

16 March 2021

### **AIR ON A SHOESTRING**

I was once quizzed by a young man with CF as to why the drugs which he needed to live were so expensive. I replied with the unfortunate truth that Medical research is expensive and that, in the case of Rare Diseases like CF there were not that many consumers to share the cost.

The young gentleman smiled and shrugged as if putting the thought entirely out of his mind. “No matter,” he said “I’m thrifty. I’ve even learned to breathe on a budget.”

I laughed at the time, but I can’t think of that young man without a slight glistening of the eyes. No one should have to ration the very air that they breathe. CF patients and families are forced to fight for their very lives every time a new drug comes before the PBAC, just as they are doing now for Trikafta.

The CF world needs solutions and solutions require innovation. With that said, here’s something that you may be able to do on a budget:

The Australian Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust (ACFRT), in conjunction with For Benefit Medicines, is excited about the 2021 Lung Health Grant.

The scope of this grant is broad, encompassing those who work with any aspect of cystic fibrosis lung health, however we are particularly interested in improvements in mucociliary clearance.

The award can be put towards training/education, research projects or travel costs related to the above. Applicants may include researchers, doctors, nurses and allied health professionals. The maximum amount awarded under the grant is \$5,000.

Applications close this Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> March so get your submissions in via the link [HERE](#).

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nettie Burke".

Nettie Burke  
CEO, Cystic Fibrosis Australia