

changing faces changing lives

Craniofacial Australia
Summer 2023 Newsletter



Pictured: Cranio-warrior Kade and
mum Teegan



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Registered Charity CCP2573
ABN: 29 008 155 780

Kade's Cranio Journey



From the time Kade was born, we suspected something was different about his head shape - it just wasn't right. He had been meeting all of his milestones, but I just knew in my gut I needed to follow my instincts and find out what was wrong.

I did the Google searches and came across Cranio-synostosis. That was it - I knew this was what he had. I continued my research to become as informed as possible. I wanted to ensure our decisions had the best outcomes for our little boy.



After multiple appointments with health professionals, Kade was diagnosed with Sagittal Synostosis within a matter of weeks and then booked to have surgery within a month.

In my online journey, I have come across some amazing support groups as well as Craniofacial Australia, who sent Kade a beautiful Care Pack ahead of his surgery.

In the weeks heading into surgery, the nerves started to set in. We began to question everything. This is such an emotional roller coaster which I don't think you can ever fully be prepared for.

I feel like this has been a long & drawn out process. It has been very emotional and traumatic. It also makes you question everything and place blame on yourself.

- Mum Teegan

Craniofacial Australia supports patients and families during their craniofacial journey. Your generosity goes towards the financial support of families, whether it's for accommodation or other expenses. Donations also allow us to support families in need by providing Care Packs Australia-wide.

Thank you.

Christmas Round-up

November saw a cheerful gathering of cranio families and friends for our first Christmas Party in three years.

For the first time since 2019, we held our end-of-year Christmas event for the families in Adelaide.

The party was held at Plaster Funhouse Wayville. There were plenty of fun craft activities for the kids. Santa Claus himself took some time out of his hectic schedule to drop by with his sack of presents.

Thank you to **Variety - the Children's Charity SA** for coming on board with a grant for this year's Christmas Party! Our community is grateful for the support of this incredible organisation, which supports kids and families who are facing many challenges through sickness, disadvantage or living with disability.



*Thank
You*



Our recent Christmas Appeal was a big one. With your support, we raised over \$12,000 for the craniofacial community. Coming off the back of Covid-19, this is an incredible result. We are a small but mighty team. Each and every dollar is valued and has a far-reaching impact on the people we support.

We thank the community for getting on board and making Christmas 2022 one to remember!

Fundraiser Spotlight

The Forsyth Family

Our Fundraisers are an incredible bunch. They go the extra mile to “give back”.

The Forsyth family is one such example, having nearly reached their \$5,000 target for dad Shane's “Ironman for Cranio” fundraiser.

Craniofacial Australia provided financial assistance for travel and accommodation as son Vincent underwent Cranial Vault Remodelling surgery.

Shane is currently training hard to complete a Full Iron Man on May 7th 2023 in Port Macquarie, with proceeds going to Craniofacial Australia.

In addition, Vincent was the poster boy for our recent Christmas Appeal campaign. The Forsyth family generously allowed us to share their story and photos. The sharing of stories is a universal truth, it is what keeps us connected and is a beautiful expression of love.

From our family to yours, thank you Forsyths. We look forward to cheering you on at your Iron Man challenge in May!

If you would like to contribute to Shane's fundraiser, please visit: mycause.com.au/p/286431/ironman-for-cranio

Above photo credit: ladyandlens.com.au



Speaking Engagements



It was an honour to join the Edwardstown Probus Club for their Christmas morning tea. Their hospitality, warmth and benevolence was inspiring.

As their guest speaker, we shared information about our mission. We exchanged stories, words of positivity, jelly slice, tea and even shed a few tears. Covid undoubtedly impacted everyone and the excitement of being in good company was felt.

If you would like to find out more about having Craniofacial Australia at your next community, business or school event, please email our Marketing Manager Christina: c.panagopoulos@acmff.org.au.

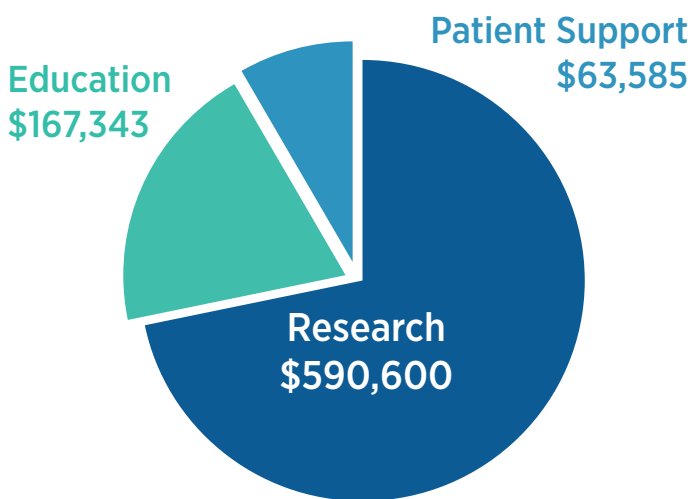
AGM

The Craniofacial Australia Annual General Meeting was held at the David Roche Foundation on Wednesday, 16th of November 2022.

We reflected on the year that was and looked to the future. We also heard first-hand from four key speakers – South Australian scientists whose research is being funded by Craniofacial Australia. They shared their progress and indeed, the anticipated possibilities into the future prevention and treatment of craniofacial conditions.



Our Impact



We are pleased to report on the impact of our mission.

Our Annual Report aims to inform supporters, donors and partners about our work. Craniofacial Australia is committed to transparency as to how donated funds are invested to achieve our mission and the impact on those affected with craniofacial conditions.

Our Board of Management is committed to the highest level of governance. Here are some statistics from our Annual Report to take into the New Year with you.

The 2021/2022 Annual Report can be downloaded from our website.

Partnering with Craniofacial Australia can help you achieve your business and community goals while supporting the craniofacial community. We are a small organisation, but we pack a punch. Our support for craniofacial families around the country is both emotional and financial, but we couldn't do it without the collective support of our community.

We wish to acknowledge the following organisations for their generosity and support:

MAJOR PARTNER



SUPPORTING PARTNERS



It's a WIN-WIN!

Craniofacial Australia is excited to be a part of the People's Choice Community Lottery. With a Toyota Kluger valued at over \$50,000 up for grabs, you could make this a summer to remember!

1st
Prize

Toyota Kluger Hybrid GX
RRP \$59,551

Only \$2
a ticket



All proceeds go to the Foundation, so your ticket purchase will help us further our mission to support the craniofacial community. It's a win-win!

Visit communitylottery.com.au/products/craniofacial-australia to secure your tickets but hurry, ticket sales close 2nd March 2023. Good luck!

Buy your \$2 tickets in the People's Choice Community Lottery to support us and go into the draw for a chance to win one of 42 prizes worth over \$300,000!

communitylottery.com.au

People's Choice
COMMUNITY LOTTERY

Full T&Cs communitylottery.com.au. SA Lottery Licence No. M14289. Vic Raffle Permit No. 10434/22. Declared Organisation No. 58545. ACT Permit No. ACT R 22/00176. NSW Art Union Authority no. GOCAL/2470

Craniofacial Australia is working to develop an improved website, with the craniofacial community in mind.

We would like to talk one-on-one to people with lived experience, so that our website better suits people's needs.

What is involved?

- 1 hour of your time
- Access to a computer, smartphone or tablet with access to the internet

We will ask you questions about how you look for information and resources on craniofacial conditions, how you have previously used the Craniofacial Australia website and what you wish you had better access to.

Our proposed outcome is a website that is informed by lived experience and provides clear, helpful information during an often confusing and stressful time.



If you would like to participate, please email our Marketing Manager, Christina, by Friday March 17th:

c.panagopoulos@acmff.org.au