



12 January 2023

### YOUR SUPPORT MAXIMIZES OUR IMPACT

Happy New Year to you! The days, weeks, months and now years seem to fly by at an increasingly rapid rate. I have been reflecting over the last 12 months because I have now been at CFA for a year!

It has been a great time to reflect on all that we have achieved as a community and the priorities for the year and years ahead. We have had many wins for CF in 2022 but we will not be resting on our laurels and are continuing to strive for progress so that all people with CF can have full lives and live out their dreams.

#### As a recap...

In January 2022 the PBAC approved Trikafta for people aged over 12 years with at least one F508del mutation, and very quickly, in April 2022, with the support of our community and through our relentless advocating, Trikafta was made available on the PBS. The significance of this breakthrough cannot be underestimated and hundreds of people across the country have healthier lives as a result. People like Jess Ragusa, who since taking Trikafta has been able to live out her dream of starting a family. Congratulations Jess!



Only eight short months later, in December 2022, again through persistent advocacy, the PBAC recommended Trikafta for children aged between 6 – 11 years with at least one F508del mutation. It is monumental that in one year we have received two recommendations from the PBAC for medications for our community. My sincere thanks to all that were involved, including everyone who wrote submissions to the PBAC.



I would like to say thank you to all of you, individuals, families, and our Federation Members who have been part of this journey. Our work is possible because of your support. With your partnership and collaboration, we have been able to:

- Ensure the needs of the cystic fibrosis community are front of mind for our nation's leaders.
- Increase access to medications.
- Supported the increase in life expectancy and quality of life.
- Invest in research.

Our community is stronger than ever before, and we thank everyone who has supported us to achieve these incredible milestones. Thank you.

However, our work does not stop here, we still have a lot more work to do.

Trikafta must be made available and in the hands of those who need it now. We are currently advocating that the listing of Trikafta for children aged 6+ is accelerated and that there are no delays in accessing it, so that it provides the maximum benefits.

I am also mindful that there are people in our community who are ineligible or unable to access treatments, and they are not forgotten.

### **Now here we are in 2023...**

2023 has already kicked off with a bang, with increased advocacy taking the lead as we push for Trikafta to be listed on the PBS for children aged 6+ without delay.



My sincere thanks to Channel 10 for covering the story of the Lotz family, who bravely shared the impact Trikafta would have in the life of 7-year-old Chase. Once the segment airs, we will be posting this to our socials.



They say, 'it takes a village' and this is certainly true at CFA. As a small team of just four employees, we rely heavily on the kindness of our community to make a big impact and long-lasting change. We have seen significant outcomes in 2022 but I know there is so much more we can do, together.

As a registered charity, we do rely on the support of people in the community to fund our work. With your on-going help, every dollar you give improves lives by supporting breakthroughs for people with CF.

Thank you for all your support, we look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Warm Regards

Jo Armstrong

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Cystic Fibrosis Australia**

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