

far north queensland hospital foundation

ANNUAL
REPORT
2024/25

SPRING 2025



Annual results flourish

This year was a big step forward in our vision to deliver superior health care across Far North Queensland – made possible by the incredible people who make up our Foundation community.

Guided by our 2024–2028 Strategic Plan, we've remained focused on delivering real impact, growing our social enterprises, supporting research and education, championing philanthropy, and staying closely connected to the communities we serve.

Thanks to the growth of our cafés, catering, vending machines, and the Cairns Hospital

car park, we once again covered all operating costs.

This ensures that every dollar donated went directly to improving health outcomes across our region.

Together, we raised more than \$3.2 million, including \$584,045 from Friends of the Foundation groups, and made strong progress toward our Donate for DaNi campaign, reaching \$3.53 million of the \$4.3 million goal to bring a surgical robot to Cairns Hospital.

During the past year, the Foundation provided more than \$1.19 million in funding to support essential medical equipment and health care

improvements across the region.

Since 1997, we've invested more than \$29 million to improve health outcomes for Far North Queensland.

This impact is powered by nearly 1000 volunteers who contributed more than 26,000 hours in support of patients, families, events, and local health initiatives.

To our volunteers, donors, partners and staff – thank you. Your generosity, heart, and belief in better health care drive everything we do.

Together, we're keeping health care closer to home and creating a healthier future for Far North Queensland.

Volunteers

Volunteers are the heart and soul of the Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation.

Our amazing Friends of the Foundation (FoF) groups have done it again — raising an incredible **\$584,045 across 11 regional teams.**

When combined with central fundraising, we've reached a total of **\$3,298,307** across the region this year. That's all thanks to our almost **1,000 dedicated volunteers** (aka our "Purple Angels") who generously gave more than **26,000 hours** of their time.

Whether it's supporting patients and families, helping out at events, or driving local health initiatives, our volunteers make a real difference every single day.



Some of the regional hospital equipment funded by Friends of the Foundation

Hospital / Site	Investment & Equipment Highlights
Atherton Hospital	Over \$220,000 in equipment: Fujifilm ultrasound, electric shower chairs, chemotherapy chairs, hospital beds, and pressure relief systems to enhance inpatient care and deliver cancer treatment closer to home.
Innisfail Hospital	Over \$48,000 in items: transducer for ultrasound, vital signs monitors, breast pumps, gym equipment, a falls prevention system, video conferencing tools, and maternity equipment.
Mareeba Hospital	Over \$128,000 in essential items: patient monitors, Lucas CPR device, infant incubator, transfer trolleys, bariatric chairs, and otoscopy tools.
Dimbulah Primary Health Centre	AccuVein system to improve needle placement, decision-making, and patient care.
Mossman Hospital	Infusion treatment chairs and an ice machine, providing comfort for patients undergoing lengthy therapies.
Gordonvale Hospital	Transfer trolleys, pressure-relieving mattresses and cushions, and wheelchairs to aid mobility and prevent falls.
Georgetown & Herberton	Upgraded environments through outdoor furniture, shade sails, and furnishings to improve comfort and usability for patients and families.
Tully Hospital	Care packs for patients with rheumatic heart disease, prepared for Tully and surrounding areas.

These regionally-driven enhancements have helped to ensure that our communities receive equitable access to modern equipment and compassionate care.



Research & Innovation

The Foundation committed **\$319,775** in research and education grants during the past year.

This included **\$284,078** for research and **\$35,697** for education, reflecting year-on-year growth from the 2023–2024 period.

These investments continue to build clinical capability and support long-term improvements in health outcomes throughout Far North Queensland.



\$3,298,307 RAISED IN 2024-2025

Since inception (1997), contributed \$29,017,143 million in funding to improve health care outcomes across the region.

Containers for Change Initiative

Our Containers for Change initiative continues to make a big impact — not just for the environment, but for our fundraising efforts too.

In 2024–2025, the program expanded beyond hospital sites into corporate and community locations, with 55 collection bins now set up across Cairns Hospital, the Care Coordinator Centre, GHD Building, Grafton Street, BDO Cairns, and the Diabetes Centre.

Thanks to this growth, we collected 4,746.4 kg of eligible containers, which is more than double last year's total of 1,860.5 kg.

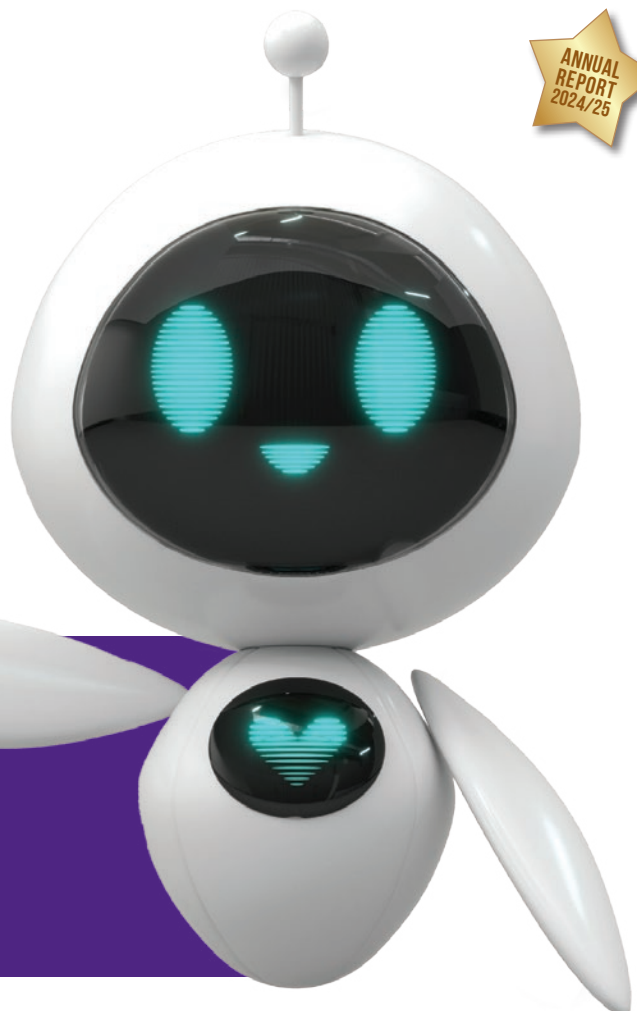


Fundraising Events

We've made great strides toward our \$4.3 million goal for the Donate for DaNi campaign.

In total we've raised an impressive \$3,536,606. That means we're now less than \$1 million away from making this life-changing technology a reality for Cairns Hospital.

Once funded, this advanced surgical robot will be a game-changer for our region by improving precision, speeding up recovery times, and leading to better outcomes for patients. Plus, it's expected to help attract and keep top surgical talent right here in Far North Queensland!



Donate for DaNi
\$3,536,606
million

QSuper Cardiac Challenge
\$327,000



Trinity Advisory Christmas Lunch
\$411,000



NuNu Restaurant Melbourne Cup
\$120,000





Big Wins

The 2024–2025 financial year was one of momentum and transformation for the Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation. A time when bold ideas came to life and lasting impact was delivered across the region.

Our commercial operations took a major leap forward with the launch of 24/7 fresh food vending at Cairns Hospital, stocked daily by our chefs and aligned with Queensland's *A Better Choice* campaign. From cafés to catering and car parking, our self-funded model continued to shine, covering all operational costs so that every cent donated goes directly to health care.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters and the tireless efforts of our fundraising team, Friends of the Foundation groups, and volunteers, vital equipment and services were delivered across the Cairns and Hinterland and Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Services, from cardiology and paediatrics to maternity, emergency, and rehabilitation.

Their dedication continues to be the heartbeat of the Foundation's success.

A \$210,823 pro bono contribution from local builders and suppliers transformed our office space into a vibrant, functional hub — achieved entirely without dipping into donor funds. And across every project and event, the spirit of community shone brightly — whether through hospital trolleys, events, or sizzling barbecues.

The launch of our new website was another major step forward, making it easier than ever for donors, CHHHS staff, and the wider community to connect with our work.

Backed by our 2024–2028 Strategic Plan, these achievements reflect the energy, heart, and generosity that define everything we do — building a healthier future for Far North Queensland.



Projects Delivered

From Cairns to the Cape, FNQHF continues to make health care better and more accessible for everyone in our region.

In 2024–2025, the Foundation directed over **\$1.19 million** into vital equipment, services, and support programs that directly benefit patients, families, and frontline health care workers.

Every item funded, whether a state-of-the-art cardiac tool or a mural in a children’s waiting room, was chosen with great care to meet real, local needs.

Thanks to our incredible donors, volunteers, and Friends of the Foundation groups, we’ve transformed emergency rooms, operating theatres, maternity units, rehab spaces, and more.

From cutting-edge tech to simple comforts, this year’s equipment has supported faster recoveries, safer procedures, and more compassionate care.

And the best part? These upgrades are helping to keep care closer to home for the entire Far North Queensland region.



In Loving Memory: Robyn Boundy



Last year, we said goodbye to a remarkable woman whose unwavering dedication and community spirit will remain etched in the heart of the Far North forever.

Robyn Boundy, a beloved board member and cherished friend of the Foundation, passed away in 2025 after a brief illness. Her loss was deeply felt not only within our organisation but across the many communities she touched with her compassion, leadership, and fierce advocacy for better health services in regional Queensland.

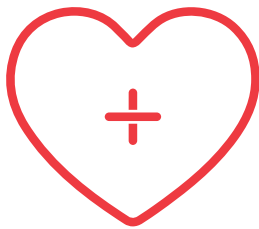
Since joining our board in January 2020, Robyn poured her heart into everything she did, from her instrumental work with the Mareeba FoF committee, to her pivotal role in advocating for rural health care equity. A natural leader and tireless volunteer, she also chaired the CHHHS Community Consultative Committee’s Hinterland Hub and the Tablelands Health Community Council, while actively contributing to several other community organisations throughout her lifetime.

We remain incredibly grateful for Robyn’s service, and even more grateful to have known her.



SNAPSHOT: Equipment funded in 2024–2025

CAIRNS HOSPITAL



CARDIOLOGY & THORACIC

Cardiopulmonary and ECG equipment, supporting diagnosis and treatment within the Department of Thoracic Medicine and Cardiology, in addition to **a fleet of echo beds and a new cardiac outreach vehicle**, ensuring cardiac services can reach communities throughout the region.

REHABILITATION

A **Motomed Muvi rehabilitation system**, aiding patient mobility and recovery across a wide range of conditions.



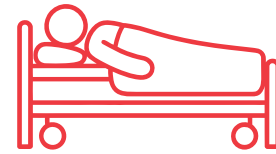
SURGERY

A **Myosure Fluent Fluid Management System** to improve safety and efficiency in surgical procedures at Cairns Hospital.

ONCOLOGY & PAEDIATRICS

Paediatric oncology equipment, including **digital stethoscopes, ear thermometers** and a **vein-visualisation device** to improve cannulation success.

Cancer care packs, thermoregulation blankets, and **a range of comfort items** for patients undergoing treatment.



OLDER PERSONS' CARE

A **portable bladder scanner** and **10 specialised Talley mattresses** to reduce pressure injuries and support complex care needs in the Older Persons Integrated Health Service (OPIHS) and the Sub-Acute Care Unit (SACU) units.



MATERNITY & WOMEN'S HEALTH

Training tools and models for maternity and women's health teams, including **perineal repair trainers** and **pelvic education models**.



EMERGENCY

Environmental enhancements such as **paediatric emergency department wall graphics** and a **children's waiting room mural**.

SMITHFIELD DIALYSIS UNIT

Gym equipment, canvas art, and a **karaoke machine** – small touches making a big difference in patient wellbeing and morale.

These purchases have improved frontline care and training at Cairns Hospital, while also helping to make clinical environments more compassionate and patient-centric.

These regionally-driven enhancements have helped to ensure our communities receive equitable access to modern equipment and compassionate care.

The Foundation also made targeted investments to support cardiac outreach in Cape York and the Torres Strait.

These included:

Area	Equipment Highlights
Cape and Torres Strait	A fully modified cardiac outreach vehicle, echo equipment, and portable diagnostic tools. Freight and logistics support to deliver equipment to Weipa, Thursday Island, and Bamaga.

Looking Forward

As we look to the future, we're filled with excitement and optimism, and it's all thanks to the unwavering support of our amazing community.

There are so many opportunities ahead! We're working closely with CHHHS and TCHHS to enhance services where they're needed most. We're investing in our incredible health care workforce, growing our social enterprises, and embracing technology to innovate the way we deliver care and support.

And yes, we're dreaming big. Think more training, more research, and a strong push toward Cairns Hospital reaching tertiary status. We want Far North Queensland to be a place where world-class health care is the norm, not the exception.



Our strategic focus will keep us grounded in what matters most:



Impact

Supporting projects that make a real difference to the health of our communities.



Social Enterprise

Growing our ventures to fuel long-term sustainability.



Philanthropy & Fundraising

Building strong, generous partnerships.



Engagement

Strengthening relationships with our volunteers, donors and stakeholders.



Region & Community Focus

Keeping care local, and support close to home.



Culture & Accountability

Fostering a values-driven, transparent, and forward-thinking team.

“To our donors, volunteers, partners, FoF groups, and everyone cheering us on: thank you.

Your belief in what we do is the heartbeat of our success. With your continued support, we'll keep pushing boundaries, creating impact, and delivering care with compassion, right here in Far North Queensland.

The future is bright and we're just getting started.”

Gina Hogan, Chief Executive Officer, Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation

Christmas arrives early

Christmas arrived in Weipa a few months early this year, when the Weipa Hospital Friends of the Foundation hosted their inaugural Christmas in July function.

Hosted at the Albatross Bay Resort, the event drew more than 80 festive attendees, all gathered for a good cause – supporting the growth of health services in the region.

Weipa Hospital Friends of the Foundation is a subsidiary of the Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation – a locally-based charity

that operates from Tully to the Torres Strait.

Attendees enjoyed a spectacular themed three-course dinner, raffles, auctions, live entertainment and the opportunity to win amazing prizes.

All funds raised in Weipa by the Weipa Hospital Friends of the Foundation will stay local to be used to improve local health services.

More than \$4000 was raised on the night, with plans underway to develop a wishlist of locally-needed equipment.



Mareeba

A TRANQUIL new space has been unveiled at Mareeba Hospital to support patients and families during end-of-life care.

The Serenity Garden, located adjacent to the hospital's newly opened Palliative Care Room, offers a peaceful outdoor retreat designed to promote comfort, reflection, and emotional wellbeing.

Funded through donations to the Mareeba Hospital Friends of the Foundation, a subsidiary of the Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation, it is the culmination of several local donations.

Mareeba Friends chairman Tom Braes said the benefit of the space was immeasurable.

"People in end-of-life care appreciate beauty and serenity outside the confines of the

hospital ward. This garden is a gift from the community to those who need it most," Mr Braes said.

The project was made possible through generous contributions from a private donor, Mareeba Lions, Mareeba Rotary, and FNQ Growers, with a total investment of \$24,000. The garden features a rock garden, paving, decorative screening, pot plants, benches and a table, shade cloth, and a calming water feature.

Mareeba Hospital Director of Nursing and Midwifery Michelle Bombardieri said it was the perfect accompaniment to the newly opened Palliative Care Room.

"This room provides comfortable, private and self-contained facilities for patients and their families," Ms Bombardieri said.

"To complement this, the Mareeba Friends of the Foundation supported the creation of the Serenity Garden - a private courtyard that allows families to remain close to their loved

ones while accessing a peaceful, non-clinical space. The garden supports holistic care by offering fresh air, reducing psychological distress, and promoting rest and comfort," she said.

Foundation CEO Gina Hogan paid tribute to the generous Mareeba community for once again supporting local health care.

"Mareeba locals know that when they support their local Friends group, the funds stay local to enhance local health services. Palliative care is just as important as other aspects of health care and it's humbling to be able to play a small role in easing that journey," Mrs Hogan said.



friends of the foundation

Supporting our community

Cow Bay

Twenty-eight years ago, Michele Lamond started treating residents living north of the Daintree River for all manner of illnesses and injuries, out of the back of a Holden Jackaroo.

The Director of Nursing of Cow Bay Primary Health Centre put so many k's on the odometer of her four-wheel drive, driving around the rainforest's bumpy backroads, she joked that she 'blew up' the engine.

'They told me, they're not giving me any more cars!' Michele said.

With the nomadic nurse model clearly not sustainable for a community of nearly 1000 people, in the early-2000s, the then-Douglas Shire Council gifted the former Visitor Information Centre at Diwan to Queensland Health, as a stand-in base of operations for Michele.

The old timber building provided a base for Michele to operate from, but it was never designed to be a medical facility.

Treatment spaces were too small, door frames too narrow, and there was a lack of storage.

There was no privacy, as patients waiting their turn to see a doctor on the benches outside the clinic could literally hear the previous patient's entire consult through paper-thin walls.

The toilet was external and attracted creepy crawlies including snakes and goannas.

And cassowaries, while amazing to look at while wandering through the ancient rainforest, had a habit of charging the former clinic's glass windows.

Nearly three decades later, standing outside the shiny new medical centre that has been officially opened as her new workplace, Michele is amazed at the difference.

The new purpose-built centre has a larger, more welcoming indoor waiting area, more spaces for specialist appointments, greater patient privacy, is better equipped for health emergencies, and has a new helicopter landing pad.

'It's the most amazing feeling: the whole facility is just so beautiful,' Michele said.

'Everyone we've had coming to visit and work



out of here in the past two weeks keeps asking 'are we still in Cow Bay, or is this just a different universe we've just walked into?'

The new medical facility has been designed to be 'rainforest-proof', fitted out with solar panels, battery banks, multiple fuel and water tanks, to make it energy efficient and self-sufficient in severe weather for up to two weeks without power.

Tully

Patients needing care at Tully Hospital will experience state-of-the-art comfort thanks to hard-working fundraising volunteers who have donated more than \$80,000 worth of equipment.

Two patient monitors have been bought for the Emergency Department resuscitation and procedure rooms, pressure injury prevention mattresses bought to keep patients more comfortable if they do not move much in their bed, and a helipad retrieval trolley purchased to assist with transport of critical patients to and from the hospital.

Tully Hospital Friends of the Foundation president Ms Reis said the patient monitors were bought through selling raffle tickets at the Euramo Hotel and Mt Tyson Hotel.

"One of the mattresses was purchased from a donation from the Saint Gerard celebrations held only a couple of weeks ago, and the other equipment was from high teas, a colour run at Feluga School, Christmas street party, ham wheel, Tully Tigers canteen and donations from the general community," Ms Reis said.

Tully Hospital Acting Director of Nursing Diane Brown said the hydraulic helicopter trolley has made transferring the sickest patients up to the helipad, much easier and safer to navigate.

"It has made the ride up the incline at the back of the hospital a lot smoother and quicker, which is important when time is critical and the Tully weather is inclement," Ms Brown said.

"The pressure-relieving mattresses are a welcome addition to the Pressure Injury Prevention mattresses we already have. As part of Comprehensive Care of our patients, our aim is to reduce pressure, shear and friction of our patients' fragile skin and having more of these devices support our objectives," she said.

"The Phillips monitors are essential for obtaining vital signs and detecting patient deterioration. They've been positioned in critical areas of the emergency department and will assist in providing comprehensive patient data promptly, to support early diagnosis and decision-making."



Cafe award

The Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation has been named the winner in the Transforming Food and Drink Environments category at the inaugural 2025 A Better Choice (ABC) Healthcare Awards, recognising its leadership in reshaping food offerings at Cairns Hospital.

The Foundation's commercial operations - including dCafe, SeaBreeze Café, fresh food vending, and catering - are run as social enterprises, reinvesting profits into local health care improvements. The award celebrates the Foundation's commitment to healthier choices, community wellbeing, and innovation in food service delivery.

"Our cafés are more than just places to eat - they're a vital service for the Cairns Hospital community," Foundation CEO Gina Hogan said.

"We're proud to offer nutritious options that support wellbeing. And for those looking to support our work even further, ordering catering through FNQ Foundation Feast is a fantastic way to do so. Every coffee order, snack, meal, or piece of fruit helps us improve

health services in the region. We are all so proud of our cafe and catering staff and the incredible work they do every day," Mrs Hogan said.

"I am so proud to recognise the excellent contributions of the winners in our inaugural awards," Health and Wellbeing Queensland Chief Executive Dr Robyn Littlewood said.

"The ABC Healthcare program is driving real change across the state, supporting hospitals to increase healthy food and drink options in their cafés and vending machines. Improving the food and drink environments

in Queensland health facilities benefits the millions of visitors to hospitals each year, and more than 100,000 staff who work in Queensland hospital and health services."

Health and Wellbeing Queensland Deputy Chief Executive Gemma Hodgetts said the criteria for this award were based on the introduction of healthier products to the menu, participation in Health and Wellbeing Queensland's Pick Me campaign to identify the healthiest options, and innovation in the food and drink options available for sale, along with the displays and layout.



Foundation cafe team (L to R): Jessica Kochannek, Michael Hooper, Michael Orford and Stuart Arber.

QSuper Cardiac Challenge raises funds for FNQ

MORE than 190 cyclists took on the annual QSuper Cardiac Challenge Cairns to Cooktown ride from 20-22 September, raising more than \$256,000. Now in its 19th year, it's an epic three-day journey through 333km of lush tropical landscapes.

The Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation hosts the challenge each year, with CEO Gina Hogan saying it was yet another incredible event.

"This year we saw almost 200 riders across 25 teams, supported by 100 amazing volunteers and countless moments of teamwork, determination, and community spirit," Mrs Hogan said.

"I am so proud of our team and the work they put in. It's a privilege to be part of something that brings people together for a cause that truly makes a difference," she said.

"A huge thank you to every rider, volunteer, donor, sponsor, and supporter who made this possible.

Next year will mark a special milestone for the Cardiac Challenge, as it enters its 20th year.

In partnership with QSuper, part of Australian Retirement Trust (ART), every dollar raised helps cardiac patients in the far north's remote and regional communities. The funds go straight to equipment and local services - and donations are still rolling in.

For the past three years, ART team members have jumped on their bikes and joined the ride as part of the Super QCrew.

While the ride may be over for 2025, the heartwarming stories have only just begun.

ART General Manager of Commercial Relationships Patrick Twomey just finished his second ride with the team, with this year being the most successful yet.



Cancer Care Hub underway

Patients will be able to view the Coral Sea from a dedicated outdoor balcony, as part of a \$5.6 million upgrade of cancer care facilities at Cairns Hospital.

Construction has started on the Cancer Care Hub at the hospital, funded via a partnership between Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service (CHHS), and Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation.

Through donations to the Foundation, the community has contributed \$1.5 million towards the project, with the Queensland Government providing the remaining funding.

Once completed in 2026, the works will include:

A dedicated outdoor balcony space on level

2, D Block to create a welcoming space for patients, friends, and family.

A refurbishment of the day oncology treatment space in the Liz Plummer Cancer Care Centre.

A larger pharmacy space to allow for local manufacture of chemotherapy drugs.

A larger meeting room with upgraded technology for teleconferencing with rural and remote patients.

CHHS Chief Executive Leena Singh said the refurbishment would improve the patient experience through innovative treatments and local access, especially as demand for cancer services continue to grow in the Far North region.

There had been a 33 per cent increase in cancer activity at the Liz Plummer Cancer

Care Centre in the past five years.

“Cancer is the greatest cause of premature death in Far North Queensland,” Ms Singh said.



Foundation CEO Gina Hogan with CHHS CE Leena Singh.

Foundation gets facelift

More than \$210,000 in donated goods and services has transformed the Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation’s office — its first major renovation in over a decade — into a modern, functional space purpose-built to support the charity’s expanding role in health care across the region.

With only two original walls retained, the redesigned office was made possible thanks to the generosity of local builders, architects, and suppliers who contributed everything from design and construction to furniture and IT infrastructure. The renovation simply could not have happened without the generosity of the community.

Foundation CEO Gina Hogan said the renovation wasn’t just about improving our workplace — it was about enhancing the charity’s capability to support public health services across Far North Queensland.

“There’s always more work to be done, and this space gives our team the functionality needed to keep delivering for the community,” Mrs Hogan said.

The project was led by Keir QLD and CA

Architects — the same teams who helped create the Foundation’s first dedicated fundraising office space at D Block at Cairns Hospital more than a decade ago — making this latest upgrade a meaningful full-circle moment.

“Our new space is welcoming, efficient and designed to support the people behind the scenes — our staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to improve health outcomes in the region,” Mrs Hogan said. “We’re incredibly grateful to the local businesses who made it possible. Their generosity is helping us continue to grow our impact where it matters most.”

Kier QLD Director Cambell Balderson said

the company was pleased to support such a worthy local cause.

“We have a long association with the Foundation and we hope the staff, volunteers and visitors really enjoy the new facility for many years to come,” Mr Balderson said.

The Foundation extends its heartfelt thanks to the following contributors:

Keir QLD, CA Architects, Hoppen’s Floorworld, McGahan Plumbing, Ultimate Linings, Vellacorp Painting Services, Guardian Electrical, Future IT, Chapman Foundation, CMG Engineers, McLeod’s Office Furniture, Status Signs, Axon Property Services, G James Glass & Aluminium, AAB Printer, and NBN Setup.



Horsepower meets heart

All previous records at the Nu Nu Restaurant Melbourne Cup have been blown out of the water, with more than \$200,000 raised as 260 philanthropists gathered on the shores of the Coral Sea.

The 22nd annual Nu Nu Restaurant Melbourne Cup delivered an unforgettable fusion of glamour, gastronomy, and generosity, set against the breathtaking backdrop of the Coral Sea. Guests experienced an unparalleled afternoon of philanthropy, fuelled by the thrill of a horse race on the beach – a spectacle that has become synonymous with this iconic event.

From the moment the champagne corks popped, attendees were immersed in an atmosphere of celebration and purpose. The event showcased the very best of Far North Queensland hospitality, with Nu Nu's award-winning culinary team curating a menu celebrating local produce and coastal flavours.

Funds raised from this year's event contributed to the Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation's Donate for DaNi campaign and added to the \$525,000 raised in the previous 21 years.

This year's tally means the event has contributed more than \$721,000 to improving health outcomes, in the past 22 years.

Nu Nu Restaurant co-owner Mo Rowbottom said the "Saddle up in Scarlet" theme was well adopted by attendees, with the venue stunningly decorated by Two Tribes.

"We really couldn't pull this off without our incredible staff, our donors, the Hospital Foundation volunteers and of course the attendees who give so generously," Mrs Rowbottom said.

"We've seen an amazing day where horse race winners bought 'extra' raffle tickets, where the winner of our horse race on the beach donated part of his winnings to the cause, but particularly auction donors then buying

other auctions or even their own – that's how dedicated our community is to this cause," she said.

The highlight of the day? A heart-stopping horse race along Palm Cove's pristine shoreline – a tradition that continues to captivate and delight.

As the horses thundered across the sand, the crowd cheered not only for the sport but for the cause: raising vital funds to support community health initiatives and charitable projects across the region.



Nu Nu Restaurant co-owner Mo Rowbottom with winning horse "owner" Ross Gersbach, winning horse I'm Not Sure, ridden by Naomi Hogan.

Foundation honours service

The Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation has announced a leadership update, reflecting both continuity and renewal in its commitment to improving health care across the region.

Chairman Dr Ken Chapman has been reappointed as chair, maintaining his longstanding role at the helm. His dedication since the Foundation's inception in 1997 has been instrumental in driving initiatives that enhance health care services in Far North Queensland.

Board members Pat Bailey and Professor John McBride have stepped down from their board positions. Mrs Bailey, who joined the board in May 2000, has contributed 25 years of outstanding service.

"That's an incredible contribution to the community over many years, aside from her many other voluntary roles," Dr Chapman said. Professor John McBride will continue to serve as a member of the Foundation's Research and Education Committee, ensuring continuity in the Foundation's strategic

focus on medical research and professional development.

"His contributions have been instrumental in setting up our research support program – he has been the driving force behind that," Dr Chapman said.

Joining the board is Lesley Ray, a highly experienced fundraiser with a distinguished background at the Mater Foundation. Her expertise in philanthropic strategy and donor engagement is expected to strengthen

the Foundation's fundraising efforts and community outreach. Originally from Mareeba, Ms Ray holds a Master of Business Research, is a Certified Fundraising Executive and has previously been on the board of CFRE International as well as being a Fellow and past national Chairman of the Fundraising Institute of Australia.

Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service Chief Executive Leena Singh also has joined the Foundation's board.



Reflections

One of the Foundation's longest serving volunteers has been fondly remembered by her family and colleagues.

Bev Lang sadly passed away recently, despite receiving ongoing blood cancer treatment since 2011.

Foundation Volunteer Program Coordinator Skye Reeves said Mrs Lang spent 24 years with the team and was still working at her beloved B Block information desk each week until the recent measles outbreak.

Despite spending her youth and early working life in Sydney and New South Wales, Bev and husband Peter moved to Cairns in 1993.

After a few years Bev found her way to the Hospital Foundation where Lona Hickling and several other talented ladies basically founded the craft activities supply the hospital patrons via stalls, etc. Those ladies worked as volunteers at home, dedicating virtually all their spare time for the good of the Foundation coffers. They worked as a team and highly respected one another for they each had different talents. These were the days where cooperation was key and everyone respected one another. Bev always bought and paid for her own inputs and never asked the Foundation to fund those as she considered that to be her direct contribution to the hospital.



Cruise winner

TONY Roberts feels like a winner and in this instance, he certainly is.

Mr Roberts has been buying raffle tickets through the Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation for years – and was stunned to recently receive a phone call that he had won a \$25,000 cruise around Tasmania.

He bought 20 tickets in the BDO Arrow Experience Coral Expeditions cruise – never thinking he would be the lucky winner.

“My wife’s already told me that she’s going and I’m allowed to as well,” Mr Roberts laughed.

“I’m a bit of a sucker when it comes to buying local raffle tickets. If it’s for our local hospital, I’m always there buying tickets because you never know when you or your family might need it,” he said.



We can support you
24 hours a day and 7 days a week

Support Services

Our Support Workers are chosen by you! and are ready to assist you with your individual needs.

How we can support you to achieve your NDIS goals:

- Community Access, we have fully accessible vans
- Transport
- Fishing
- Sailing
- Golf
- Arts & Crafts
- Games
- Cooking/Meal Prep
- Walking/Hiking
- Budget Planning
- Basic Computer Skills
- Domestic Assistance
- Assisting to attend appointments
- Provide companionship and conversation
- Personal Care



We love to learn new things too, do you have a favourite activity? just let our team know

Your Choice matters

Pinnacle Support COORDINATION & SERVICES

We are passionate about
making a difference in your life

At Pinnacle we support our clients in achieving their goals to maintain their continued independence. We are passionate about the needs of our clients and focused on connecting them with the correct supports in their community

Support Coordination

Our Support Coordinators take the time to help you understand your NDIS plan. We will assist you to tailor your plan so it is 100% personalised to you and your goals

We will work with you to ensure a mix of supports are used to increase your capacity to maintain relationships, manage service delivery tasks, live more independently and be included in your community

Contact us for a chat

1800 228 228

or pop into our Regional Hub 2/130 Abbott Street, Cairns
info@pinnaclesupport.com.au

You're part of something bigger

Your QSuper account is managed by Australian Retirement Trust.

That means you're with one of the biggest super funds in Australia, with a focus on strong long-term returns. One that believes in the power of super to change lives and create a better future for all Australians.

We're on a mission to help you awaken your super and unleash its monster potential.

Find out more qsuper.qld.gov.au/bigger



QSuper products are issued by Australian Retirement Trust Pty Ltd (ABN 88 010 720 840, AFSL 228975) as trustee for Australian Retirement Trust (ABN 60 905 115 063). Consider the PDS and TMD before deciding at qsuper.qld.gov.au/pds.



HOW TO CONTACT OR SUPPORT US

📍 Ground Floor Block E Car Park Corner of Grove & Digger Streets

✉️ PO Box 957 Cairns Q 4870 📞 07 4226 6553 @ ceo@fnqhf.org.au

@ admin@fnqhf.org.au 🗎 fundraising@fnqhf.org.au 🤝 volunteer@fnqhf.org.au

🌐 www.fnqhf.org.au

