

Annual Review 2016

BREAST CANCER NETWORK AUSTRALIA

Breast
Cancer
Network
Australia



SUPPORTING AND
EMPOWERING OUR NETWORK

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Our success can only be measured by our impact. Through the real-life stories in this report - from women who have used our services, connected with our communities, or worked with us in our advocacy or fundraising efforts - I am reminded of the incredible impact the work that Breast Cancer Network Australia does have on the lives of people diagnosed with breast cancer and the people around them. I would like to thank the women that shared their stories and thank every individual who has contributed to Breast Cancer Network Australia in 2019.

- Kirsten Pilatti, BCNA CEO

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DID YOU KNOW?

In 2019, it is estimated that

 **19,371**
women

& 164  will be diagnosed with breast cancer.

This means that approximately **19,535 AUSTRALIANS** will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2019.

ON AVERAGE,

53 people will be diagnosed with breast cancer every day.



The number of women and men being diagnosed with breast cancer in Australia is increasing; however the number of deaths from breast cancer is decreasing.



The risk of being diagnosed with breast cancer by age 85 is

1 IN 7

FOR WOMEN
and

1 IN 675

FOR MEN.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed in Australian women and will account for approximately

29 PER CENT

of all new cancers in Australian women in 2019.



AUSTRALIA HAS ONE OF THE BEST BREAST CANCER SURVIVAL RATES IN THE WORLD.

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We were excited to reach a milestone with our My Care Kit this year. The My Care Kit, through support from Berlei, provides women having breast cancer surgery with a free post-surgery bra and soft form prosthesis. This year, we sent out the 140,000th My Care Kit. Thank you to Berlei for its very generous, and ongoing, support.

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Now in its 21st year, Breast Cancer Network Australia prides itself on its support for Australians affected by breast cancer. We are constantly evolving our services and service delivery to ensure we reach and support as many Australians as possible.

A focus on increasing the accessibility of our information resources meant that digital was an enduring theme of 2019. This year, we have taken the giant leap to provide key resources in a digital format; as the My Journey Kit (for people with early breast cancer) and *Hope & Hurdles* (for those living with metastatic disease), have been translated into a new digital resource we have called the My Journey online tool. The tool can be used on a mobile phone, tablet or desktop computer, allowing people to access our information whenever and wherever they wish.

We have also launched a podcast series, *Upfront About Breast Cancer*. The podcasts feature interviews with medical experts, BCNA staff and women and men affected by breast cancer on a range of topics. We were very proud to see the series leap up the 'podcast charts' during the year to register as Australia's top cancer podcast series.

We were excited to reach a milestone with our My Care Kit this year. The My Care Kit, through support from Berlei, provides women having breast cancer surgery with a free post-surgery bra and soft form prosthesis. **This year, we sent out the 140,000th My Care Kit.** Thank you to Berlei for its very

generous, and ongoing, support. We receive many lovely messages of thanks from women who have received a My Care Kit.

To assist us to continue to expand our reach and provide better tailored support for specific groups within our network, this year we established three new advisory groups: Metastatic Breast Cancer Advisory Group; Young Women's Advisory Group; and First Peoples Advisory Group. These groups comprise women who have been diagnosed with breast cancer and who have volunteered to help us so that we can provide the best support possible to people in their circumstances.

In the advocacy space, we saw several welcome government commitments aligned with priorities outlined in our 2018 *State of the Nation report*; addressing serious unmet needs in areas such as lymphoedema, metastatic breast cancer and out-of-pocket costs.

Finally I would like to thank the many organisations and individuals who have helped us financially during the year. Less than 15 per cent of BCNA's income comes from government funding, so our corporate supporters, community fundraisers and individual donors are vital to our success. In particular, I acknowledge our founding partner Bakers Delight, whose annual Pink Bun campaign raised \$1.35 million for BCNA this year, and our major partners Sussan, Red Energy, Australian Paper and Berlei.

Kathryn Fagg



SECTION ONE -

INFORMATION, SUPPORT AND CONNECTION

Our core services continue to deliver vital support for Australians who have gone through or are going through breast cancer. A range of information formats and support services help us to ensure that no one goes through breast cancer alone.

My Journey online tool

Thousands of Australians affected by breast cancer are now receiving the latest information and support through our ground-breaking My Journey online tool. Officially launched this year, it provides instant access to trusted information, tailored to a person's individual circumstances, and is the first digital resource of its kind in the Australian eHealth breast cancer field.

Developed for mobile, tablet or desktop use, it enables users to access information anywhere, any time - prior to meeting with their treating team, during chemotherapy, at work, or even in the middle of the night. Funded by Cancer Australia, the My Journey online tool project was overseen by an expert, multidisciplinary team and includes the most evidence-based and current information available.

“

Just like no two people are the same, no two breast cancer diagnoses are the same. There are so many varying factors based on the type of cancer you have, your age, where you live and other personal circumstances. The My Journey online tool takes all these things into account and takes you on an information journey that's tailored to your needs.

- Kirsten Pilatti, BCNA CEO

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◀ Left to right: BCNA founder Lyn Swinburne, BCNA board member Raelene Boyle, members Monique Morton and Vicki Thompson, BCNA ambassador Shane Crawford and BCNA CEO Kirsten Pilatti at the launch of the My Journey online tool.

MONIQUE'S STORY - EMPOWERED THROUGH INFORMATION

"I knew about BCNA long before I was diagnosed with breast cancer. BCNA has very strong community engagement. When I went to my breast surgeon after being diagnosed at age 30, I was given a flyer about the [older version] physical My Journey Kit. I went to the BCNA website to order it but the site took me to the My Journey online tool which was very, very new.

The My Journey online tool is well-refined, highly efficient and very user-friendly. It is worded in a really supportive and patient-centric way. When you're diagnosed, you're all over the shop, your emotions are running wild and there are things you forget. This tool feels like someone is advocating for you. When you go to appointments, it's overwhelming and the tool helps you formulate questions beforehand. When you're in bed at night and you're losing your mind and insomnia is at its highest, it's a quality resource to help settle your mind.

I think my experience would have been more difficult to navigate without the My Journey online tool. It's a guiding support through the experience - and afterwards.

BCNA is an advocating body for those who have experienced breast cancer. I love BCNA's community involvement and constant raising of awareness of breast cancer - it's so admirable."

Monique Morton

Click [here](#) for more information about the My Journey online tool.

“

I think my experience would have been more difficult to navigate without the My Journey online tool. It's a guiding support through the experience - and afterwards.

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BCNA's Helpline

BCNA's invaluable Helpline received more than 13,000 calls this year, about one-third of which were directed to our cancer nurses. The number of calls rises each year, confirming the significance of this service. Key themes of calls included:

- newly diagnosed people calling for help to understand their type of cancer and treatment
- clarification of what treatment teams are saying and to better understand treatment plans
- survivorship issues
- treatment and long-term side-effects of breast cancer
- health system navigation, and
- breast reconstruction options.

Online Network

Our popular and important Online Network is another example of how BCNA improves the lives of those with breast cancer. Launched in 2010 and now with over 20,000 members and rising, the network is a peer-to-peer support community available any time of the day or night. This year, in accord with BCNA's vision of supporting all Australians affected by breast cancer, we added two groups - men living with breast cancer, and invasive lobular cancer (ILC). Men with breast cancer, a growing group, are welcome to join the Online Network and we also hope that the new ILC group will provide opportunities for members with this type of breast cancer to share information and support.

Discussions on the Online Network and calls to our Helpline help inform our advocacy and programs.

BCNA events

BCNA held a range of face-to-face events across Australia during the year, attended by over 1,000 people. Conferences and forums covered topics including living well after breast cancer treatment, financial and survivorship issues, metastatic breast cancer, and breast reconstruction. In addition, thousands more viewed our digital webcasts which looked at issues including lymphoedema and hormone-blocking therapy.

These events, often featuring experts in their fields and people who have been through relevant experiences, play an important part in BCNA's impact - they provide attendees with information and treatment updates which can help them make more informed decisions, plus opportunities for connection with others, and they can help people to live as well as possible during and after breast cancer treatment.

“

BCNA's online community provides a very welcoming and supportive space for members to connect with others who have been through a similar experience. It is through this connection that members can really share how they are feeling and coping with their cancer diagnosis. Many members say that they don't want to burden family and friends, yet they want to be able to talk about how they are feeling, their fears, anxieties and concerns. The online community allows them this space. - **Giovanna Raco, senior Helpline officer and Online Network coordinator**

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My Care Kit milestone

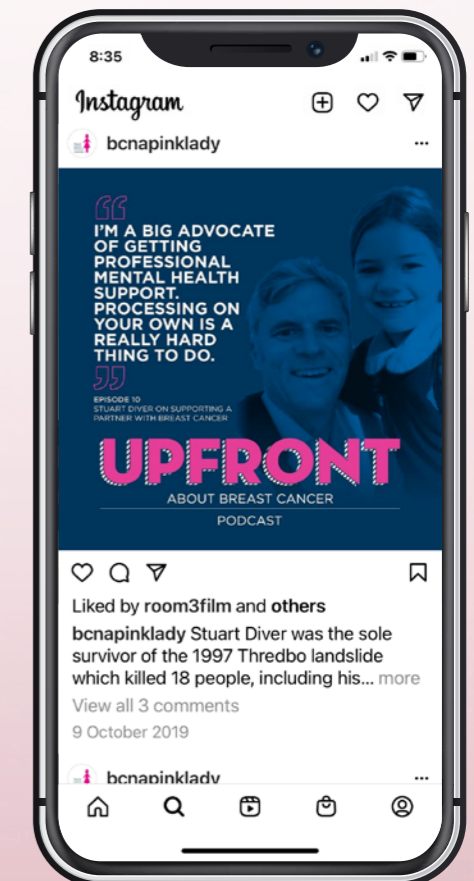
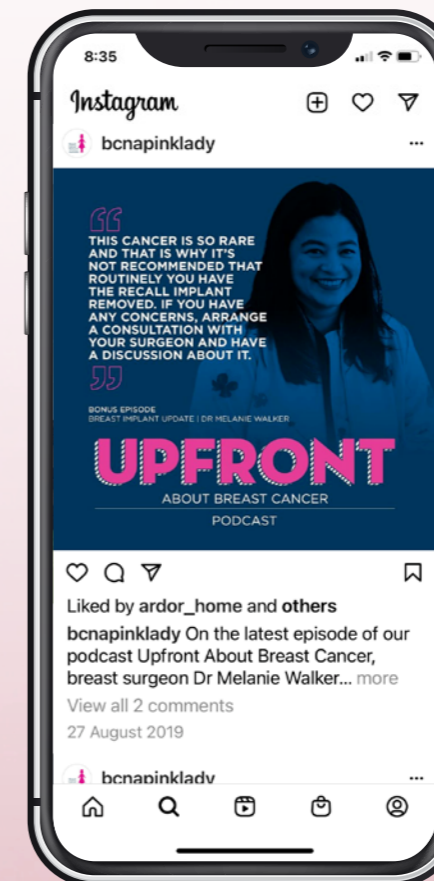
A special milestone was reached this year with the 140,000th My Care Kit provided to an Australian woman who underwent breast cancer surgery. The My Care Kit is a complimentary service, provided through breast care nurses on behalf of BCNA and Berlei. Containing a specially designed bra and soft form prostheses, plus information materials, the kit is intended to be a heartfelt gift to women during a challenging time. The kit has been supporting women with breast cancer since 2005. In 2019, almost 15,000 kits were delivered – about 285 a week.

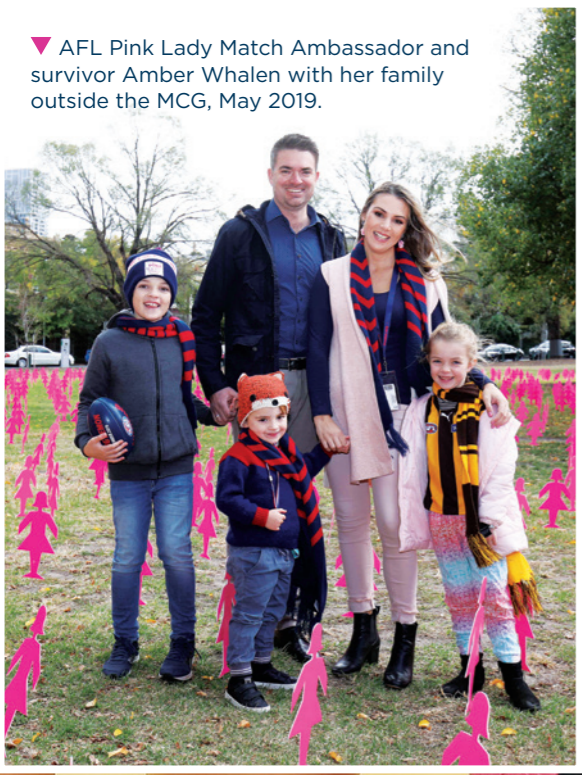
Click [here](#) to find out more about the My Care Kit.

Podcast series launch

An exciting 2019 initiative was the launch of our podcast series Upfront About Breast Cancer, hosted by author and former TV reporter Kellie Curtain, who lost her mother to breast cancer. These podcasts are in-depth discussions featuring medical experts, BCNA staff and women and men affected by breast cancer. Another medium of support to our members that are accessible any time, topics include Just diagnosed – what's next? and Money and the healthcare system. Exercise and breast cancer, sexual wellbeing after breast cancer treatment, challenges faced by young women and fear of recurrence, are some other themes tackled in the series.

Click [here](#) to access the podcasts.





▼ AFL Pink Lady Match Ambassador and survivor Amber Whalen with her family outside the MCG, May 2019.

SECTION TWO - THE VALUE OF OUR NETWORK

BCNA is one of the most powerful consumer groups in Australia. As well as advocating on behalf of Australians affected by breast cancer for access to better treatment and care, we connect, support and inform our network. People are our greatest asset and those who have been affected by breast cancer often find they want to help others. There is great power in sharing personal stories and experiences.

New advisory groups

In addition to our Strategic Advisory Group of leading health professionals who help inform and support our work, BCNA has other advisory groups that help us represent a diversity of experiences. This year, the work of our advisory groups for metastatic breast cancer, young women, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (First Peoples) began in earnest.

Click [here](#) for more information about BCNA's Strategic Advisory Group. We thank all members for their ongoing support.



▲ Coming together: BCNA's Together Towards Tomorrow conference in Adelaide, July 2019.

◀ Left to right: Vixens captain Kate Moloney, Colleen from Kilmore Netball Association, Giants captain Kimberlee Green at the 2019 Pink Lady Netball Match.

SHARI'S STORY - REAL EXPERIENCES SHAPING RESOURCES

"In 2009, I was 27 years of age when diagnosed with stage 1 breast cancer. This came as a complete shock. Not only because of my age but also because I had no family history of breast cancer. I was just recently engaged to my now husband, Trav. The course of my treatment was lengthy but needed in order to achieve the best outcomes - lumpectomy, followed by six rounds of chemotherapy, six weeks of radiation and many years of taking the hormone-blocking drug tamoxifen.

I was grateful to be under the care of an amazing medical team and one of the first support channels offered to me soon after diagnosis were the wonderful resources of BCNA. The website was full of positive and reassuring content, particularly case studies that I could relate to. I found the My Journey Kit such a valuable resource - it anticipated my needs so well because it's been informed by the lived experiences of so many women. It contained contact information for support services,

diary notes, a calendar, medical appointment notes, tips on health and wellbeing during treatment, pockets to keep important documents and medical cards and the list goes on. This was really my essential toolkit to keeping myself organised and reassured throughout the treatments. The My Journey Kit now being available online adds another layer of convenience and accessibility.

Relying so heavily on BCNA's resources meant that I wanted to continue my involvement with the organisation well after my diagnosis and treatment. I was recently involved in the creation of some new website content with a focus on fertility preservation after cancer diagnosis. This topic is important to me as I strongly believe in cancer patients having access to relevant information in a timely manner.

I am so fortunate that my husband and I now have two beautiful children."

Shari Skidmore

“

I found the **My Journey Kit** such a valuable resource - it anticipated my needs so well because it's been informed by the lived experiences of so many women. It contained contact information for support services, diary notes, a calendar, medical appointment notes, tips on health and wellbeing during treatment, pockets to keep important documents and medical cards and the list goes on.

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KATRINA'S STORY - FORGING LIFE- CHANGING CONNECTIONS

"I knew about the famous pink lady before my diagnosis but had no idea about BCNA. Then within days of my breast cancer news, BCNA kept popping up on my radar like a beacon. I was flooded with medical information and desperately needed a safe place to run to - somewhere I knew I would get sound advice and information, understanding, help to navigate this journey, comfort, empathy, encouragement, courage and inspiration. A BCNA flyer from my GP made me feel like BCNA was the place I needed to be so I registered with My Journey.

At the tail end of my treatment, a mutual colleague connected me with BCNA CEO Kirsten Pilatti. From the moment I stepped inside the door at BCNA's office, I knew it was not only where I needed to be at that point in my breast cancer journey, but I immediately felt I belonged, that I was needed

and that I could contribute. The BCNA family welcomed me with open arms and big hearts. They beautifully cared for me during the final stages of my treatment while I came alongside some of the most inspirational, strong and wise women I have ever met - BCNA's First Peoples Advisory Group, which has enriched and changed my life.

I jumped at the opportunity to give back to BCNA, a family of people who took me under their wing, an anchor during the stormiest time of my life. I wanted to offer all I could to grow the First Peoples Advisory Group and help us reach more people. Working with this group was a perfect fit to give back ... BCNA offered me genuine friendship. I consider the BCNA team my family."

Katrina Johnson

“

The BCNA family welcomed me with open arms and big hearts. They beautifully cared for me during the final stages of my treatment while I came alongside some of the most inspirational, strong and wise women I have ever met - BCNA's First Peoples Advisory Group, which has enriched and changed my life.

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Metastatic breast cancer

We were pleased to work with Cancer Australia to develop a new best practice statement for Australians with metastatic breast cancer. Our members with metastatic disease often report frustration and disappointment at the gaps and disparity of care in meeting their needs, and we know they need strong support and information. This best practice statement aims to deliver better care across the health sector and ensure those living with metastatic breast cancer know their treatment options and are involved in decision-making. The statement acknowledges that multidisciplinary care is particularly important for those with metastatic breast cancer due to their complex care needs. And effective and sensitive communication in a culturally safe environment, and a patient-centred individualised approach, are key elements of care.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Cancer Australia's Influencing best practice in metastatic breast cancer statement and to watch related videos.

Read Kim's story on page 25.

Seat at the Table

We believe that the most powerful way to create change and improve the health system for people with breast cancer is to draw on the views and experiences of people who have experienced breast cancer. Since 2001 we have run an internationally recognised Consumer Representative program, Seat at the Table. In this program, Consumer Representative volunteers are trained to work with breast cancer researchers, advisory committees, policy makers and service providers across Australia, ensuring that the diverse needs, views and experiences of people affected by breast cancer are taken into account in decision making.

Read Leslie's story on page 27.

◀ *Hope & Hurdles* booklet cover. The booklet is dedicated to all people living with metastatic breast cancer, and their carers. It was inspired by Veronica Macaulay-Cross, whose voice and passion contributed to its concept and development.



“

In 2012, I attended a Consumer Representative course and got involved with a range of different Consumer Representative activities. I felt a moral obligation to do what I could to make a difference to other women and men who would be affected by breast cancer. And I've got a skill set from my career that I thought I could bring to the role.

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KIM'S STORY - GIVING BACK TO THE NETWORK

"I was diagnosed with early breast cancer in June 2011 and subsequently with metastatic breast cancer in 2017. I quite quickly got involved with BCNA following that first diagnosis. I got the *Hope & Hurdles* guide very quickly and used it as a resource.

In 2012, I attended a Consumer Representative course and got involved with a range of different Consumer Representative activities. I felt a moral obligation to do what I could to make a difference to other women and men who would be affected by breast cancer. And I've got a skill set from my career that I thought I could bring to the role.

As a Consumer Representative you can choose what projects you want to be involved in, the [BCNA] team supports you and it's a way to make a positive difference.

I'm in a video which was part of a Cancer Australia project. One of the significant contributions I made [in this project] was helping clinicians to understand the critical importance of communication with patients; it's two-way, [the clinician] needs to put themselves in the shoes of the people receiving the information, it's not just about the specialist making decisions.

When I was told I had metastatic breast cancer, I went into a room and the doctor didn't introduce himself and said 'You need to get your affairs in order.' Then he said 'I've got another patient now so you need to leave.'

There are appalling examples of communication that create a trauma right from the word go ... I think there has been improvement ... BCNA is a beacon of support, hope, fellowship and change."

Kim Parish



“

Volunteering on a Wednesday with the same group of women became my support group. Some of these women had had a diagnosis whilst others hadn't but we shared a common cause. We became really close and still socialise.

”

LESLIE'S STORY - WORKING TO EMPOWER PATIENTS

“Post my diagnosis in 2009 some friends and I went to the [BCNA] Field of Women. Apart from a fabulous and reflective night at the event, we all received a showbag, including information about volunteering for BCNA, so I connected. I started going into the BCNA office and helped pack bras [for the My Care Kits, a free gift for women who have breast cancer surgery] each week and doing office tasks. Volunteering on a Wednesday with the same group of women became my support group. Some of these women had had a diagnosis whilst others hadn't but we shared a common cause. We became really close and still socialise.

I also undertook the BCNA Consumer Representative (CR) training, which helps you to become a strong patient advocate and prepares you for future roles when representing the breast cancer community and BCNA. Since volunteering in this role I've been involved in a wide variety of projects and have also spoken at events on behalf of BCNA. One of the most rewarding things I've been involved with as a CR was the collaboration with Professor Kelly-Anne Phillips, other clinicians and researchers in development of the online tool, iPrevent.

iPrevent is a validated tool that can enable women who have not been diagnosed to input data and obtain a personal risk assessment and, depending on the information provided, options to reduce that risk. I think preventative research is really valuable. My input assisted in making sure that the tool was usable, easy to understand and simple to navigate whilst not increasing anxiety in those using the tool.

When diagnosed, you refocus on what's important and the more I got involved [with BCNA], the more I realised there were many disparities in health care, whether that was due to your geographical location, your socio-economic status or the barriers for culturally and linguistically diverse and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities - there is much work to be done.

As a CR, you can bring a patient's perspective to the table while reinforcing at all levels of health care that patients should be at the forefront of their thinking. It's really important. BCNA, along with their CRs, has been effective in supporting and empowering patients.”

Leslie Gilham

Click [here](#) for the iPrevent tool.

“

BCNA knows of too many cases where patients have not been informed of the expected out-of-pocket costs, leading to complete financial devastation that lasts long after the treatment has finished. What very few consumers understand is that a higher fee does not indicate a better quality of service or health outcome. Breast cancer is not something you plan for – so we need to give everyone the right tools to make the very best decision for them physically, emotionally and financially.

- Kirsten Pilatti, BCNA CEO



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SECTION THREE - SHAPING A BETTER SYSTEM

BCNA undertakes campaigns on a range of issues important to Australians with breast cancer, leading to improved treatment, care and support for those we represent.

Advocacy

Advocacy is fundamental to BCNA - we have a long history of powerful advocacy and support programs. Among our key roles is to make submissions to government bodies and review government decisions, responding when appropriate, ensuring that the voices of those affected by breast cancer are heard. One of our main priorities is to work with governments and health service providers to ensure that Australians can receive affordable access to the latest breast cancer treatment and care.

Government funding for breast cancer

In what was very welcome news and responding to a great unmet need, in 2019 the Federal Government allocated \$27 million to the McGrath Foundation for the placement of an additional 41 breast care nurses over four years. Significantly, more than 30 of these nurses are to be dedicated to supporting people with metastatic breast cancer – acknowledgement that advanced disease is a chronic and complex condition with different issues to early breast cancer.

We also welcomed two Australian Government announcements to ease the financial burden of Australians affected by breast cancer. From November 1, those with or suspected of having breast cancer can claim Medicare benefits for certain MRI and PET scan services. A key platform of our advocacy for several years, these rebates will benefit up to about 14,000 patients a year.

Following the launch of our *State of the Nation report*, we've seen significant improvements in breast reconstruction rates in Far North Queensland, an announcement in the 2019 Federal Budget for \$3 million for two diagnostic mammography units for Tasmania and \$45.5 million for new radiation treatment centres in regional Australia. Additionally, \$10 million was provided for lymphoedema compression garments for people affected by breast cancer.

Addressing bill-shock

After years of calling for more transparency in medical costs, we welcomed the Federal Government's announcement that it would develop a national website to provide Australians with more information about specialists' fees and help reduce bill shock. Our *Financial Impact of Breast Cancer* report demonstrated the variations in out-of-pocket costs, particularly for patients who had private treatment, especially in surgery and radiation.

◀ BCNA members and Board Members outside Parliament House at the *State of the Nation report* launch.



SECTION FOUR -

FUNDRAISING TO FURTHER OUR IMPACT

Working with others can help strengthen our impact and we thank our many volunteers, partners, community fundraisers, individuals and companies for their time, fundraising efforts and generous donations. As a not-for-profit organisation, we simply could not support so many people without the assistance of many Australians.

Less than 15 per cent of BCNA's income comes from government so fundraising is vital to our success.

Pink Bun Campaign

One of our chief fundraisers is the annual Pink Bun campaign, which this year raised \$1.35 million for us to help support Australians affected by breast cancer. In what proved to be a controversial campaign that was nonetheless received with support and generosity by the public, we thank our foundation partner Bakers Delight for again 'pinking up' during May and donating 100 per cent of the sale of the iconic Pink Bun and \$1 from pink roll 6-packs.

◀ Left to right: The Hon. Josh Frydenberg MP along with BCNA CEO Kirsten Pilatti, Bakers Delight joint CEO Elise Gillespie and Bakers Delight Franchisees for Pink Bun 2019.



SECTION FOUR -

CORPORATE PARTNERS

2019 marked the launch of our first donor matching campaign '53 hours of giving'. Run during our Christmas appeal, the '53' reflected the number of Australians diagnosed with breast cancer each day during the year. The campaign inspired Australians to give \$52,000 in 53 hours with these donations proudly matched by campaign partners ALI Group, Manildra Group and Reflex copy paper.

Elsewhere, Red Energy continued to generously support us as the major sponsor of the Melbourne versus Hawthorn Pink Lady Match and Pink Sports Day program, while long-time BCNA partner Sussan provided ongoing support for content and activities aimed at young women with breast cancer.

Alliance Airlines launched their Alliance Airlines Pink Lady Plane to provide a visual reminder of the important work that BCNA does. The Alliance Airlines team used the plane to launch their Hangar2Hangar corporate cycling charity event, which raised a massive \$118,000.



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BCNA means a lot to me. It's hard to put into words. Having breast cancer shakes you to the core and BCNA is a tremendous helping hand. It's been a nurturing place, helping me find my way through this dreadful disease. Thank you so much BCNA.

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KATE'S STORY - PUTTING A HAND UP TO SAY THANK YOU

“When I was diagnosed with breast cancer, I soon found my way to BCNA's online forum. It became an invaluable source of help and support. It made me feel less alone, and I found true friends.

Last year when BCNA was looking for volunteers for the Pink Bun campaign I didn't hesitate to put my hand up. Anything I could do to help.

It was fun being professionally made-up and photographed. Such an unusual experience! I also felt vulnerable but giving back to BCNA and raising awareness is a cause very close to my heart. I was proud to do my bit. I also took part in interviews for newspapers, radio and TV, and was in a short video for Bakers Delight franchisees.

BCNA means a lot to me. It's hard to put into words. Having breast cancer shakes you to the core and BCNA is a tremendous helping hand. It's been a nurturing place, helping me find my way through this dreadful disease. Thank you so much BCNA.”

Kate Keogh Murray



Pink Sports Day

This year over 1,000 clubs took part in the fun and colour of almost 400 PLAY4BCNA Pink Sports Day events across more than 20 sporting codes - and raised over \$680,000 for BCNA. These events range from simply wearing pink socks and collecting coins to more elaborate functions and fundraising activities. They are often held on or around Mother's Day - May was very pink across courts, fields and grounds - or in the breast cancer awareness month of October, but clubs can host them any time that suits their fixtures.

This year, events were held in every state and territory and almost half our hosts were Pink Sports Day first-timers. Victorian clubs held just over half the events.

This year's highlights included Romsey Football and Netball Club hosting their ninth annual event, raising over \$27,000 for BCNA; and the East Malvern Knights girls football teams running a full-season fundraiser, achieving over \$17,000.

Beginning this year, BCNA can now supply clubs with free promotional packs including posters, pink lady cut-outs, tattoos and donation tins, thanks to the support of our major partner Red Energy. Additionally, we reintroduced a merchandise range with support partner BLK Sport whereby profits from the sale of pink socks, shoelaces, scrunchies, beanies, caps, visors, tutus and polo shirts, go to BCNA.

Pink Sports Days are often triggered by the diagnosis of a community member and many involved appreciate the opportunity to recognise the vital role women play in local sport.

Thank you to all the clubs that participated.

Click [here](#) for more information about Pink Sports Day and how easy it is to get involved.



BOARD MEMBERS



KATHRYN FAGG
(Chair)

Kathryn is a member of the board of the Reserve Bank of Australia and Note Printing Australia, as well as three ASX-listed company boards – Boral, Incitec Pivot and Djerriwarrh Investments.

In addition, she is president of Chief Executive Women, chairman of the Melbourne Recital Centre and is on the board of the Australian Centre for Innovation. She is a former chairman of Parks Victoria. As a Fellow of the Academy of Technology and Engineering, she chairs the Industry and Innovation Forum. Prior to becoming a nonexecutive director, Kathryn enjoyed an extensive senior executive career in banking, manufacturing and logistics across Australia, New Zealand and Asia, after commencing her career as a petroleum engineer with Esso Australia and working as a management consultant with McKinsey & Co. She was awarded an honorary doctorate in engineering by the University of Queensland and in business by the University of New South Wales. Kathryn was diagnosed with inflammatory breast cancer in 2012.



MICHAEL HAPPELL
(Deputy Chair 1/1/19 – 29/5/19) – retired from Board at AGM 29/5/19

Michael is an independent non-executive director. His current directorships include the Melbourne Cricket Club (Vice President), Supra Capital Pty Ltd (Chairman), MyProsperity Pty Ltd and Arctic Intelligence Pty Ltd. Previously Michael was a partner at PwC for 24 years. He was Chairman of PwC Australia and a member of the PwC Global Board. Other former directorships include Scotch College and Lauriston Girls School. Michael has three daughters and is married to Tatty, who is a breast cancer survivor.



RAELENE BOYLE AM MBE

Raelene represented Australia in track and field at three Olympic Games. She won three Olympic silver medals, seven Commonwealth gold medals and two Commonwealth silver medals. In 1974, Raelene was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in recognition of her outstanding sporting achievements. She was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 2007, in recognition of her work with cancer organisations, particularly BCNA. In 2013, she was named in Australia's Top 100 Sportswomen of All Time. Raelene is one of the National Trust's 100 Living Treasures, a member of the Australian Track and Field Hall of Fame and one of the Sport Australia Hall of Fame's 39 Legends of Australian sport. Raelene was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1996.



PROFESSOR BRUCE MANN

Bruce trained as a surgeon in Melbourne and then as a breast specialist at Memorial Hospital in New York. He came back to Melbourne in 1998 as a consultant surgeon, and was appointed Director of the Breast Service at Royal Melbourne and Royal Women's Hospital in 2007, and Director of the Breast Tumour Stream of the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre in 2015. He has been active in many organisations, including Cancer Australia, the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, the Clinical Oncological Society of Australia, and Breast Cancer Trials. His interests relate to systems for optimal breast cancer care and research to tailor the extent of breast cancer treatment to the individual patient.

BOARD MEMBERS



MEGAN JAMES
(Deputy Chair from 29/5/19)

Megan is the Chief Executive Officer at Australian Data Centres. She has an Advanced Diploma of Marketing in business and marketing. She has worked in IT since 1998, with her experience covering software, hardware, storage and the data centre market. Megan has a passion for starting new businesses, seeing them evolve and setting future strategic directions. Her current role involves providing solutions to the Australian Government and commercial enterprises with a key interest in technology and security. She moved to Canberra in 2014 to give the business a greater focus. Megan has a passion for health and wellbeing and is involved with her children in AFL, swimming and athletics. Megan was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1996 and again in 2012. She also sits on the Board as Vice President for Women in IT and Communications.



PROFESSOR JACINTA ELSTON
(Deputy Chair from 29/5/19)

Jacinta is an Aboriginal woman from Townsville who has worked in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health in higher education for more than two decades. In her current role, she is Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous) at Monash University. Jacinta was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2003.



PROFESSOR DOROTHY KEEFE PSM
(Retired from Board at AGM 29/5/19)

Dorothy is a medical oncologist living in Adelaide. She has a longstanding research interest in gut toxicity from cancer treatment, which has broadened over the years into an interest in supportive care in cancer more generally. Dorothy has a keen interest in patient advocacy and so BCNA is a beloved organisation for her. She brings to the Board her medical and research knowledge, as well as her system reform and leadership skills.



DEBBIE SMITH
(Retired from Board at AGM 29/5/19)

Debbie has been a partner with PwC for more than 10 years. She is the Managing Partner for Queensland, leading a team of 700 people. She has an extensive background in audit and governance, and works with organisations in the public and private sectors. Debbie also sits on the Board of St Margaret's Anglican Girls School. She has two children and is a breast cancer survivor.

BOARD MEMBERS



LISA MONTGOMERY
(Deputy Chair from 29/5/19)

With almost 35 years experience in the consumer lending and finance sectors, Lisa Montgomery is a respected leader, commentator and consumer advocate within the Australian financial services industry. Lisa has held chief executive roles in both public and privately held companies and is a regular host of Sky News Business Channel's Your Money, Your Call where she appears as a consumer finance and property specialist. In 2012, Lisa was diagnosed with breast cancer and subsequently retired from her role as Chief Executive Officer of Resi Mortgage Corporation. She continues to enjoy her 'encore' career as a strategic business adviser, finance specialist and passionate public speaker. She is a foundation committee member of the Sydney chapter of the Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI) and also holds the role of Senior Counsel at Finder.com.au.



CLARE POWER

Clare has been a partner with PwC for more than 10 years. She is Assurance Partner in the Melbourne office, with a focus on risk, controls and governance. She is the lead Internal Controls partner across a number of major Australian companies. Clare has three sons and balances work with family. She is a member of the St Kevin's College Toorak Audit Committee. Clare lost her mother to breast cancer and prior to having children volunteered at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne.



PROFESSOR FRAN BOYLE AM

Fran is a Professor of Medical Oncology at the University of Sydney and is involved in the care of women with breast cancer at the Mater Hospital in North Sydney, and in teaching and research. She is also the Medical Director of the Pam McLean Communications Centre at the University of Sydney, training health professionals in better communication. Fran is a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of Breast Cancer Trials and represents Australia and New Zealand on the Board of the International Breast Cancer Study Group. In 2008, Fran was appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia for her contributions to breast cancer research, policy, education, advocacy and care.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2019

OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW

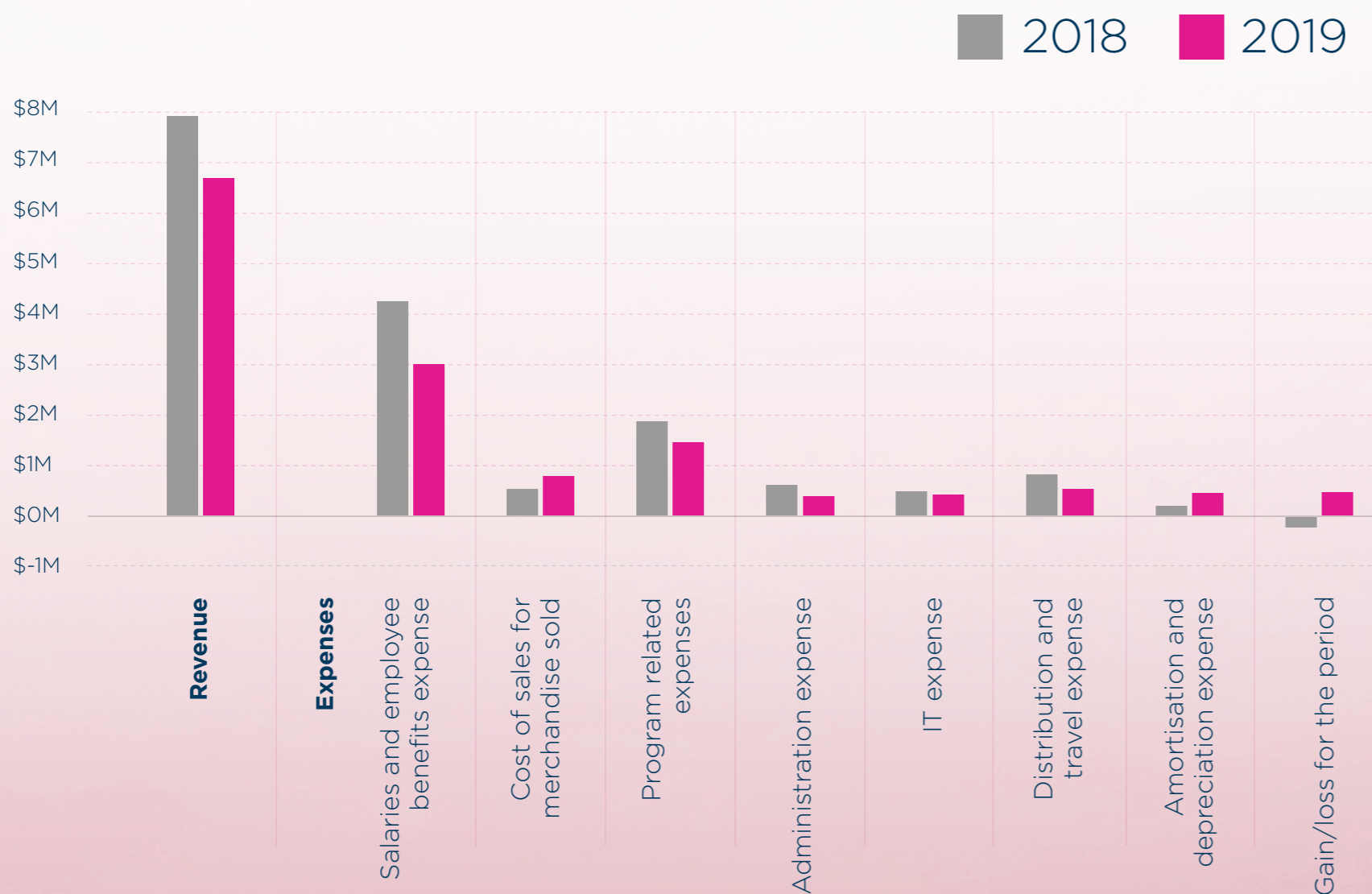
Our financial performance was back on track, delivering a surplus, as a result of restructuring in 2017 and 2018.

BCNA's operations for the 2019 year resulted in a surplus (before comprehensive income) of **\$435,184**, compared to 2018 deficit of **\$199,625**, and 2017 deficit of **\$1,287,919**. No income tax is payable.

The organisation continues to maintain a relatively significant investment portfolio, with capital allocated to

listed and non-listed investments, including managed funds, listed investment companies and hybrid securities. These investments form part of specific long term investment funds, the objective of which is to support the long term sustainability of the organisation, using the income generated to support spending on BCNA's programs.

Under its constitution the company is precluded from issuing dividends and, accordingly, no dividends have been declared or paid in the current year.



STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the Year ended 31 December 2019

REVENUE	2019	2018
	\$	\$
	6,634,795	7,834,152
TOTAL REVENUE	6,634,795	7,834,152

EXPENSES

Salaries and employee benefits expense	2,943,199	4,190,511
Cost of sales for merchandise sold	75,434	50,221
Program related expenses	1,479,327	1,790,095
Administration expense	358,785	580,777
IT expense	400,331	454,470
Distribution and travel expense	515,874	788,906
Amortisation and depreciation expense	415,309	178,797
Finance costs	11,352	-
Gain/loss for the period	435,184	-199,625

OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Revaluation on available for sale financial assets	531,731	242,854
Total comprehensive gain/loss for the year	966,915	-442,479

FINANCIAL REPORT 2019

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the Year ended 31 December 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,127,767	1,190,755
Trade and other receivables	312,300	377,933
Inventory	31,219	16,023
Other assets	178,671	242,541
Total Current Assets	2,649,957	1,827,252
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Investments	4,549,341	4,194,610
Property, plant and equipment	108,484	183,829
Right-of-use assets	180,625	-
Intangible assets	291,151	222,441
Total Non-current Assets	5,129,601	4,600,880
Total Assets	7,779,558	6,428,132

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	626,360	543,848
Deferred revenue	341,887	197,140
Lease liabilities	187,170	-
Provisions	244,560	294,275
Total Current Liabilities	1,399,977	1,035,263
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provisions	36,421	57,691
	36,421	57,691
Total Liabilities	1,436,399	1,092,954
Net Assets	6,343,159	5,335,177
EQUITY		
Reserves	840,566	308,835
Retained earnings	5,502,593	5,026,342
Total Equity	6,343,159	5,335,177

OUR PARTNERS

BCNA Foundation Partner

Bakers Delight

BCNA Major Partners

BERLEI

sUSSAN

red
energy

Always
Rely On
Reflex

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Find out more about all of the ways you can get involved at bcna.org.au

ATTEND A BCNA EVENT

Our major events such as Field of Women and conferences bring people together to help make a difference.

CONNECT WITH OTHERS

Join our Online Network to connect with others affected by breast cancer.

DONATE

Make a one-off donation, set up a regular monthly donation or leave a gift in your will.

GIVE BACK WHILE YOU WORK

Workplace giving brings employers and staff together to support BCNA. It is an easy and convenient way to donate via pre-tax payroll deductions.

SPEAK OUT

BCNA Consumer Representatives represent the views of Australians affected by breast cancer in a wide range of forums.

HOLD A FUNDRAISING EVENT

A Pink Lady Event can be anything from a simple afternoon tea to a fancy cocktail party. A Pink Sports Day is the perfect way for local sporting clubs to show their support.

HELP WITH RESEARCH

If you have been diagnosed with breast cancer, join our Review & Survey Group so you can be involved in research.

PARTNER WITH US

We nurture relationships with selected organisations and individuals to help strengthen our network. Contact BCNA to find out how we can work together.

SET A PERSONAL GOAL

From fun runs to overseas adventures, we have some great ways you can take on a challenge while supporting BCNA.

Annual Report 2019

BREAST CANCER NETWORK AUSTRALIA



CONTACT:

info@bcna.org.au | bcna.org.au | 1800 500 258



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linkedin.com/company/breast-cancer-network-australia