



**AsthmaWA**

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

*Asthma WA wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we deliver our services to the communities, the Whadjuk (Perth region) people.*

*We acknowledge their enduring connection to the lands, waterways and communities and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.*

# Who we are

## OUR VISION

Inspiring Western Australians facing respiratory health challenges to live a better life.

## OUR MISSION

Delivering the right services, advice and education through access to best practice, multi-discipline experts, to help West Australians facing respiratory health challenges live a better life.

## OUR VALUES

### **Bold**

We are courageous and confident. We always aim to try new things to fill the gap for people facing challenges with respiratory health.

### **Inclusive**

We genuinely care about our clients and are inclusive. We are open, easy to talk to, giving time for complex and easy challenges alike.

### **Collaborative**

We listen and evolve together, helping and supporting each other. We truly believe in collaboration.

### **Excellence**

We are committed to excellence in everything we do. We want everyone to be able to lean on our expertise and advice. We are inspired by best practice.

### **Passionate**

We are passionate, vibrant and dynamic. We love trying new things to fill the gap.

# About Asthma WA

Asthma WA has been helping Western Australians breathe better for over 60 years. We provide education, clinical support and diagnosis for people with respiratory conditions including asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. Our purpose is for everyone to have access to personalised respiratory support to live their best life.

## OUR SERVICES

### **Education, Advice and Support.**

Asthma WA has a multi-disciplinary team of Respiratory Healthcare Professionals who provide access to free, community-based education and support.

### **Diagnosis**

At the point of diagnosis, our multi-disciplinary team delivers best practice, clinical care to ensure the correct diagnosis for all. We help where Doctors may not have the time to provide in depth education and support. We have four major satellite lung function testing sites, with additional satellite hubs in planning

### **Resources**

We always aim to try new things to fill all gaps for people facing challenges with respiratory health and be imaginative. We have more than 50 resources for asthma and COPD on the latest knowledge, research and guidelines. We tailor resources for both intervention and support.

### **Community engagement**

Our community engagement allows inclusive access to expert education, advice and support to help our consumers navigate the healthcare system, in their own community. We provide education and training in individual and group settings for people with a respiratory condition and those around them – carers, friends, colleagues and family members.

## Contents

Message from the Chair	4
Stories from our consumers   Patrick	6
About Asthma and COPD	7
Stories from our consumers   Linda	9
Our Services	10
Our Impact	12
Stories from our consumers   Marcus	13
Our Year in Review	14
Financials	17
Our Supporters and Partners	18



# Message from the Chair

Welcome to Asthma WA's Annual Report. This is an opportunity for us to reflect on our achievements over the 2022/2023 financial year and how our organisation continues to provide best practice support, education, diagnosis and advice to people in WA with respiratory conditions.

As WA's only dedicated charity providing free, personalised respiratory services including education and lung function testing to people with asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and related respiratory conditions, we are clear on our purpose to inspire people facing challenges to live a better quality of life.

It's been a busy year for the team at Asthma WA. First and foremost, Anne Hallam joined Asthma WA as our new CEO in May 2023. Anne brings nearly 20 years strategic and leadership experience and joined us at a pivotal time to lead Asthma WA through the first year of our new three-year strategy. This strategy has some exciting plans including expansion to Aboriginal Health, Regional and Remote communities and a renewed focus on our financial sustainability, to grow on our success from 2022/2023.

Over the past year we continued to expand our paediatric lung function testing services, with five sites now offering comprehensive lung function testing and diagnosis. We were delighted to have also added adult lung function testing clinics to these sites to meet an unmet need in the community.

Our clinical team continued to take our services on the road over the past 12 months, providing clinical services to more regional and remote locations. Our team travelled in-land to Leanora, Laverton, Kalgoorlie and Bunbury. These visits helped us continue to understand more about what our regional and remote consumers need in their asthma and COPD journeys and how we can best tailor our services and education.

We have continued to provide our Health Professional upskilling online program, which has been very popular this year, with more than two thousand medical and allied health professionals attending our webinars or watching the recordings at a later date. This enables us to provide education to people throughout the state at a time that suits their busy schedules.



We want to thank everyone who have helped us to reach this point. In particular, we'd like to thank the invaluable support of the Department of Health, WA Primary Health Alliance, WA Country Health Service, McCusker Foundation, Stan Perron Charitable Foundation and our friends at Telethon, as well as the many generous individual donors. We are so thankful for your kind support.

We would also like to thank the amazing contribution of our Clinical Advisory Group who continue to provide expert advice to our services, and the members of our board. Special mention to Cathal Smith who will be retiring this year after fifteen years on the board.

We also must acknowledge the incredible team at Asthma WA who support thousands of people each year through tailored education, diagnosis and community and school education programs. The team tirelessly dedicate themselves to delivering outstanding services. Thank you for your dedication to our consumers and our mission.

Thank you for your support over the past financial year. We look forward to continuing our journey with you in FY24.

## Vale - Barry Rubie

Sadly, Asthma WA acknowledges the passing of Life Member Mr Barry Rubie in 2022. Barry served as the very first Executive Director of Asthma WA from 1980 to 1992. At the time of his retirement, Barry had grown the organisation from two and a half staff to a team of 10. After retiring, Barry joined the Board in 1995 and served until 2010. He was issued the Order of Australia in 2010 for his services to the community. Even in retirement, Barry maintained a keen interest in the work of Asthma WA as a Life Member.

**We thank and salute Mr Barry Rubie for his dedication and commitment to Asthma WA. We simply would not be the organisation we are today without his drive and leadership.**



## Stories from our consumers | Patrick

Patrick was just 18 months old when his mum Samantha first heard the warning signs of asthma. She held his tiny body as he wheezed and gasped, trying to suck air into his wet lungs. Having asthma herself, Samantha rushed him to the emergency department, where he was admitted immediately and put on oxygen. It started a nightmare affecting every corner of their lives for six years.

Diagnosing asthma in young children can be challenging because they are often treated based solely on the symptoms they display. It means parents like Samantha are left helpless and reacting to life-threatening attacks in real-time, while their child spends time in and out of hospital. As a single mum, Samantha was exhausted. Barely able to sleep due to Patrick's breathing, she began suffering from chronic migraines herself. The daily juggle of keeping Patrick safe and managing when he was in the hospital or missing school, with a full-time job and her other children to care for, was taking its toll – Samantha knew something had to change.

For years, Samantha called Patrick 'the chilled one', in the family. While his friends would spend hours playing and running around, Patrick would prefer to just watch or spend time on the couch. In reality, Patrick was not getting enough oxygen into his body, leaving him constantly exhausted. As the years passed, and the GP and emergency department visits continued, Patrick was still never officially diagnosed with asthma.

A desperate late-night web search led her to Asthma WA.

Soon after, an appointment with our respiratory specialist Dr. Stephen Oo and Clinical Nurse Specialist, Kate Hipwell led to the diagnosis Patrick so desperately needed. Today, Patrick is a different child. We are proud of the impact we make in the lives of people like Samantha and Patrick.



# Asthma in Australia

**One in Nine**  
(2.7 Million)



Australians live with asthma, including over 237,000 in Western Australia.

In our vulnerable Indigenous community

**This figure is almost twice as high**

## MORTALITY RATES IN

Over **400** australians die from asthma each year



Asthma mortality rates are higher for:

- People living in remote areas
- People living in areas of low socio-economic status
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples<sup>5</sup>

## QUALITY OF LIFE

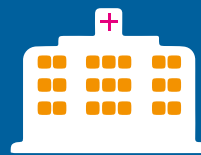
Whilst not everyone with asthma is hospitalised, poor management contributes to:

**decreased**

- Quality of life
- Poor sleep quality
- Fatigue
- Depression<sup>1</sup>



## HOSPITALISATIONS



**80%**

of Hospital admissions due to asthma are potentially avoidable<sup>5</sup>

Asthma costs the community more than

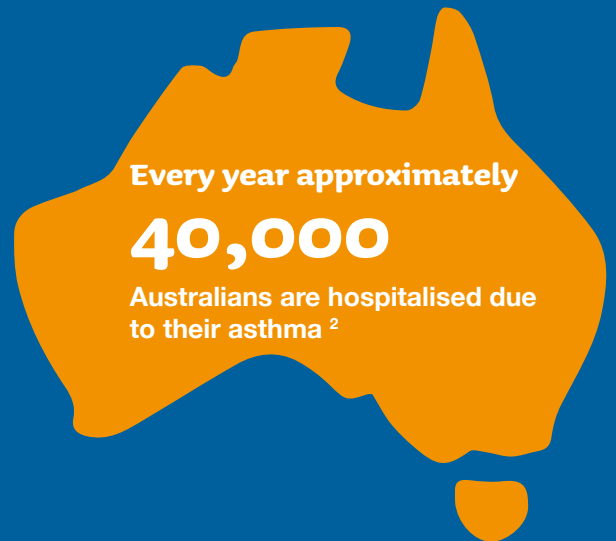
**\$24.7B**  
per year



Every year approximately

**40,000**

Australians are hospitalised due to their asthma<sup>2</sup>



**71.6%**  
of people with asthma

**do not have an Asthma Action Plan<sup>6</sup>**

**52%**

**of young people with asthma are at risk of mental illness**



**The average person with asthma has**

**2**



more days off work than someone without the condition and in children, it is the leading reason for school absenteeism.

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics (2020-21), "<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/health-conditions-and-risks/asthma/latest-release>" Asthma, ABS Website, accessed 28 October 2022.

2. AIHW 2019, Separation statistics by principal diagnosis (ICD-10-AM 10th edition), Australia 2017-18. Canberra: AIHW

3. Toelle B, Xuan W, Bird T, Abramson M, Atkinson D, Burton D, James A, Jenkins C, Johns D, Maguire G, Musk A, Walters E, Wood-Baker R, Hunter M, Graham B, Southwell P, Vollmer W, Buist A, Marks G, 2013; Respiratory symptoms and illness in older Australians: The Burden of Obstructive Lung Disease (BOLD) study. Med J Aust: 198:144-148

4. AIHW 2020, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Web Report. AIHW Car no. ACM 35. Canberra: AIHW

5. Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2020; Causes of Death, Australia 2019. Canberra: ABS

# COPD in Australia



## COPD

is a chronic lung disease that effects 14% (one in seven) people aged 40 or over <sup>3</sup>

This figure increases to **29% of Australians ages 75 or over**

Around half **do not** know that they have the condition.

Over **46,000** people have COPD<sup>1</sup> in Western Australia

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians have approximately 2.5 times the rate of COPD as other Australians.

People with COPD are **more likely**

to experience greater bodily pain than those without the condition <sup>4</sup>



## COPD MORTALITY RATES

Over

**7,000**

Australians die from COPD each year

According to the world health organisation, nearly

**90%**



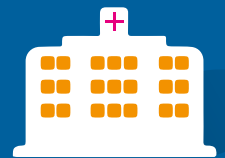
of all COPD deaths in under 70 year olds occur in low to middle socio-economic quintile.

## HOSPITALISATIONS

COPD is the second leading cause of avoidable hospital admissions.

Every year

**76,600**



people aged 45 years and over are hospitalised due to their COPD <sup>4</sup>

COPD costs the community more than **\$990M** per year



1. Australian Bureau of Statistics (2020-21), "https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/health-conditions-and-risks/asthma/latest-release" Asthma, ABS Website, accessed 28 October 2022.  
2. AIHW 2019, Separation statistics by principal diagnosis (ICD-10-AM 10th edition), Australia 2017-18. Canberra: AIHW  
3. Toelle B, Xuan W, Bird T, Abramson M, Atkinson D, Burton D, James A, Jenkins C, Johns D, Maguire G, Musk A, Walters E, Wood-Baker R, Hunter M, Graham B, Southwell P, Vollmer W, Buist A, Marks G, 2013; Respiratory symptoms and illness in older Australians: The Burden of Obstructive Lung Disease (BOLD) study. Med J Aust: 198:144-148  
4. AIHW 2020, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Web Report. AIHW Car no. ACM 35. Canberra: AIHW  
5. Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2020; Causes of Death, Australia 2019. Canberra: ABS



## Stories from our consumers | Linda

Linda Lemma has been living with both asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) for about nearly years. Linda came to Asthma WA following her discharge from hospital in 2021. She was determined to quit smoking following severe asthma attacks and was looking for help.

At 72 years old she was living independently but had recently lost her husband and was the primary caregiver for her mother, who has dementia.

Anxiety played a significant part in her daily life and as a result she's become scared to travel, and has to take her reliever everywhere she goes.

**"It gets me so scared that I think I'm going to die when I have an asthma attack" she says.**

Linda's health educator at Asthma WA, Jacqueline Rapaic provided Linda with support and resources to help manage her COPD so she could live a better quality of life.

Over the years the two have developed a great relationship and Jacqui has taught Linda breathing techniques, proper medication device usage, and other strategies to cope with her condition and her anxiety.

Despite her complex medical history, Linda actively participated in Pulmonary Rehabilitation and found solace in oil painting.

Linda's health journey has been marked by the challenge of smoking addiction. When we met Linda, she was smoking between 2 to 20 cigarettes a day. As a result of her ongoing check ins with Jacqui, Linda has now been smoke-free since October 2023.

**"Asthma WA has helped me improve her quality of life and live a healthier life"**



# What Our Service Users are Telling Us

Percentage of people surveyed reported:	2022	2021	2020
Consumers who manage their condition in a different way	<b>85</b>	85	70
Improved symptoms	<b>82</b>	74	68
Learnt new information about their condition	<b>93</b>	87	83
Report feeling anxiety or depression related to condition and covid 19	<b>31</b>	33	9
Issues with medication expense	<b>35</b>	7	11
Didn't have Asthma Action Plan	<b>19</b>	33	20
Didn't have COPD Management Plan	<b>28</b>	46	52
Biggest Challenge	<b>Playing sport 52%</b>	Playing sport 58%	Wellbeing 42%, Sleep 42%

Asthma WA are passionate about delivering services to meet the needs of our consumers. Our Asthma WA Consumer Survey has enabled us to identify trends in what our consumers are experiencing with our services, and what they need from Asthma WA.

The positive impact of our services continues to improve each year, with a steady increase in helping people change the way they manage their condition. 85% of people said that they have learnt new techniques, and 82% of people have found an improvement in their symptoms.

Additionally, 93% of people report learning new information about their respiratory condition, up by 10% over three years.

An interesting trend that has emerged through these surveys is the number of people who rate their ability to

participate in sports as their biggest challenge faced due to their respiratory condition.

Asthma WA has heard this message, and are developing connections and partnerships with sporting codes to enable us to provide education and support to children and adults, from grass roots community level through to athletes, to increase participation and confidence in exercise and sport. This helps both physical fitness and mental health, and will become a focus of our service delivery in coming years.

Lastly, we continue to see the impact of the expense of medications on our consumers, with three times as many people finding this an issue now compared to three years ago. We continue to work with Asthma Australia to support their work in advocacy and lobbying Government to impact change.

## Having an Asthma Action Plan

We can all become complacent at times, and sometimes going back to basics can have the greatest impact. We would love to close the gap even further, by ensuring everyone with asthma or COPD has an Action Plan. It could seriously save a life!

These are essential tools to maintain a good quality of life, so if you don't have an action plan, please prioritise this with your GP at your next visit.



**19%** of respondents didn't have an Asthma Action Plan

**28%** had no COPD Management Plan

## LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE: CONSUMER ADVISORY E-NETWORK

Asthma WA is committed to providing the best possible services and resources for people impacted by asthma and other respiratory conditions. You can help by joining our Consumer Advisory e-Network, a group of people impacted by lung disease who provide input into the development of resources, services and programs for Asthma WA.

In the next financial year Asthma WA will focus on reviewing our consumer resources and the Consumer Advisory e-Network will be pivotal to this work.

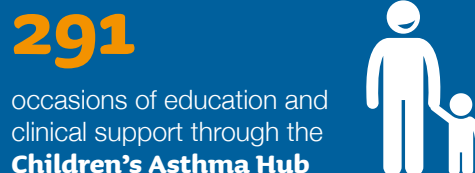
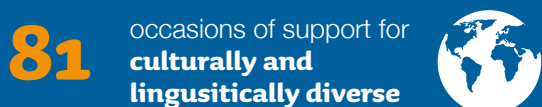
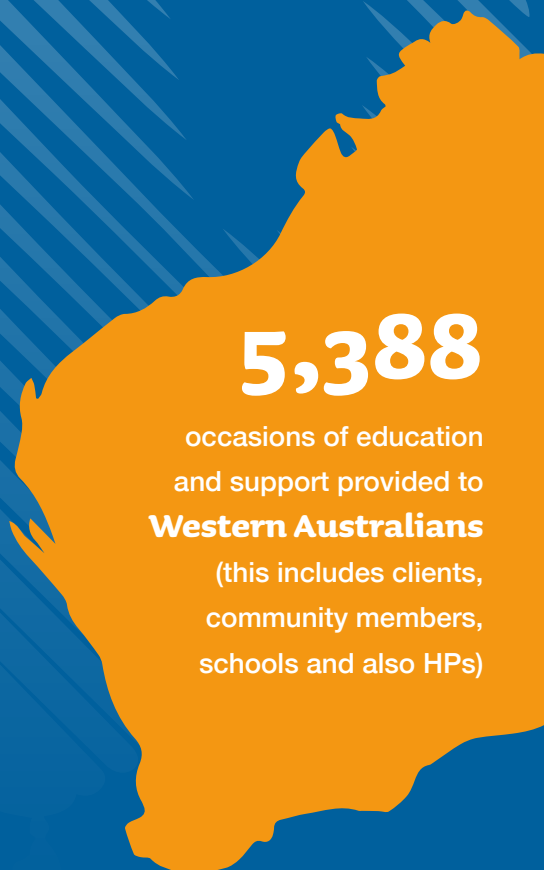
If you're interested in lending your voice, please register at [asthmawa.org.au/get-involved/consumer-advisory/](http://asthmawa.org.au/get-involved/consumer-advisory/)

*“Found out that my condition was not being managed well at all, and with their help was put on a new medication that completely erased symptoms of asthma!*

*Amazing, I thought I was just going to have to live with being short of breath all Spring and Summer.”*



# Our Impact 2022 to 2023



## Stories from our consumers | Marcus

Marcus was a rising star in the football world – he fast, agile and had a natural talent for the game. But Marcus' asthma was limiting his ability to play football. He would often have to take breaks during practice and games and was afraid of pushing himself too hard for fear of having an asthma flare-up.

Marcus first came to Asthma WA in 2021 after his performance had dropped and he was experiencing issues with his asthma. Marcus struggling to manage his asthma and was being triggered. Triggers for people with asthma vary widely and for Marcus something with the ocean or the oval was causing his asthma symptoms to flare up.

**"It was a bit of a nightmare. Being out on the field and feeling like I'm hardly breathing. I just maybe thought, well maybe this is over for me, I won't be able to pursue my dreams of being an AFL athlete."**

After running lung function testing, his tests showed a risk he had the risk of not being able to continue playing football.

Asthma WA's education and support programs helped Marcus to understand his asthma and develop a management plan that worked for his unique asthma. He learned how to use his preventer medication effectively and identified his triggers. Marcus also learned how to manage his asthma during exercise. He learned how to warm up properly, and he learned how to recognize the signs of an asthma attack.

**"Ever since Asthma WA has come, I've been able to breathe. I've been able to notice stuff about me that I've never really known before."**

With Asthma WA's help, Marcus' asthma control improved dramatically. He was able to play football without having to worry about having an attack. Two years later, Marcus regularly uses his preventer and has now been chosen for an AFL development squad.

**"Asthma WA are actually looking out for me. I'm confident that I can actually succeed, that I can keep playing the midfield instead of sitting on the bench keeping it warm for everyone else."**



# Our Year in Review

## GRANTS

### McCusker

The McCusker Respiratory Health Nurse role at Asthma WA is pivotal to the success of our growing service capability, not only for our consumers but also within our Health Services Team. Since the implementation of this role three years ago, we have continued to develop a multi-disciplinary team. The McCusker Respiratory Health Nurse allows Asthma WA to deliver a comprehensive clinical support service to an increased number of people throughout WA as well as the expansion of lung function testing and monitoring in the community. Our McCusker Respiratory Health Nurse has been involved in education and support to the wider community through clinics and Health Professional upskilling workshops.

## ABORIGINAL HEALTH

Asthma WA recognises that reconciliation is an ongoing journey that reminds us that while generations of Australians have attempted to implement meaningful change there are still disparities between health outcomes of aboriginal and non-aboriginal Western Australians. Aboriginal Australians are 1.6 times more likely to have asthma than non-Aboriginal Australians, twice as likely to be hospitalised for asthma and three times as likely to die from asthma.

Additionally, Aboriginal Australians are 5.6 times more likely to have COPD than non-Aboriginal Australians. These differences highlight the need for a culturally safe and appropriate respiratory service, emphasising a collaborative and mutually respectful approach to Aboriginal respiratory health. Developing an organisational Reconciliation Action Plan is an important part of our organisation's journey to reconciliation, to create respiratory services that are inclusive of all cultural and religious backgrounds; and endorses culturally sensitive messages.

## HP WEBINARS

Asthma WA facilitates monthly upskilling webinars to Health Professionals across WA. This important service is supported by sponsors AstraZeneca, Novartis, Boehringer Ingelheim, Chiesi and GSK. More than 1,200 General Practitioners, nurses, Allied Health Professionals and respiratory scientists across WA attended the

webinars with topics ranging from 'Performing Spirometry,' 'COPD Management' and 'The overuse of Oral Corticosteroids' from guest speakers and Asthma WA's own respiratory health nurses and practitioners.



## GOLDFIELDS TRIP – NOVEMBER 2022

Visiting regional WA to provide free respiratory clinics and upskilling to health professionals is an important part of our work. Thanks to funding from Minara Resources, we were able to spend a week in the Goldfields visiting Kalgoorlie, Laverton and Leonora in early November 2022. Our team of three Asthma WA respiratory technicians and nurses conducted spirometry testing and stopped at key locations to have a yarn with the community about their respiratory health. The team set up a clinic at the Leonora Community Resource Centre and worked with a local pharmacist to establish referral pathways for Asthma WA's telehealth service to support their patients ongoing.

School staff at Leonora Primary School were also given information on asthma first aid and child respiratory health. On their final day, they wrapped up their visit with a Goldfields Respiratory Workshop held at the Rural Medical School at Curtin University, attended by local GPs, nurses, physiotherapists and dieticians.

# Our Year in Review

## SPIROMETRY TRAINING

In November 2022 Asthma WA Senior Respiratory Technician, Max and Clinical Nurse Specialist, Kate delivered a two-day intensive Spirometry Training Program at Bunbury Hospital, to ten Health Professionals from across the Southwest.

The spirometry training course involved a mixture of pre-reading/e-learning and face-to-face two-day workshop. The pre-learning online component was completed at the trainee's own pace prior to the practical hands-on workshop. Learning involved review of key theoretical knowledge and hands-on time to practice calibration verification and spirometry on other trainees in the workshop.

Spirometry is the most widely available test for assessing respiratory function and is vital in the identification and management of people living with respiratory disorders such as asthma and COPD. Although spirometry appears to be easy to perform, the competence and knowledge of the operator and the accuracy of the spirometer itself are critical for spirometry to have any clinical usefulness. Spirometry that is poorly performed or using equipment that is inaccurate can result in serious medical consequences, such as misdiagnosis and mismanagement.



## LUNG FUNCTION TESTING

We have previously asked consumers what new service would be most beneficial with free Lung Function Testing identified as an unmet need. Following COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions, Asthma WA was able to launch the service for adults in October 2022.

This service is an integral part of our Cycle of Care, providing correct diagnosis to support correct medication and advice. In conjunction with individualised education and support including device technique and correct medication use, correct diagnosis has proven to give people a better quality of life and decreased their exacerbations.

We are now providing lung function testing and education at a variety of locations across the metropolitan area and are hoping to increase this if we can boost our funding. The demand for this service has proven overwhelming and we often have a waiting list. As a result, we are sourcing funding to expand the service to meet the unmet needs of the community.

This service sits alongside our Children's Asthma Hub Program. This Respiratory Hub is an Australian first, combining paediatric lung function testing, immediate analysis and review by a respiratory specialist, and consultation with the Asthma WA Respiratory Health Nurse all in the one appointment. This service saw almost 300 children this year and is kindly funded by Telethon.



# Our Year in Review

## WHEEZY WALK

As we wrap up Wheezy Walk for another year, we want to thank the 538 participants who walked, sashayed, swam and even danced their way to 30,677,002 steps (yes that's millions!) to shine a light on asthma.

A huge thanks also to our inaugural Major Sponsor Northern Star Resources Limited, who not only supported us financially but also encouraged their staff to regularly walk and raise additional funds.

It was great to have Pindari WA back for the second year sponsoring the dollar matching day and helping us raise \$10,000 in just 24 hours.

Support from so many wonderful WA businesses was also greatly appreciated including donations from Wesfarmers, CODA Minerals and P&N Bank.

Some corporates really got in the Wheezy Walk spirit, like our community partner, VenuesWest who had a team of walkers at HBF Stadium regularly meet to walk, get fit and raise funds. Brooks Hire also engaged staff with several "wear athleisurewear to work" days and our friends at Multiplex and Sonic HealthPlus joined corporate forces to double their impact raising another \$10,000.

Participating corporates agreed Wheezy Walk is a great way to engage staff in health and well-being in the workplace. Having a daily goal and tracking your progress entrenches healthy behaviour change across an entire month whilst also giving back to your community through fundraising.

With the combined generosity, fitness finesse, dedication and support of our West Australian community, we reached our Wheezy Walk target of \$100,000 and without a doubt made every breath count in October. These funds will help us to provide free services like our newly launched lung function testing and keep kids and adults out of hospitals.



## CORPORATE CHALLENGE

2022 saw Asthma WA's inaugural table tennis fundraising event, the C'mon Corporate Table Tennis Challenge. 17 companies paired off in 23 teams for a day of intense – and some not so intense competition! The day was a fun and novel event for all involved and featured an opportunity to "beat the pro" by competing against a professional table tennis champion.

Thanks to all the teams and our sponsors, we raised nearly \$15K for new diagnostic and monitoring equipment so we can better educate and clinically support Western Australians experiencing chronic respiratory conditions including asthma and COPD.

The event was made possible with considerable contributions and support from Pioneer Credit, Tianqi Lithium and Business News.

**The event raised \$27,000 for Asthma WA**



# Our Financial Snapshot

## TOTAL ASSETS

**2023** | **2022**

\$4.32m | \$4.28m



## TOTAL LIABILITIES

**2023** | **2022**

\$419k | \$438k



## ANNUAL SURPLUS

**2023** | **2022**

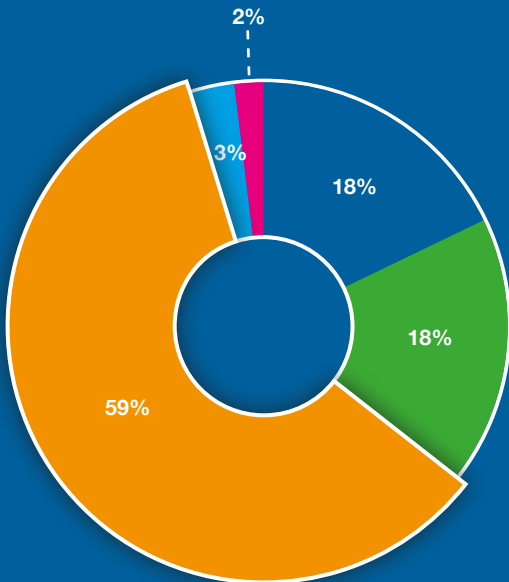
\$58k | \$22k



## TOTAL EQUITY

**2023** | **2022**

\$3.90m | \$3.84m

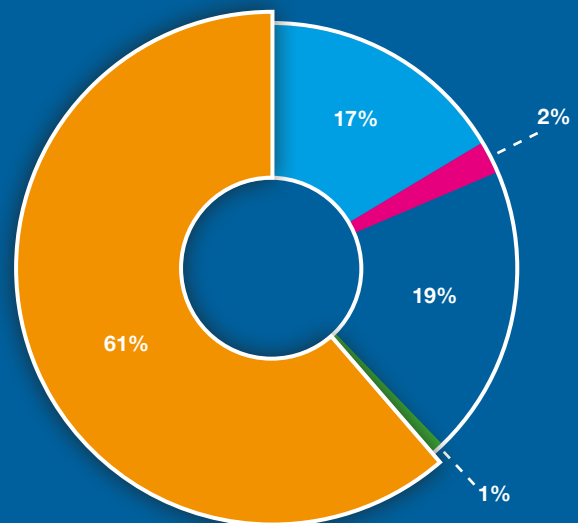


## HOW THE MONEY WAS EARNED

- Government Grants
- Grants Other
- Fundraising
- Investments
- Other

## HOW THE MONEY WAS SPENT

- Programs
- Administration
- Community Engagement/Fundraising
- Depreciation & Impairment
- Motor Vehicles



To view the full Asthma WA financial statements and Auditor's report, please visit [asthmawa.org.au](http://asthmawa.org.au)

# Our Supporters and Partners

## GOVERNMENT FUNDING PARTNERS

WA Department of Health  
WA Primary Health Alliance



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of Health

## FOUNDATION AND TRUSTS

McCusker Charitable Foundation  
Stan Perron Charitable Foundation  
Channel 7 Telethon Trust

McCusker Charitable  
Foundation



STAN PERRON  
CHARITABLE  
FOUNDATION

## CORPORATE PARTNERS

Chiesi  
Northern Star Resources  
Aspen Australia  
AstraZeneca  
Minara  
Novartis  
Boehringer Ingelheim  
GSK  
Pioneer Credit  
Tianqi Lithium



aspenmedical



NOVARTIS



GSK

## INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Asthma Australia



TIANQI LITHIUM

## CORPORATE DONOR

Pindari WA



pindari®



## OTHER SUPPORTERS

Combined Charities  
Lions Club International  
South Metropolitan Area Health Service  
Cockburn Integrated Health Service



Government of **Western Australia**  
South Metropolitan Health Service



## COMMUNITY PARTNER

Venues West



36 Ord Street West Perth WA 6005 | PO Box 864 West Perth WA 6872 | ABN 57 057 873 242

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AsthmaWA | Asthma\_WA | Asthma\_WA | Asthma-WA | AsthmaWA





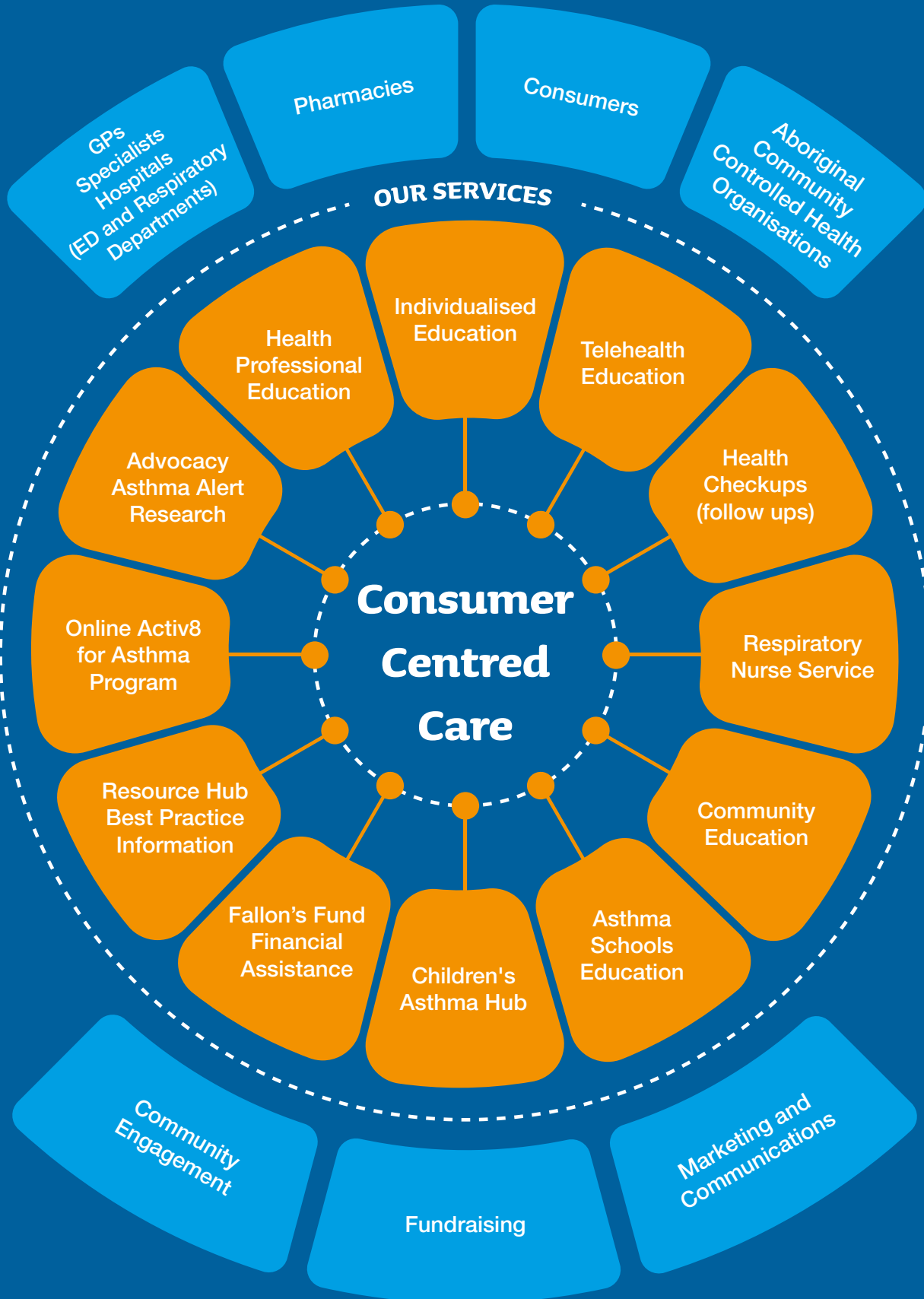


**AsthmaWA**

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

# Asthma WA Service Model

## REFERRAL NETWORK



## INTERNAL SUPPORT

# Asthma and COPD in Australia

## One in Nine (2.7 Million)

Australians live with asthma, including over 237,00 in Western Australia. Over 46,000 people have COPD.<sup>1</sup>



In our vulnerable Indigenous community  
**This figure is almost twice as high**

## MORTALITY RATES IN

**436** Australians died from asthma<sup>5</sup>



Asthma mortality rates are higher for:

- People living in remote areas
- People living in areas of low socio-economic status
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples<sup>5</sup>

**7,491** Australians died from COPD<sup>5</sup>



## COPD

is a chronic lung disease that effects 14% (one in seven) people aged 40 or over<sup>3</sup>

This figure increases to **29%** of Australians ages 75 or over

## QUALITY OF LIFE

Whilst not everyone with asthma is hospitalised, poor management contributes to a

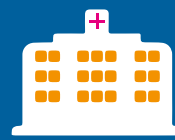
**decreased**

quality of life, poor sleep quality, fatigue, and depression<sup>1</sup>



People with COPD are **more likely**

to experience greater bodily pain than those without the condition<sup>4</sup>



## HOSPITALISATIONS

**80%**

of Hospital admissions due to asthma are potentially avoidable<sup>5</sup>

Every year approximately

**40,000**

Australians are hospitalised due to their asthma<sup>2</sup>

and

**76,600**

people aged 45 years and over are hospitalised due to their COPD<sup>4</sup>



**71.6%** of people with asthma do not have an **Asthma Action Plan**<sup>6</sup>

**52%** of young people with asthma are at risk of mental illness



The average person with asthma has **2**



more days off work than someone without the condition and in children it is the leading reason for school absenteeism

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 2. AIHW 2019, Separation statistics by principal diagnosis (ICD-10-AM 10th edition), Australia 2017-18. Canberra: AIHW  
 3. Toelle B, Xuan W, Bird T, Abramson M, Atkinson D, Burton D, James A, Jenkins C, Johns D, Maguire G, Musk A, Walters E, Wood-Baker R, Hunter M, Graham B, Southwell P, Vollmer W, Buist A, Marks G, 2013; Respiratory symptoms and illness in older Australians: The Burden of Obstructive Lung Disease (BOLD) study. Med J Aust: 198:144-148  
 4. AIHW 2020, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Web Report. AIHW Car no. ACM 35. Canberra: AIHW  
 5. Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2020; Causes of Death, Australia 2019. Canberra: ABS  
 6.