



Foundation for A Bloody Great Cause Limited
Annual Report

Year ending 30 June 2022

foundation for a
**BLOODY
GREAT
CAUSE.**[®]
Finding cures. Saving lives.

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foundation for a

**BLOODY
GREAT
CAUSE.**[®]

Finding cures. Saving lives.

FOUNDATION FOR A BLOODY GREAT CAUSE

OUR VISION

Finding cures. Saving Lives.

OUR MISSION

Raising funds and advocating for the world-leading Haematology Clinical Research Unit at Concord Cancer Centre, Concord Hospital.



Staff working in the Concord Transfusion Laboratory



Haematology Clinical Research Staff

FOR OUR SUPPORTERS AND DONORS

A message from Marie Piccin, Chair – Foundation for A Bloody Great Cause

The past year has not been without its fair share of disruption for us all. Foundation for A Bloody Great Cause, while not hitting any milestones, still managed to do its best to keep the wheels turning and help the Haematology Clinical Research Unit (HCRU) continue their life-saving work.

In June 2022 we were able to present the HCRU with a cheque for \$70,000 after our Christmas and International Women's Day appeals. These appeals were held on-line and were further boosted by very generous donations. The Father Atanasio Gonelli Charity Fund also donated \$5,000 to the Foundation in June 2022 which kick started our fundraising for our signature event A Bloody Great Night Out! which will be held in October 2022.



The Foundation also received funding from a Stronger Communities Grant to purchase Tap and Go devices for installation at the Hospital. This work continues with stock being hard to secure due to COVID disruptions, but we are confident we will be able to embark on a twelve month trial in the first half of 2023.

The Foundation, was able to successfully register and trademark our logos for both the Foundation for A Bloody Great Cause and A Bloody Great Night Out! and other important marketing tools, that The Bloody Great Committee have developed over the past nine years. Our thanks to Alders IP, the Burrow Group and all those who helped to ensure that this was done in a timely and professional manner.

In early 2022, Christina Efthymiades, our Founding Committee Chair and Foundation Director resigned from her position on the board and committee. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Christina for her tireless efforts, vision and commitment to the Bloody Great Cause. She was instrumental in executing many of the fundraising events that we now continue with enthusiasm. She provided the blueprint to allow Professor Judith Trotman to realise her vision, to bring the Concord community together and enable them to celebrate the achievements of Concord Hospital and the Haematology Clinical Research Unit.

As always, my sincere thanks to the patients, staff and members of the community that

have so generously supported and offered help over the past year. It is very much appreciated. My thanks to Paul Dovico and MAZARS Australia, our accountants and auditors who so generously donate their services to our Cause.

To our Secretary, Rosanna Campisi for her dedication, and to all of our Board members for their expertise and willingness to work together to achieve what sometimes seems the impossible, please know I am very grateful. We would not be able to achieve such wonderful results without your hard work.

We look forward to returning to our pre-COVID calendar of events in the year to come and as always help raise funds for the Haematology Clinical Research Unit at Concord Hospital.



Foundation Chair Marie Piccin and the Committee Chair Susan MacGregor presenting \$70 000 cheque to Dr Nicole Wong Doo, Director of Haematology Clinical Research Unit and Professor Judith Trotman, Head of Haematology, Concord Cancer Centre, Concord Hospital.

A MESSAGE FROM PROFESSOR JUDITH TROTMAN

**Head of Haematology,
Concord Cancer Centre, Concord Hospital**

The life of every person supporting the Foundation for A Bloody Great Cause has been touched by a blood disorder. Concord Haematology's relationship with the Foundation is central to community engagement and a patient-centred focus in our commitment to deliver "World-class care, locally".

The Foundation's endorsement of our clinical trials research and the pride of our local community in supporting the largest haematology clinical research unit in NSW motivates us daily to deliver more lifesaving, life-changing emerging therapies for more patients.

The funds raised by the Foundation support our financial independence to participate in the trials of greatest importance to our patients and enables us to collaborate with our community to design clinical research to answer their priority questions.

It was only natural, therefore, that in 2021 the Foundation immediately supported our funding request to kick-start our COVAX-in-lymphoma study, a collaboration with the Kirby Institute, NSW.

This study demonstrated the poor antibody response to the multi-dose vaccination program in our patients with Follicular Lymphoma and Waldenström Macroglobulinaemia, two slow growing lymphomas which require immune-suppressive therapies. In the evolving pandemic this comprehensive immune analysis of response to COVID-19 vaccination, included assessment of the capacity to neutralize the Omicron variant, and analysis of any subsequent COVID infections in 125 patients.

Despite the high rate of subsequent COVID infection in 2022 we are proud that few patients participating in this study experienced severe COVID in keeping with the reassuring T cell immunity we identified in our vaccinated population despite the poor B cell (humoral response) seen in many. The globally important results were accepted for publication in the American Journal of Hematology in May 2022.

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1002/ajh.26619>

Enabled by the Foundation, two other research projects are led by Concord Haematology in collaboration with our patients.



Dr Tohidi-Esfahani's global WhiMSICAL study maps the lived experience, including quality of life, of more than 650 patients with the rare lymphoma Waldenström's Macroglobulinaemia, WhiMSICAL: A global Waldenström's Macroglobulinemia patient derived data registry capturing treatment and quality of life outcomes - Tohidi Esfahani - 2021 - American Journal of Hematology - Wiley Online Library.

The data from this study was instrumental in the Australian Pharmaceutical Benefit Advisory Committee (PBAC) approval and PBS listing of Zanubrutinib the oral well tolerated and highly effective treatment of Waldenström's on the 1st July 2022.

After a COVID-induced hiatus in its development, Dr Nicole Wong Doo is submitting for Ethics Committee review the My Hodgkin My Health Smartphone App to capture long term follow-up data from young adults after treatment of their Hodgkin Lymphoma.

At Concord Haematology we are empowered by the Foundation for A Bloody Great Cause to conduct this independent investigator-initiated research.

**We are inspired by the patients we cure and
driven by the patients we don't.
FINDING CURES, SAVING LIVES.**



concord haematology

Clinical Research Unit

Delivering world class care, locally

Providing patients with blood cancers and other blood disorders with

- cutting-edge therapies
- greater hope for a cure
- better quality of life

Supported by

foundation for a **BLOODY GREAT CAUSE**



Mr Andrew Warden, Leader of WMozzies & Patient on the COVAX trial & Mr Trieu Huynh, CRU Nurse.



Patient on the COVAX trial



Dr Cunningham, Dr Estell & Dr Trotman supporting International Women's Day 2022



The Haematology Clinical Research Doctors



The Haematology Clinical Research Team & Director Dr Nicole Wong Do. (centre)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As of 30 June 2022



Marie Piccin – Chair
Community member



Susan MacGregor
Community member



Prof Judith Trotman
Head of Haematology Department,
Concord Cancer Centre, Concord Hospital



Mary Nassibian
Community member



A/Prof Ilona Cunningham
Clinical Director Cancer Services
and Palliative Care for Sydney Local
Health District

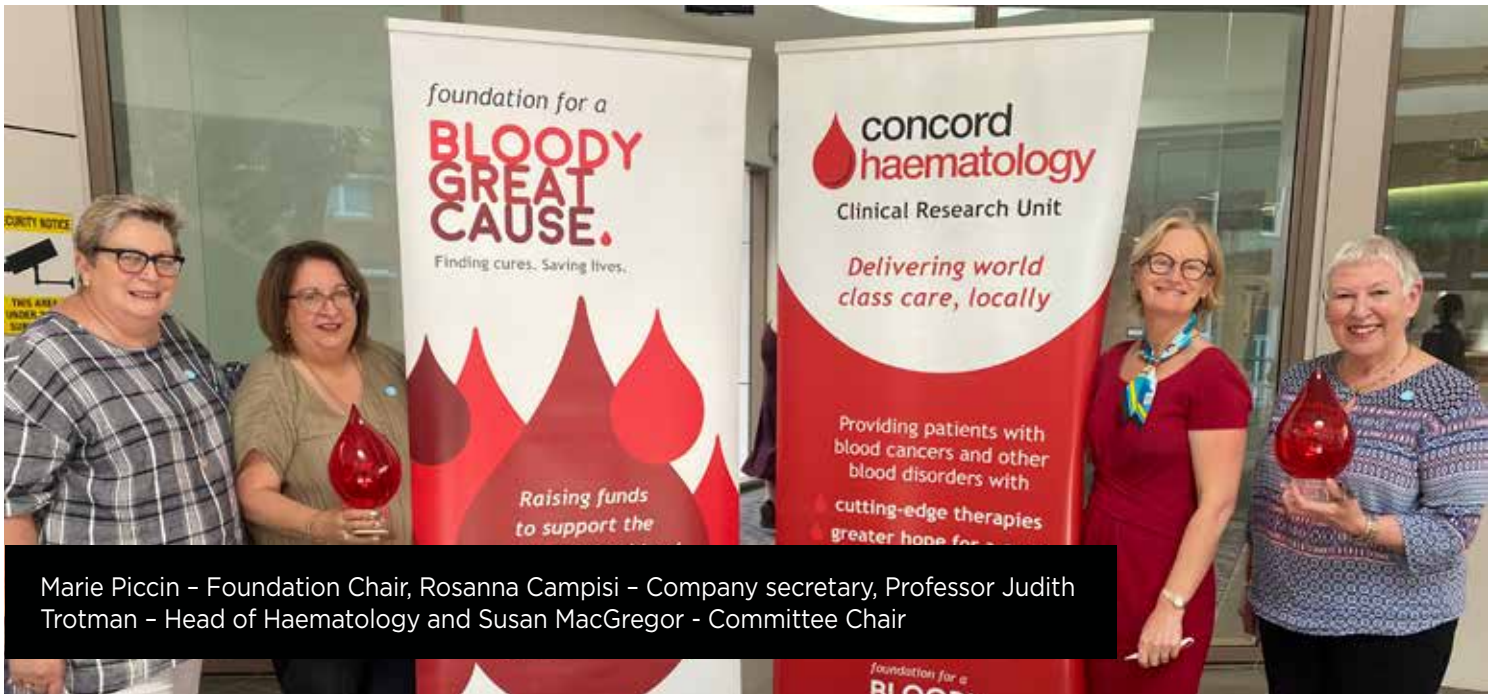


Steven Nassibian
Community member

Our gratitude and sincere thanks goes to:

- Rosanna Campisi – Company Secretary.
- James Campisi, for undertaking pro-bono all the related legal work.
- Lisa Ogle & Alders IP for their contribution for Trademark Services.
- Paul Dovico & MAZARS for ongoing pro-bono financial services.
- City of Canada Bay Council for their ongoing support.





Marie Piccin - Foundation Chair, Rosanna Campisi - Company secretary, Professor Judith Trotman - Head of Haematology and Susan MacGregor - Committee Chair



Staff members helping to raise funds and awareness



New Concord Cancer Centre Day Therapy Unit Corridor

THE BLOODY GREAT COMMITTEE

Despite the numerous challenges COVID presented over the past few years, our fundraising committee volunteers remained dedicated, resilient and created opportunities to continue raising funds during lockdowns and restrictions.

A Christmas online appeal in December 2021 raised \$10,430 followed by another online appeal to replace our annual International Women's Day (IWD) Breakfast in March 2022. Generous supporters purchased special IWD Sweet Treat boxes to be delivered to their nominated friends raising \$5936.

Behind the scenes, during this time, plans and hard work were put in place for A Bloody Great Night Out! for October 2022 - our major fundraiser which occurs every two years.

- We are indebted to our sponsors who continue to give their support and ask for nothing!
- We have the most generous donors - many of these have benefitted from clinical trials.
- We also have the most wonderful support from our local community, always willing to help and keep buying raffle tickets!



I thank each and every one for helping us achieve sums way beyond our expectations in this past financial year.

A special mention to our selfless volunteers who continue to do whatever we ask - volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.

Susan MacGregor
Chair - The Bloody Great Committee



Finding cures. Saving lives.

Your support helps keep our clinical research unit financially independent, allowing us to focus on the research priorities of our patients.

The Bloody Great Committee

(as of 30 June 2022)

- Susan MacGregor - Chair
- Natalino Bongiorno
- Christian Bracci
- Rosanna Campisi
- Lara Meli
- Mary Nassibian
- Steven Nassibian
- Marie Piccin
- Judith Trotman



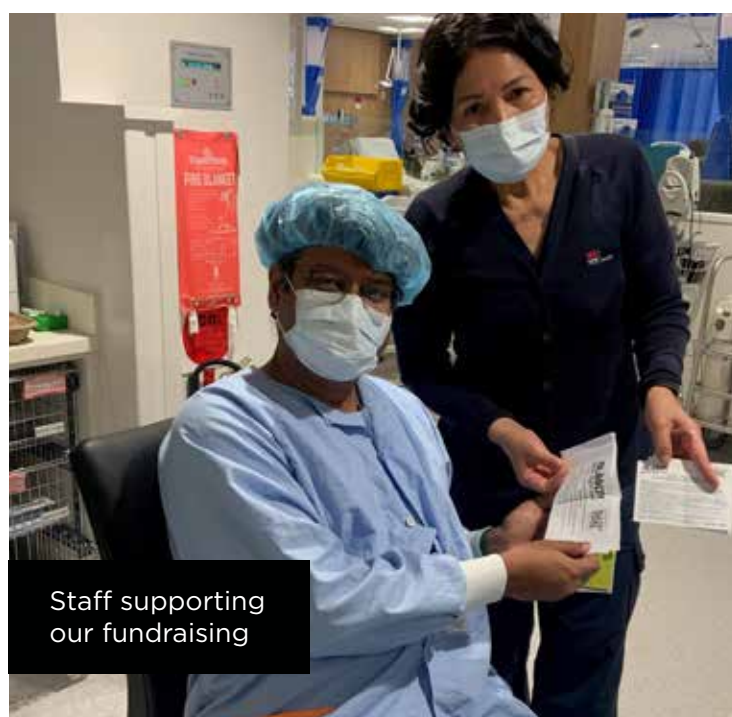
Committee and volunteers wrapping raffle prizes



The Committee out selling raffle tickets

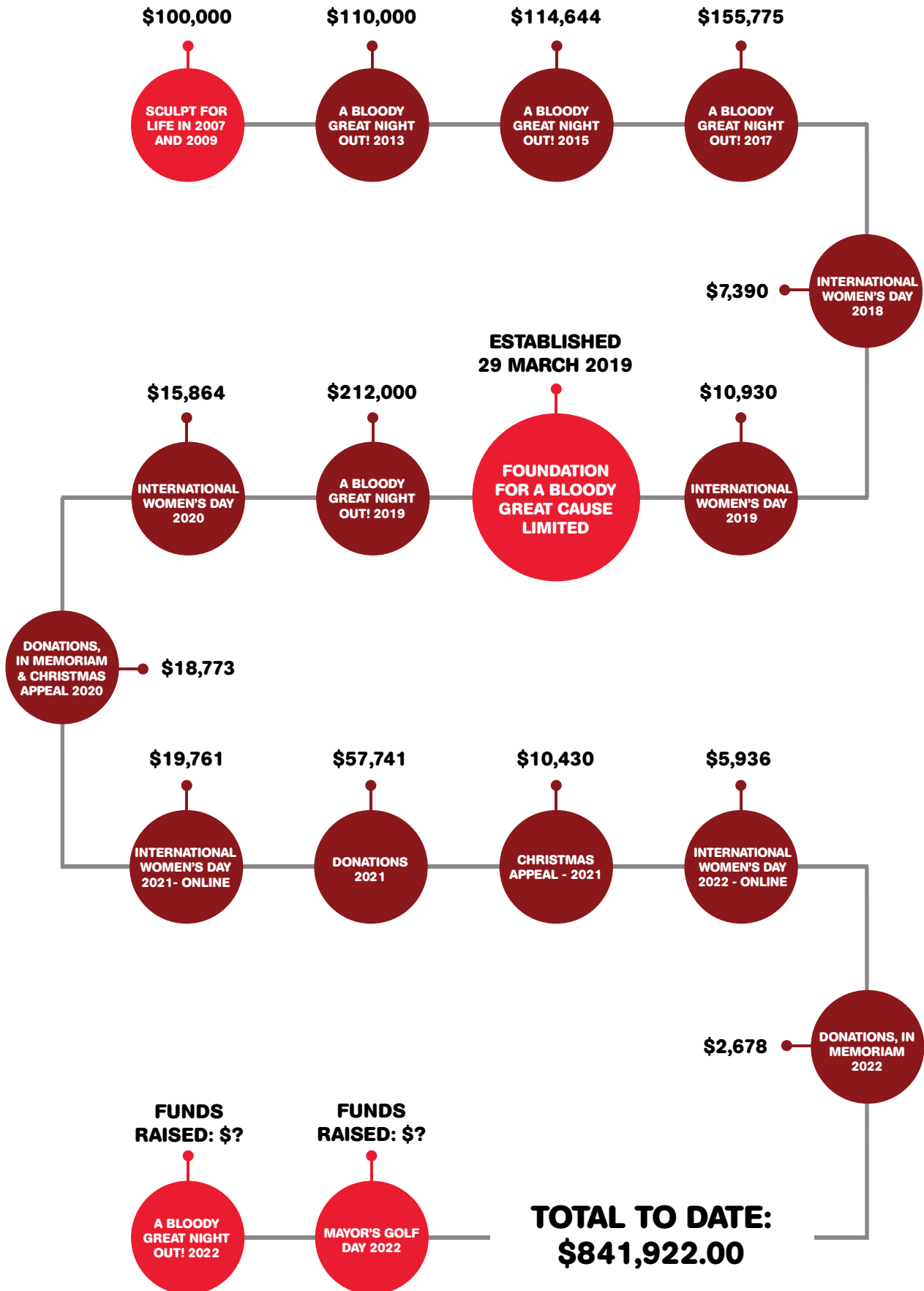


Sweet treat boxes for the online International Women's Day 22 campaign.



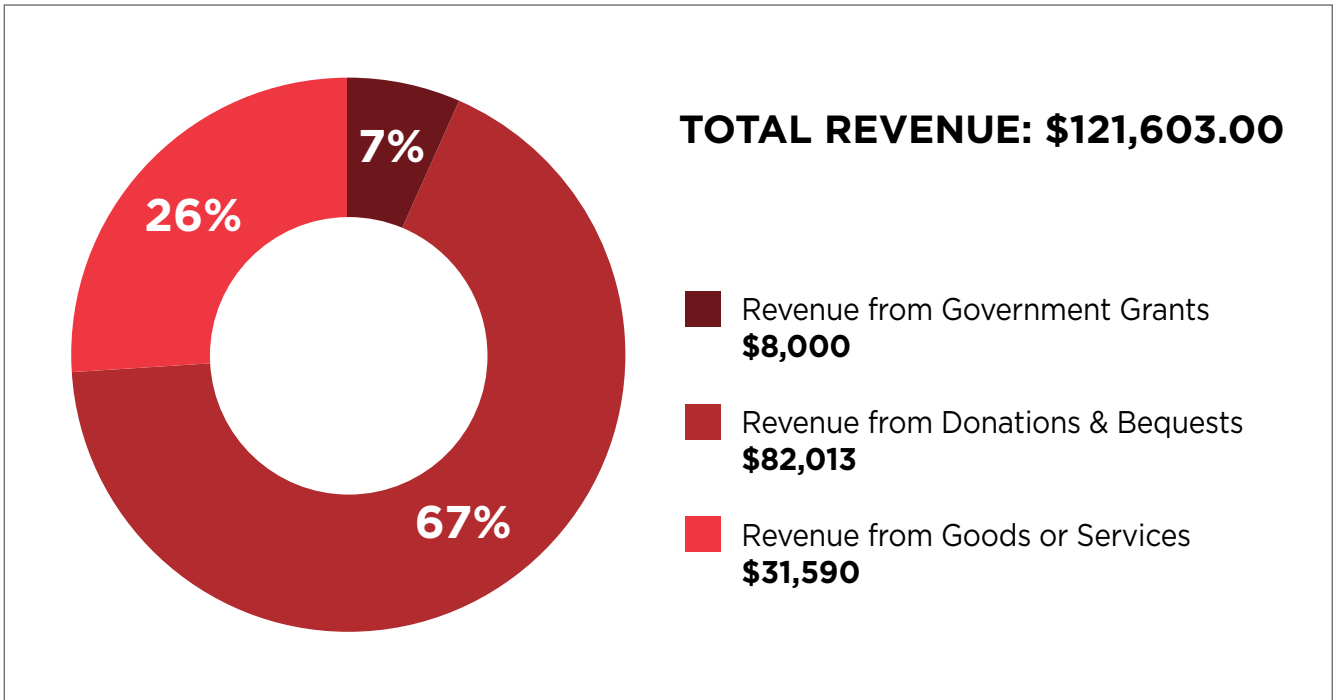
Staff supporting our fundraising

FUNDRAISING TALLY

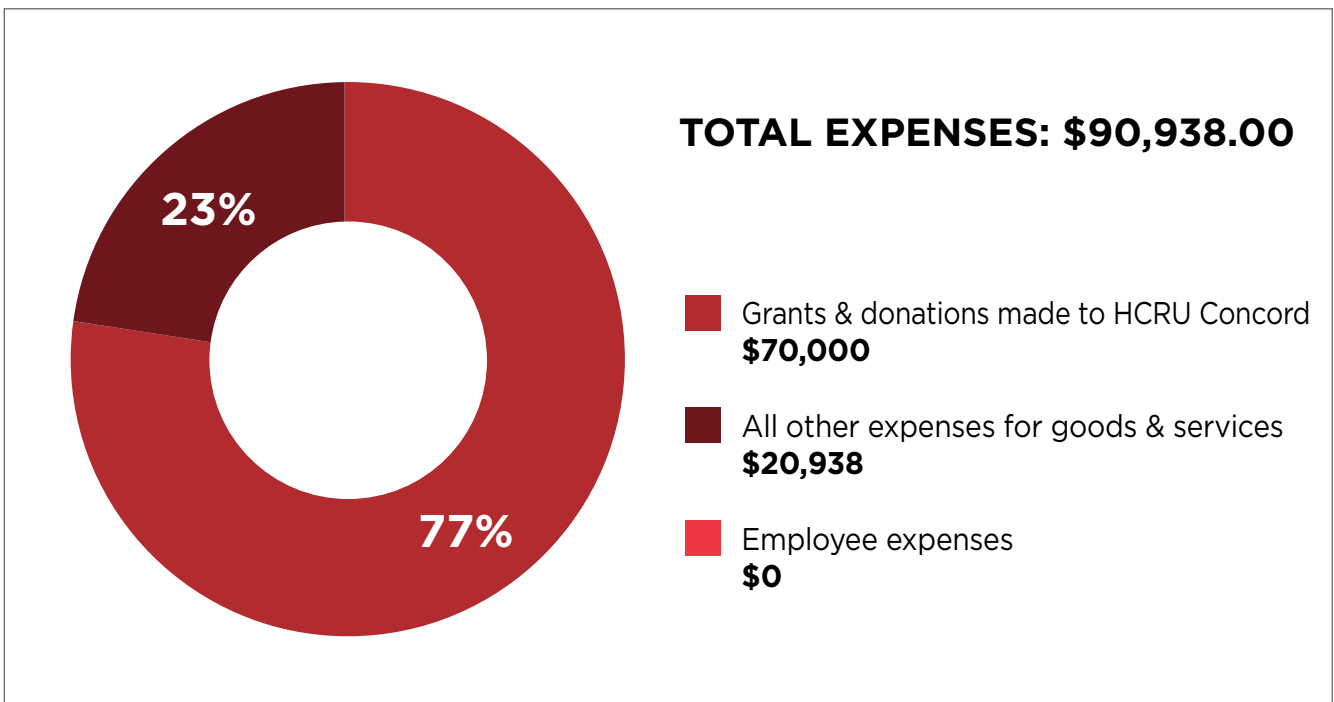


FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2021 - 2022

REVENUE



EXPENSES



If you would like a copy of our financial statements for 2021-22 prepared for the Foundation on a pro bono basis by Paul Dovico, Partner MAZARS and the Audited Financial Report prepared by J. L. Roberts - Lane Cove, please contact us.

foundation for a
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CONTACT US

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 @abloodygreatcause

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Sincere thanks to Chill Digital Media for helping design
and prepare this Annual Report



Foundation for A Bloody Great Cause Ltd is registered
with the Australian Taxation Office as an Income Tax
Exempt Charity.
All donations over \$2 are tax deductible