

6 July 2022

TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH

I recently came across a quote by Helen Keller that said,

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."

This is so true! We all have gifts and talents and together we can make a real difference. This has been one of my greatest encouragements since joining the CF community in January this year. Everyone rallies around and is so supportive of furthering our cause, together. It is a credit to each and every one of you.

Most recently I have seen your incredible support with our end of financial year fundraising campaign. I cannot thank you enough for digging deep and being so generous in helping sustain our work into the future. You will have seen our appeal and read the stories of Jess, Tom, Lizzie, and Bradley and how their lives have been impacted by CF, and I know there are thousands of other people with equally moving experiences. My sincere thanks to everyone who has helped contribute to our campaign, it really does make a big difference. Thank you.

Another huge thank you to Jess, Tom, Lizzie, and Brad for allowing us to share their experiences. It is so evident that we really can do so much more when we work together. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Mid-year is a time to reflect on what has been achieved and to look forward as we focus on the rest of the year and all that needs to be completed. There is certainly a lot to be done!

It seems like a lifetime ago that we were celebrating the listing of Trikafta on the PBS but it has only been 3 months! It still blows my mind that our petition to parliament secured 58,274 signatures! This is yet another example of the great things that can be achieved when we work together.

As I look to the rest of the year, we do have a lot to do. You would be well aware that we have a new government now and I am working on developing and growing relationships with our nation's leaders and have a number of communications and meetings taking place which is exciting. It is paramount that the needs of our community are prioritised, and I will do all that I can to ensure this is the case.

In all that I do, my overarching goal is that all people with CF get the support they need, including the right medications, so that quality of life and life expectancy is optimised. No one is forgotten, overlooked, or left behind.

On the topic of medications, it is my hope that there will be news soon about the progress of Trikafta being extended for those aged 6+ as the TGA are currently reviewing it. I will keep you updated on this.

Thank you for partnering with us in all the different types of campaigns that we have had from advocacy to fundraising because it is evident that together we really can achieve so much more.

Jo Armstrong

Chief Executive Officer

Cystic Fibrosis Australia