for Mater Hospital Brisbane last financial year through three events including a St Patrick's Day concert, a morning tea at Tattersall's with guest speaker, author Frances Whiting and pre-Melbourne Cup Hats and High Tea.

Through a baby shop, and a legendary cake and craft stall in the foyer of Mater Mothers' Hospitals, the Mater Mothers' Hospital Auxiliary has raised thousands of dollars to support the hospital, including Australia's first in-utero spinal surgery on a baby diagnosed with spina bifida.

Auxiliary member Suzanne, who was formerly a neonatal nurse in New Zealand, said it was important to continue supporting causes like the Mater Mothers' Hospitals Auxiliary in any way, shape or form.

"I'm no longer a nurse but working alongside these beautiful women at Mater Mothers' Hospital through the Auxiliary is my way of giving back to the community and supporting families who have their babies at Mater," Suzanne said.

Four key events this year have helped the Mater Private Hospital Redland Auxiliary raise enough funds to support the purchase of a cooling cap for patients undergoing chemotherapy and also funding for a Hovermatt which helps lift patients who have had a fall.

Mater Foundation Executive Director Philanthropy Lesley Ray said that the Auxiliaries were an integral part of Mater.

"The Auxiliaries have made an enormous contribution to Mater over many years and with their support Mater has been able to make life a little more comfortable for its patients, introduce some key clinical therapies and also undertake ground-breaking surgery," Ms Ray said.

"We are incredibly grateful for all the fundraising that the Auxiliaries do and for their dedication to making a difference to Mater patients."





# Mater Misericordiae Limited Board of Directors

The Mater Misericordiae Ltd Board is supported by the Mater Education, Mater Research and Mater Foundation Boards and works closely with our Mater Executive team.

This collaborative approach enables our leaders to tap into extensive knowledge and expertise across Mater and effectively guide the broader Mater Group Strategy, ensuring the provision of exceptional care and service to all whom we are privileged to serve.

Currently comprising nine members, the Mater Misericordiae Ltd Board represents a dynamic blend of contemporary expertise and business acumen. Diverse in their professional backgrounds and community interests, each Director has extensive experience guiding organisations through critical phases of change.

With this diverse gathering of experience, knowledge and skills, Mater possesses the vibrant and cohesive leadership essential for the successful integration of health, education and research to ensure the continued delivery of our Mission.

Together, Mater's Boards work to uphold the values established by the Sisters of Mercy, guiding a team of more than 7000 Mater People to remain true to Mater's Mission: providing compassionate care, responding to changing community needs and fostering high standards in health-related education and research.





# Guiding Mater's strategy

Our boards guide Mater's position as a leader across health, education and research. The Mater Misericordiae Limited Board oversees and governs Mater, and is supported by our ministry boards to provide effective guidance across the entire group.

## Mater Misericordiae Limited Board of Directors

- Mr Brian Flannery (Chair 2001 to November 2018)
- Mr Terry Crawford (Chair November 2018 to July 2019)
- Sister Pauline Burke RSM (2007 to November 2018)
- Dr Geof Hirst AM
- Dr Mark O'Brien
- Mr Peter Pearce (2003 to November 2018)
- Mr John Reynolds
- Ms Susan Rix AM
- Professor Catherine Turner
- Laurence Rogencamp (Company Secretary)

## Mater Education Board

- Mr John Reynolds (Chair)
- Professor Catherine Turner AM
- Emeritus Professor Michael Ward
- Laurence Rogencamp (Company Secretary)

## Mater Research Board

- Mr Jim Walker (Chair)
- Dr Carrie Hillyard (Deputy Chair)
- Professor Perry Bartlett
- Mr Terry Crawford (to January 2019)
- Prof Cathy Turner (January 2019 to August 2019)
- Professor Elizabeth Eakin
- Professor Geoffrey Keil

- Professor David McIntyre
- Professor John Prins (June 2018 to December 2018)
- Dr Peter Steer (from January 2019)
- Steven Denaro (Company Secretary)

## Mater Foundation Board

- Mr Phil Hennessy (Chair)
- Mr Simon Porter (Deputy Chair)
- Mr Xavier Kelly
- Mr John McCoy
- Mrs Carmel Macmillan appointed October 2018
- Mr Bill Noye
- Mr Joseph O'Brien
- Mr Allan Pidgeon
- Prof John Prins (to October 2018)
- Ms Susan Rix AM (to September 2019)
- Dr Peter Steer (appointed January 2019)
- Mr Jason Titman
- Ms Janet Wilson (to September 2018)
- Laurence Rogencamp (Company Secretary)

## Holy Cross Laundry Board

- Mr Vince O'Rourke (Chair)
- Mr Richard Marszalek
- Professor John McAuliffe
- Mr James O'Sullivan
- Ms Lynn Smart
- Laurence Rogencamp (Company Secretary)

# Mater Misericordiae Limited Board Committees

## Finance Committee

- Mr Terry Crawford (Chair)
- Mr Brian Flannery (to November 2018)
- Ms Susan Rix

## Risk Management and Audit Committee

- Ms Susan Rix (Chair)
- Dr Geof Hirst
- Dr Mark O'Brien
- Mr Peter Pearce (to November 2018)

## Mission and Ethics Committee

- Sr Pauline Burke (Chair) (to November 2018)
- Mr Peter Pearce (to November 2018)
- Prof Catherine Turner

## Mater Clinical Advisory Board Committee

- Dr Geof Hirst (Chair)
- Mr Terry Crawford
- Dr Don Cave
- Ms Leonie Hobbs
- Dr Mark O'Brien
- Ms Karen Roach

## Human Resources Committee

- Mr John Reynolds (Chair)
- Sr Pauline Burke (to November 2018)
- Mr Brian Flannery (to November 2018)
- Prof Catherine Turner

## Strategy and Planning Committee

- Mr John Reynolds (Chair)
- Mr Terry Crawford
- Mr Brian Flannery (to November 2018)
- Dr Geof Hirst
- Dr Mark O'Brien
- Mr Peter Pearce (to November 2018)

## Board Nominations Committee

- Mr Brian Flannery (Chair to November 2018)
- Mr Terry Crawford
- Dr Geof Hirst
- Mr John Reynolds
- Prof Catherine Turner



# Mater Executive

Our Mater Executive comprises 11 leaders from across Mater's core components of health, education, research and foundation, ensuring Mater operates as a connected group under a single leadership team.

Guided by our Mission and driven by Mater's concerted pursuit of innovation—to discover, improve, adopt and adapt—each member brings a wealth of experience and foresight to their role, underpinned by a commitment to ensuring the continued provision of exceptional care to all whom we are privileged to serve.

- Dr Peter Steer  
CEO Mater Group Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Sean Hubbard  
Chief Executive Officer, Mater Health
- Ms Donna Bonney  
Chief Executive Officer, Mater Education
- Professor Maher Gandhi  
Chief Executive Officer, Mater Research
- Mr Nigel Harris  
Chief Executive Officer, Mater Foundation
- Mr Bob Beusekom  
Group Director Corporate and Shared Services
- Mr Ieuan Hyde  
Group Director Strategy, Business Development and Marketing
- Mr David Kempson  
Group Chief Digital Officer
- Ms Madonna McGahan  
Group Director Mission Leadership
- Ms Sharron McMahon  
Director People and Organisation
- Mr Ian Wright  
Group Chief Finance Officer

# Mater Foundation Committees

## Lotteries Committee

- John McCoy (Chair)
- Carmel Macmillan
- Xavier Kelly
- John Sheahan
- Greg Sheehan
- David Bell
- Rebecca Pullar (to June 2019)

## Allocations Committee

- Bill Noye (Chair)
- Prof Maher Gandhi
- Donna Bonney
- Ian Wright
- Sean Hubbard
- Janet Wilson (to September 2018)

## Community Fundraising Committee

- Simon Porter (Chair)
- Greg Abbey
- Lynne Elliott
- Carmel Macmillan
- Adam Massey
- Claire Schneider
- Lisa Smith
- Prof David Tudehope
- Sarah Nelson (to May 2019)

## Operations, Finance and Audit Committee

- Simon Porter (Chair)
- Phil Hennessy
- Bill Noye
- Allan Pidgeon
- Laurence Rogencamp

## Major Gifts Committee (dissolved in August 2019)

- Jason Titman (Co-Chair)
- Joseph O'Brien (Co-Chair)
- Dyls Bertelsen
- Cara Graham
- Matthew Miller





# Ways you can support Mater

Mater was built on a foundation of collaboration with community and a shared vision to meet unmet needs.

This has shaped and inspired us for more than a century. Every gift made through Mater Foundation means Mater is here for our community; enabling people to live healthier lives.

Your support helps to deliver new care practices, develop new services and fund research that is finding better ways to diagnose and treat life-threatening diseases. Together we are able to enhance compassionate care and plan for a healthy future.

Whether it is through a donation, a gift in your Will, participating in or hosting an event, becoming a corporate partner or supporting our lottery program, we welcome the opportunity to have a conversation about your support.

For more information about giving to Mater, please contact Mater Foundation:

 1800 500 422

 [foundation@mater.org.au](mailto:foundation@mater.org.au)







# Our supporters

Thank you to the following supporters - we are so grateful for your gifts during the year. Your commitment to Mater through Mater Foundation contributes to a healthier community through the advancement of healthcare, education and research at Mater.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| A E Hingeley Trust; R D Hingeley Trust; E Murray Charitable Gift; Qld Community Foundation; ANZ Bank Fund; Thomas George Swallow Trust; J and T Cox Mem Foundation; H J Hinchey Charitable Trust; LG McCallum Estate; KC and BM Thomson Memorial Fund; George Weaber Foundation Trust - managed by Equity Trustees | C Hillyard<br>C Wang<br>Centenary Foundation - Trustees Endowment<br>Child's Play Charity<br>Coronis Group<br>Costco Wholesale<br>Council of Queensland Insurance Brokers<br>Curavis Fund<br>Dry July Foundation<br>Duncan Family Trust<br>Edwina McVeigh - Cocktails for a Cure<br>Estate of Barbara Kerrigan<br>Estate of Betty Frances Jacobsen<br>Estate of Gladys Margaret Jordan<br>Estate of Jean Barnett<br>Estate of John Thomas Walsh<br>Estate of Lindsay Howard Turner<br>Estate of Robert Matthews<br>Estate of Ronald Andrews<br>Estate of the late Arthur Hatt Cook<br>Estate of Vilma Ward<br>EVA Airways<br>Eve Health Australia Pty Ltd<br>Flannery Family Foundation | Foxtel Business<br>Gavin AM and Karen Bird<br>goa billboards<br>Golden Casket<br>Grace and Herbert Foulkes Charitable Trust<br>Greig-Asbury Foundation<br>Hanworth House and Vecchio Family<br>Heather Craig<br>Hien Le<br>Holy Cross Services Ltd<br>Honda<br>Hostplus<br>Ian Malouf Foundation<br>In Virto Technologies<br>Ingrid Kaiser<br>JJ's Waste & Recycling<br>John Griffin QC and Dr Lois Griffin<br>Johnson and Johnson Medical Pty Ltd<br>Jonathan and Angela Ramsay<br>K Duryea<br>Katherine's Journey<br>Kim Pradella<br>Knappick Foundation<br>L and J Chou<br>Lions Clubs of Australia - Lions Prostate Cancer Research and Treatment Project |
|--|---|---|

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Liu Family<br>Macquarie and Russells Gala Fundraising Committee<br>Maha and Yoga Sinnathamby<br>Mancorp Quality Homes<br>Mater Hospital Brisbane Auxiliary<br>Mater Mothers' Hospital Auxiliary<br>Mater Private Hospital Redland Auxiliary<br>Mater Volunteers - Baby Footprints<br>Maureen Stevenson<br>Misa Constructions<br>Mondo Architects<br>National Storage<br>Nine Network<br>Olympus Australia<br>Oxmar Properties<br>Perpetual Foundation - Kevin Darrell Clarke Endowment<br>Perrigo Australia<br>Peter and Catherine Quinn<br>Plantation Homes<br>Premier Dance Academy<br>Professional Cleaning Services | Professor Kim Summers and Professor David Hume<br>Quantum Property Services<br>RACQ<br>realestate.com.au<br>rebel<br>Remembering Nat - Bubbles and Bliss Fundraising Committee<br>Richards Family Foundation<br>Russells<br>S Kuo and M Wu<br>Shaun Kenny<br>Shaune & Kimberley Watts<br>Sheila Joel<br>Siemon Family<br>Smith + Nephew<br>Springfield City Group - Greater Springfield Ball<br>Stack Family Foundation<br>Stella Lutvey Trust<br>Summit Fleet Leasing and Management<br>T Weston and M Morrison Trust<br>Ten4Men<br>The Cory Charitable Foundation | The Harry Secomb Foundation<br>The Myer Centre - Christmas Wrapping<br>The Samuel And Eileen Gluyas Charitable Trust<br>Tony and Maree Joseph as Trustee for Anthony Joseph Family Trust<br>Torque Toyota<br>Villawood Properties<br>Vince and Barbara Rehbein<br>Waterfront Place - Dexu<br>YFG Shopping Centres<br>Zupps Suzuki<br><b>Sincere thanks to participants in fundraising events throughout the year</b><br>Breast Ever Brunch<br>Climb for Cancer<br>Footy Finals Lunch<br>Mater Ball<br>Miles for Miracles<br>RACQ International Women's Day Fun Run<br>Smiling for Smiddy<br>Tea for Teal |
|---|---|--|



# In memory



## Sister Mary Michele Quinlan RSM—Director of Nursing

Sr Mary Michele Quinlan RSM (also known as Clotilde or 'Clo' Quinlan) was a dearly loved member of the Mater community, having worked as a nurse and midwife in the Mater Children's, Mater Private and Mater Mothers' Hospitals during her career. She commenced nursing at Mater in 1956, and was one of the founding Sisters at the Mater Mothers' Hospital when it opened in 1961.

Perhaps best known for her role as the Director of Nursing at Mater Private Hospital Brisbane, Sr Mary Michele held this position from 1973 until her retirement in 1993, apart from a two-year sabbatical, further study and a return to nursing at Mater's Neonatal Critical Care Unit.

Along with Sister Michaeleen Ahern, Sr Mary Michele was influential in planning the development and relocation of the Mater Private Hospital to Vulture Street in 1993, and its achievement of accreditation in 1983. She was also highly regarded by the Sisters of Mercy and was elected Local Community Leader, Mater Hospital Convent in 1996.



## Dr John Vance OAM—Mater Paediatrician

Dr John Vance OAM was a paediatrician at Mater and Senior Lecturer in child health at The University of Queensland from the late 1970s.

During this time, he was involved in over a decade of research on the impact of that stillbirth, neonatal death and SIDS have on parents. This important work discovered that the resulting anxiety and depression in parents after the death of a baby was greater and lasted longer than people realised.

In response to this research, 'An Ache in their Hearts' was launched at Mater in 1994 with Dr Vance as project lead. This was the first known comprehensive program to support families mourning the death of a baby.

Dr Vance retired from clinical work at Mater in 1996 due to Retinitis Pigmentosa, a hereditary condition which results in loss of vision. However, he did not regard this as a set back and went on to support and advocate for those with vision impairment for many years—serving as a Board Member and Chair of Retina Australia (Qld) and Retina Australia, and a Board Member of Queensland Blind Bowlers. He was also a Director of Guide Dogs Queensland and a member of the Accessibility Reference Group for Queensland Rail.

He was awarded the Care and Compassion Medal in the Pride of Australia Awards in 2012 and Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in 2014. Mater continues Dr Vance's legacy in our ongoing commitment to caring for our littlest patients and the physical and emotional needs of their families.



## Dr John Herron—Chief Surgeon

Dr Herron was Mater's Chief Surgeon from 1974 to 1989 and State President of the Australian Medical Association from 1988 to 1989. He left Mater to enter the world of politics as a Senator for Queensland and later went on to become the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs (1996 to 2001) and Australian Ambassador to Ireland and the Holy See in Rome (2001 to 2006).



## Sister Patricia Plint RSM—Charge Sister

Sister Patricia Plint RSM worked at Mater for 25 years, across adult, maternity and paediatric hospitals including as Charge Sister in the Men's Neurological Ward, Charge Nurse in Ward 9A and as an Antenatal Counsellor at Mater Mothers' Hospital.

During her time she was well known for putting the needs of her patients first and later shared many heart-warming anecdotes of her time working with neurosurgeons Drs Atkinson, Redman and Toakley, including ensuring her patients heading back on the streets had clean clothes and a full lunch before being discharged.

Sister Plint left Mater later in 1986 to take up a position the following January as the Superior to the Sisters at Emmaus Convent, Nudgee.



## Dr Charles Roe AM—Mater Urologist

Dr Charles Roe AM graduated from The University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery in 1942. He practised as a urologist at Mater from 1946 to 1975, and then as a relieving urologist until 1992.

He came from a long line of doctors. His father, Dr Stanley Roe, was the first doctor to practise urology as a specialty in Queensland and collaborated with the Sisters of Mercy to establish the first full-time urology department in an Australian hospital, at Mater in 1919.

Dr Roe was also Chairman of the Mater Hospitals Visiting Staff from 1964 to 1965 and taught at The University of Queensland and Bond University. He became a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1977.

He also had a keen interest in medico-political work, serving as President in 1964 to 1965, and later as Vice President, of the Queensland Branch of the Australian Medical Association Council.

He was made Assistant Professor of Urology at Bond University in 2005 at the age of 86 and awarded an Order of Australia medal in 2011 for his services to medicine.

Dr Charles Roe AM was born on Valentine's Day 1919 and died on 15 January 2019, a month short of his 100th birthday.



## Catherine Leahy

Cathie (as she liked to be called) first signed up to volunteer for the Mater Mothers' Hospital Auxiliary in 1978, when her daughter began her nursing training at Mater.

For the next 40 years Cathie dedicated herself to helping the auxiliary in every way that she could.

A much-loved auxiliary member, Cathie participated in a wide range of volunteer activities, including Christmas markets, annual report readings and visits to other auxiliaries.

For the past 20 years Cathie worked as the minute secretary for auxiliary meetings, a role she filled right up until 2018.

During her time with Mater, she also completed a Bachelor of Environmental Science, graduating in 1986, and also volunteered for the Queensland Maritime Museum.

Cathie passed away in January 2019, aged 92.

May their souls rest in eternal peace.





Mater Misericordiae Ltd  
Raymond Terrace, South Brisbane Qld 4101  
P 07 3163 8111

f materqld @MaterNews MaterHealthServices

[mater.org.au](http://mater.org.au)