



24<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### **Give the gift of a brighter future**

What an incredible year 2022 has been.

We began the year with access to Trikafta for those aged 12 and over with the F508del mutation.

We have ended the year with that same access now extending to the 6-to-11-year age group.

There have been enormous leaps this year which I know has come from many years of collective work as a community. These steps in the right direction will give many people with CF a brighter future, and for that we are incredibly thankful. There are now treatments that can help increase quality of life and life expectancy which is fantastic.

I have heard from many people in our community over the past week who have generously shared their thoughts and emotions with me, many have been positive. I truly appreciate hearing these messages as it is a strong reminder of how far we have come, but also how far we have to go.

For many people, access to these treatments have come too late. We cannot allow this to be the case for our 6–11-year old's. While we have the great news of the recommendation, Trikafta is yet to be made available and subsidised on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

Our 6–11-year old's need access to #TrikaftaNOW.

We urge the government and Vertex to ensure that Trikafta is made available without delay, so that our children can benefit immediately.

The sooner Trikafta is available on the PBS, the sooner the benefits can be realised, including reduction in infection, reduced hospitalisation, and the opportunity for a better quality of life. We have our Christmas wish granted and now we need our children to be able to access #TrikaftaNOW

Whilst it is important to appreciate these wins, it is crucial we acknowledge those in our community who have passed and those who are not eligible for Trikafta.

2022 has been a year full of positives, but it can also be a time of heartache for others.

Our work doesn't end at Christmas, we still have a long way to go to help support our entire CF community. The right treatments need to be made available to all members of our community and we must continue to advocate for these challenges.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our work this year, we truly appreciate each and every one of you, we could not do what we do without your ongoing efforts.



We are aiming to raise \$20,000 by the end of 2022 to ensure we are able to continue our work into the new year. If you can, please donate to Cystic Fibrosis Australia.

On behalf of everyone at Cystic Fibrosis Australia, I would also like to wish you all a Merry Christmas. We hope you are all able to enjoy some downtime and have a safe and Happy Holiday.

Jo Armstrong

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Cystic Fibrosis Australia**

Ps. All donations above \$2 are tax deductible.