

# Members Update

January 2024  
– June 2025



transplant  
australia

Here for life.

# Intended Impact

To support all those on the transplant journey to have the best chance of a healthy life while encouraging all Australians to embrace organ and tissue donation.

# Values and Behaviours

### Celebrate

We engage positively to celebrate and champion the journeys, stories and achievements of our community to help promote the gift of life.

### Inclusion and Diversity

We embrace diversity, respect people’s differences and seek to help all people realise their full potential.

### Collaborate

We work respectfully and positively with our membership, the organ and tissue donation and transplant sectors using an evidence and research-based approach to achieve our shared goals.

### Fairness and Compassion

We value the demonstration of empathy, honesty and integrity in all our engagements.

### Person First

We are committed to helping empower and educate recipients, living donors, donor families and carers.

### Sustainability

We strive for a healthy and resilient body, mind, community, system and organisation.



# From the Chair



More than a year into my role at Transplant Australia, I have come to better appreciate the value our organisation brings to the organ and tissue donation sector, and to see where opportunities lie in improving donation for all Australians.

Transplant Australia occupies a unique space, uniting almost 4,000 Australians who share a lived experience of the gift of life, or a deep connection to it. Through their stories we advocate for improvements to donation, we showcase its undeniable life-saving benefits, and we undertake this work with passion, professionalism and commitment.

While our flagship program, the Australian Transplant Games, often brings this work into the spotlight, we are much more than this prestigious and worthwhile event.

I was privileged to attend the Games in Canberra last year, where I witnessed both the passion of our members and the high regard in which the Games are held by governments and the Organ & Tissue Authority. The opening parade through Floriade, the nation’s spring festival, was a sight to behold. Fittingly, Life Member Brian Donovan named it the best parade of all the Australian and World Games he has attended.

It was also a pleasure to meet with the CEO of the Organ & Tissue Authority, Lucinda Barry, and the Assistant Minister for Health, the Hon. Ged Kearney, and to hear first-hand their appreciation

of Transplant Australia. Yet the most precious moments were spent with our members, those whose lives have been transformed by transplantation, those who have given others the gift through living kidney donation, and those who have bravely consented to donate a loved one’s organs.

As I have said, however, Transplant Australia is much more than the Games. Increasingly, our focus is on supporting people throughout their transplant journey. This has long been the missing piece of the puzzle, and it is wonderful to see Transplant Australia taking a leading role in this work. Of course, we can only achieve this in collaboration with our professional transplant colleagues. Management has positioned us well to work alongside the Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand, the Transplant Nurses Association, and other professional groups.

That said, our work is far from done. Organ and tissue donation rates need to improve, state governments must act on their reports into donation and continue to provide resources, and we must address inequities in transplantation while also supporting exploration of alternatives.

Inequities include the lack of opportunity for Indigenous Australians, some ethnic groups, and people from rural and remote regions to access transplantation. While this is linked to broader healthcare access, we cannot rest until these disparities are addressed.

I am also concerned about gender bias in transplantation. Women are more likely to become living donors, yet less likely to receive a transplant. It’s staggering that I can even be raising this as an issue in 2025, but it is a concern shared by many professionals across the sector.

Australia also must place greater emphasis on alternatives to transplantation such as xenotransplantation. All the success stories and developments seem to be coming out of the USA or abroad. We have an excellent system of donation and transplantation in Australia. Transplant Australia, the national community voice for donation and transplantation, has an important role in highlighting these opportunities so that more Australians can receive the gift of life.

With more than 1,800 Australians waiting and those on dialysis growing daily, we need to continue to advocate strongly.

I extend my sincere thanks to my fellow directors for their dedicated service, and to all in our community who give their time so generously to help us pursue our vision. We are especially proud of our volunteers and staff—a remarkable group whose commitment and passion embody the very best of Transplant Australia.

**Professor Petrina Coventry**  
*Chair, Transplant Australia*



# From the CEO

Transplant Australia is evolving. Evolving to meet the growing needs of the Australian transplant community.

This change is evident through the look and feel of this Annual Members Update and, while this refreshed branding is vital to position Transplant Australia as a fully-fledged charity helping our community, actions will always speak louder than words.

This transition started during the COVID-19 Pandemic – a time when our community was genuinely, and rightly, concerned about their health with one of the deadliest pandemics in our lifetime leaving devastating consequences across the world. We are proud we played a role in keeping our community safe, with trusted advice from the experts. A little earlier we launched our ‘Living with a Transplant’ web resource and it’s always heartening to hear transplant nurses say it is their No. 1 tool for helping patients. Transplant Active has also been designed to help patients mental and physical wellbeing and connect to community.

More recently we have tackled living donor education, as the need is urgent and there is a vacuum in this space. We are also continuing to grow our educational seminar series across Australia. All of this is happening while we remain a strong advocate for donation and transplantation - reinforcing our relationships with professional communities, staging our flagship program, the Australian Transplant Games, and sending the Australian team to the World Transplant Games.

Highlights of the past year, detailed elsewhere in this report, include helping to establish the Victorian Parliamentary Friends of Transplant Australia, conducting a very successful NSW Parliamentary

## Why does Transplant Australia exist?

To support a diverse community of transplant recipients, donors, living donors, carers, professionals and those waiting for a transplant,

by: providing powerful advocacy, research and education, networks and community through our information and activities,

so that: they can receive ongoing guidance, connection and advocacy on the transplant journey, for a life lived well.

Friends event and delivering the Australian Games in Canberra.

Behind the scenes some important work has been undertaken with our impact agency, Anthologie. This work reaffirms the new strategic plan which is now fully operational. Anthologie conducted a series of focus groups and spoke with health care professionals about the role Transplant Australia currently plays and the gaps that need to be addressed. What emerged is an unmet need for education, mental health support, and peer support—areas we knew were there but hadn’t fully quantified.

It became obvious through this process that Transplant Australia can’t just turn up some years after a transplant and be only for the celebration of renewed life. Those waiting need education and information about how to prepare for a transplant, what to expect through the process, how to recover, along with peer support and someone to talk to with lived experience. Above all,



they also need that missing ingredient at that time of their lives – hope.

We have many of the building blocks in place to deliver this revised program, including an excellent Education and Support Manager in Angela Cairns with her family experience of transplantation.

We have three recipients on staff – Kate Clark, Emmy O’Neill and Vivienne Lee – all with a deep and different understanding of transplantation. Julie Edwards continues to provide unique insights into living donation.

We have excellent marketing and communications staff, Jo O’Farrell and Dan Grant, supported by administration and finance, Ian Atkin.

Our motto, ‘make the most of life’ is evolving. Much of what we have done has been in celebration, with a clear target being the Australia public. While this has successfully driven Transplant Australia over the past 15 years, it doesn’t necessarily speak to the time when a charity like ours is needed most - that time when patients are at the lowest, in a fog of the news they need a transplant and bewildered by information overload. It doesn’t speak to the families and carers - the people tasked with absorbing that information and keeping spirits up.

A transplant is for life and Transplant Australia is here for life - here to help every step of the way. We look forward to this evolution and solidifying our role as the only true national community organisation for donation and transplantation helping those who need receive the very best care – both within our hospital system and outside and beyond.

Transplant Australia. Here for Life.

**Chris Thomas**  
Chief Executive Officer




# Strategic Plan

Transplant Australia’s Strategic Plan 2024-2026 - focuses on three key pillars underpinned by capability.

## Objectives

1	Contribute to the increase of organ and tissue donation rates.	2	Activate our community to maximise participation for long-term health outcomes.	3	Empower our community to manage their health and live their best lives.
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## Strategic Pillars

	Advocacy & Storytelling		Active Lifestyles		Transplant Education & Support
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## Capability

The important foundations that underpin our strategic pillars to enable our long term sustainability and success for the benefit of the community.





# Advocacy & Storytelling



Transplant Australia is the leading national community voice advocating for improvements to donation and transplantation on behalf of the entire transplant community.

**What sets us apart from other organisations?**

We value professionalism, mature and responsible advocacy and commentary. We value a shared and collaborative approach with other organisations that share similar values.

Underpinning everything we do in the public space is gratitude for those who said ‘yes’ to donation, either through living kidney donation or by registering as a donor or giving consent on behalf of a loved one. Equally we believe we need to build public trust and

confidence in the donation system – and this can be easily eroded by groups ‘talking down’ our donation system.

This doesn’t mean everything is perfect. Improvements need to be made. However, we advocate for those through government submissions, in direct contact with Ministers, both Federal and State, the Department of Health and Aged Care and the Organ & Tissue Authority.

We particularly highlight areas of need, including living donation, and work to address inequities in transplantation, specifically amongst Indigenous Australia, those from diverse communities and from rural and remote regions. More work needs to be done in this space.

Vital to this advocacy work, is to share the stories of those with lived experience in these discussions with decision-makers. Equally we play a valuable role in promoting these lived experiences through the media. Our community’s stories – their survival against all odds, the support of their loved ones, the generosity of donors – are literally our greatest assets. They are what sets Transplant Australia apart.

The transplant community is represented by Transplant Australia management on many government and advisory committees including the Organ & Tissue Authority’s Transplant Advisory Group, the Community Education Group and other organ specific taskforces and consumer groups.

## In action

- Victorian Parliamentary Friends of Transplant Australia established
- Ongoing media liaison responding to stories on organ donation advocacy
- Input into the National Strategy of Organ Donation and Transplantation
- Promotion and media stories regarding athletes’ participation in the Australian Transplant Games Canberra
- Liaison with Law Reform Commission and submission into Human Tissue Laws review
- Promotion and media stories regarding the Australian Team to the Transplant Football World Cup
- Continued advocacy on the Victorian Inquiry into increasing the number of registered organ and tissue donors
- Media stories about transplant athletes in community events
- Meetings with NSW Government on updating donation strategy
- Representation on the Australian Sporting Alliance for People with a Disability
- Liaison with Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority Organ & Tissue Project review
- Supported the release of the ‘Because of You’ by singer Rose Parker on Spotify in line with national Thank You Day
- Representation on OTA Transplant Advisory and Community Engagement Groups
- Supported member participation in DonatLife Week, along with other key promotions such as Saffron Day and Jersey Day
- Supported the production and launch of Everywhere, The Periscope Crew’s award-winning documentary film detailing their involvement in the 2023 World Transplant Games
- Hosted an advocacy breakfast with Parliamentary Friends of Organ Donation, Australian Parliament House





# Active Lifestyles



Transplant Australia’s unique position as a charity lies in helping transplant recipients recover and get back into living life well through exercise, sport and connection.

This is our heritage through the transplant games movement and our membership of the World Transplant Games Federation.

However, transplant recipients, and indeed those waiting for a transplant as well as living donors, need regular connection with exercise and physical activity if it is to play a significant role in shaping their lives. Equally all exercise programs are only successful if they are embedded into everyday life and are supported by family, friends and peers.

Over the past 18 months Transplant Australia has successfully demonstrated to the Federal Department of Health and Aged Care, the Australian Sports

Commission and State Governments, the needs of the recipient community to be included in physical activity programs.

We have secured several grants so that we can roll out our programs under Transplant Active and help more people with ‘mind, body and community’.

This enables us to showcase the success of transplantation through public and community events while we also engage with the professional transplant community to partner in the delivery of these programs.

The standout event during the year was the staging of the Australian Transplant Games in Canberra. This helped continue the momentum from the World Transplant Games in Perth in 2023. What was extremely pleasing was the number of new faces becoming involved in the transplant games movement.



Other activities included sending a small team to the Winter World Transplant Games, a team to the Transplant Football World Cup and beginning the significant preparations for the Australian team to travel to the World Transplant Games in Dresden, Germany.

## In action

- Our community participated in comprehensive series of sporting events held across Australia including walking, lawn bowls, ten-pin bowling, community triathlons, Aus Cycling Road Nats (Ballarat and Perth), and Australian Transplant Games (Canberra)
- Increased multi-class classifications across swimming, athletics, and cycling for junior and masters athletes
- Supported Australian Teams to World Transplant Football Cup and World Winter Transplant Games
- Continued recognition by the Australian Sports Commission as a National Sporting Organisation with a Disability
- Participation Funding from ASC to support ongoing participation programs for inclusive sport opportunities
- Implementation of Sport Integrity Education Programs
- Collaboration with National and State based mass participation and showcase events – such as Busso100, City to Surf, HBF Run for a Reason, Spartan Race AU/NZ and Docceroos Football
- Regional engagement with activations and connections in Coffs Harbour, Armidale Tamworth, Bathurst and Wagga Wagga.
- Training camps held in lead up to 2024 Australian Transplant Games and 2025 World Transplant Games
- Collaboration with NSOs: AusCycling, SwimAUS, Australian Athletics, Rowing Australia, Lawn Bowls Australia & AusTri
- Sports Advisory Group continues to meet to provide guidance, recommendations, and strategic input on the planning, delivery, and evaluation of sports programs, policies, or initiatives
- Implementation of grant programs for Breaking the Barriers and Comeback program for women and girls.
- Preparations and planning for Community Virtual Challenge implementation
- Continuation of Transplant Active Program in WA supported by Lotterywest
- Implementation of State based grants within NSW and QLD, delivering sports development camps, committee governance and compliance training
- Development of the TAFC Committee, including executive and state-based members to drive participation and memberships.





# Education & Support



The growing need of the transplant community for education and support throughout their entire transplant journey has seen Transplant Australia expand this important area of our work.

The main offering to our community continues to be the 'Living with a Transplant' web resource although increasingly we are supplementing this information with educational seminars both in person and online.

Significant work is being undertaken to directly address specific groups of our community needing tailored information – young adults, parents of children with transplants and importantly, potential living donors.

The standout work over the reporting period was the development and release of our Living Donor Stories which were developed by the Living Donor

Steering Committee with input from living donor coordinators throughout Australia and living donors themselves.

This work was the result of a significant unmet need being identified with a comprehensive plan put in place to understand the questions that needed answering in any video series. The series will continue to be expanded, and we hope will play the platform for more consistent information for potential living donors. Transplant Australia expresses its thanks to all living donors and recipients who appeared in the series and to all coordinators who helped bring their stories to life.

Importantly, in the education and support field, we work closely with the transplant professional community through the Transplantation Society of Australia & New Zealand (TSANZ) and the Transplant Nurses Association (TNA).

We are embedded in the Annual Scientific Meeting of the TSANZ with the delivery of an important patient forum and the biennial Mark Cocks Scholarship. We are also represented at the TNA National Conference and increasingly a number of other specialist conferences for focus areas including renal, skin cancer and other areas of interest to our community.

We deliver successful education meetings at the state level, and these expanded in Western Australia and South Australia over the reporting period. We look forward to expanding them into all states.

Resources to support those waiting for a transplant are also a growing area of focus and need identified by our community. Equally we are expanding resources for families of those with transplants.

## In action

- Development and launch of Living Donor Series to help potential donors better understand the value of donation
- Development of young adults' content including simple education and interactive journal
- Waiting for a transplant action plan and journal under development
- Hosting a family & paediatric taskforce to provide a more holistic care approach for patients and carers
- Camps for families of paediatric and young adults in WA with support from Lotterywest and Channel 7 Telethon
- Tx Parents Connect continues bimonthly with 47 families registered
- Continued the Young Adult Clinic in Brisbane support of the Sony Foundation
- Conference attendance and presentations to TSANZ, TNA, Novartis and Astellas
- Paediatric care packs under development
- Series of webinars held on topics such as Preparing for Holidays with further webinars planned





# Capability



The fourth and vital pillar of the Strategic Plan deals with Capability, ensuring Transplant Australia is sustainable and acting within a best practice framework set down by the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission, the Australian Sports Commission and Sport Integrity Australia.

The overall objective is to better position Transplant Australia for the long term to continue to meet the needs of the transplant community and advocate for improvements to donation and transplantation.

Some of our work is specifically tied to the delivery of grants, programs and activities such as physical activity programs and the transplant games. However much of the foundation of

Transplant Australia is not tied to such programs yet is essential if we are to be respected and continue to grow our influence amongst government and the sector.

Management of the Board and various committees, including advisory groups and state committees, lies within capability.

A major achievement in the reporting period has been the rejuvenation of state committees with Transplant Australia now active in each state.

Grant writing and funding applications to achieve our mission are a major component of capability and Transplant Australia was successful with the most significant 'non-games' grant during

the reporting period achieving a grant under the Department of Health & Aged Care's Play Our Way program to support women and girls. We also continued the implementation of the Australian Sports Commissions Play Well 'Everyone has a Place in Sport' Participation Strategy.

An increase in grant funding was achieved with the NSW Government; a new grant was achieved from the Queensland Government while we continued the achievement of grants from Channel 7 Telethon in WA.

Fundraising programs through events fundraising grew in the reporting period with the conduct of another Body Buddies Ball in Victoria and the Orange Ball in Queensland.

## In action

- Recognition and compliance by the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission
- Recognition by the Australian Sports Commission and Sports Integrity Australia
- Compliance with the Australian Taxation Office
- Continuation of state-based charity licences on behalf of state committees
- Investigations into membership and registration processes to identify an integrated platform
- Updates to Director's code of conduct, the Board Charter and the Nominations, Finance, Audit & Risk Committee Charter
- Aayushi Khillan (VIC) and Jake Prince (WA) were awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award, and Mary Albrow (QLD) was awarded the Distinguished Service Award
- Appointment of Anthologie, our Impact Agency, to help with branding, website and implementation of key programs
- Achievement of significant grants under Play our Way and Playwell programs
- Major fundraising events including Body Buddies Gala and Orange Ball
- Ongoing regular donations from the community
- Updates to membership database to align with sector reporting
- Glenda Rayment (WA) was awarded Life Membership





# Australian Transplant Games



The 17th Australian Transplant Games, a weeklong celebration of life through sport, was held in Canberra from October 1 to 6 with 20 sports including development sports in pickleball and indoor rowing.

A total of 460 participants, including 206 transplant competitors and 106 supporter competitors, registered for the seven-day event.

The Games provided an opportunity for both elite and recreational athletes to come together and compete on a national stage. The Games encouraged transplant recipients to improve their health and fitness while showcasing the life-changing benefits of organ donation.

Most importantly, the Games were an opportunity for recipients, their families, living donors and donor families to come together and see they are not alone in their journey and amongst Transplant Australia are caring members of our community committed to supporting everyone.

A highlight of the Games for many was the Opening Parade through Floriade and the Opening Ceremony with

*"Transplant Australia, you have helped me more than you could know. Eight years after organ failure requiring transplant and an extraordinary recovery, I felt that I began to heal. This is solely due to my attendance and participation in the 2024 Australian Transplant Games. Thank you to every human involved. My experience was truly life reimagined."*  
Games Participant

Rose Parker's moving performance of her song 'Because of You'. Rose captivated everyone in the audience, sharing the story of her late brother Tim who became an organ donor and her journey that inspired her incredible song. Together, we shared so many moments of connection, gratitude, pride, sportsmanship, and celebration.

Congratulations to the award winners from the 2024 Australian Transplant Games:

- Mark Cocks Memorial Juniors Shield – Team NSW
- Victor Chang Memorial Shield – Team NSW
- Donor Family Shield – Team WA
- David Cairns Memorial Juniors Shield – Team QLD
- Athlete of the Games – Grace Pearce and Steve Griffin
- Jan and Daryl Wall International Shield – Digvijay Singh Gujral
- DonatLife Shield – Rob Dixon
- Spirit of the Games Award – Danny Ussher
- Jack Nolan Memorial Trophy – Sebastian Molina

Transplant Australia extends a heartfelt thank you to the volunteers, team managers, sports coordinators, and every participant who made these Games possible.

Thank you to the Organ & Tissue Authority for its sponsorship of the Games and also to Astellas for its support.





# Transplant Football World Cup



Australia sent a team of twelve players and 28 supporters to the inaugural Transplant World Football Cup held in Italy in 2024. Australia had the largest group of travelling supporters of all 11 countries attending (excluding hosts Italy). Following selection trials and training camps, the official launch with the Football Players Association was held on the shores of Sydney Harbour.

A new volunteer coach, Camryn Milne, was appointed with strength and conditioning programs embedded into training facilitated by fellow transplant recipient Monty Summers.

Sanitarium/Weetbix was announced as sponsor.

The Australian team came seventh in the competition and was awarded the Fair Play Award for the tournament, a testament to the calibre of the individual athletes and the team they created. They were also able to inspire, inform and spread the important message of organ and tissue donation. Media attention around the Transplant Football World Cup generated over 20 newspaper articles, radio segments, and television appearances.





# Meet the team

## Board & Staff List

Board	Staff
Petrina Coventry – Chair	Ian Atkin – Finance Manager
Michelle Daley	Angela Cairns – Support and Education Manager
Dr Rohit D’Costa	Kate Clark – Sport and Physical Activity Manager
Lisa Gavin – Secretary	Julie Edwards – Membership and Donor Support Manager
Dr Georgina Irish	Dan Grant – Marketing and Communications Coordinator
Colin Liebmann	Vivienne Lee – Administration
Heidi Monsour	Jo O’Farrell – Stakeholder Engagement Manager
Chris Thomas – CEO	Emmy O’Neill – Sport and Physical Activity Manager
	Julie Scudds – Transplant Active Event Coordinator
	Valerie Waghorn – Administration Coordinator
	Chris Thomas – CEO

## Advisory Groups

Support and Education Advisory Group	Sports Advisory Group	Advocacy Advisory Group
Patricia Scheetz – Chair	Michelle Daley - Chair	Heidi Monsour - Chair
Matthew Heyburgh	Florence Witton	Roger Bylett
Christopher Teese	Andrew Veigel	Allison Chandler
Wendy Hawks	Brad Langmack	Scott Clouder
Taryn Vassallo	Peter Thornton	Clare Dixon
Peter Scalzo	Adam Gerrie	Christine Gilchrist
Daniella Dickson	Troy Scudds	Tessa Keegel
George Veginis	Ron Spriggs	Mark Oksanen
Rob Dixon	Aaron Lee	Rudy Opteynde
Gordon Rutty	Perry Judd	
Melissa Lewry	Kate Phillips	
Annie Gilberthorpe	Christie Sheather	
	Molly Brew	
	Kerrin Litchfield	



Transplant Australia thanks all the many volunteers who have helped our community.

## State Committees

NSW	QLD
Chair – Andrew Veigel	Chair – Perry Judd
Vice-Chair – Michael Kennedy	Vice Chair – Kate Phillips
Treasurer – Margaret Hill	Treasurer – Lidija Judd
Secretary – Susan Robson	Secretary – Holly Wakelin
VIC	SA
Chair – Peter Wain	Chair – Penny Geue
Vice Chair – Kaitlyn Steavenson	Vice Chair – Theresa Tucker
Treasurer – Greg Vawdrey	Secretary – Julie Black
Events – Dan Ussher	Treasurer – Peter Black
WA	
Chair – Troy Scudds	Events – Julie Scudds
Vice Chair – Glenda Rayment	Fundraising – Anne Brady
Secretary – Jane Bartlett	Living Donors – Julie Moloney
Treasurer – Tara Lowther	Junior Members – Alana Prince
Communications – Deonne Walsh	Membership – Marg Martin & Pauline Sweeny
Community Engagement – Wendy Hawks	Sports – Marnie Butler & Jason Ringrose
Donor Families – Sandra Hampton	Life Members – George Hobson & Margaret Martin
TAS	ACT
Chair – Ken Fletcher	Chair – Vicki Bellingham
Transplant Australia Football Club	
Chair – Ante Kelic	Treasurer – Liam Woods
Vice Chair – Nick King	Player representative / Stakeholder
Secretary & State Coordinator – Matt Heyburgh	Engagement – Brendan Ryland



# Our Connections

Transplant Australia is proudly recognised as an Official Partner of DonateLife, a National Sporting Organisation with a Disability by the Australian Sports Commission, and one of nine members of the Australian Sporting Alliance for People with a Disability.



Australian Government  
Australian Sports Commission

Continuing to drive Australian sport forward is at the heart of everything we do at the Australian Sports Commission.

We want to bring out the best in everyone involved in sport because that's how we will become the world's best – by working together and bound by a common purpose.

We encourage and help Australians of all backgrounds, ages and abilities to get involved in sport and we advocate for sport and the positive influence it has on the nation.

As we look towards next year's Milano Cortina Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Glasgow Commonwealth Games, Los Angeles 2028 and Brisbane 3032, our vision is for sport to be safe, fair, accessible and inclusive.

Every athlete will be supported to reach their full potential with the Australian Government's record \$385 million investment package for sport ensuring Australians have world class pathways and support at all levels of sport from participation to high performance.

This includes a record \$54.9 million for Para sport – doubling previous funding – ahead of Brisbane 2032.

## A message from the Chair of the Australian Sports Commission – Kate Jenkins AO

Our grant programs support athletes, coaches, officials and organisations, while our Sporting Schools program is helping more children access free and fun sporting activities than ever before.

Work is also underway to upgrade the AIS Campus in Canberra, so it is once again modern and world-leading.

The AIS Podium Project will deliver three new facilities, including a new multi-story and para-accessible accommodation, a Testing and Training Centre and indoor Sport Dome.

Construction will commence later this year with the AIS Podium Project being the first stage in delivery of the broader AIS Campus Masterplan – the ASC's long term vision to ensure the AIS Campus continue to evolve as Australia's world leading high performance sport precinct.

As Australian high performance sport continues to win well and build sustainable success towards Brisbane 2032 and beyond, we're also addressing the barriers people tell us they face participating in sport so all Australians that want to be involved can be involved in sport. This is how we will play well.

I know success will be greatest when every part of the system is able to perform their role at their best and I'm confident that the actions we take now will create a lasting legacy for Australian sport that will benefit us all for years to come.



Dear Members, Stakeholders and Friends of the Australian Sporting Alliance for People with Disability (ASAPD).

As Chair of ASAPD, I am pleased to share highlights from the past financial year. It has been a year of strong progress as we continue to advance inclusion across the sporting sector.

Our National Integrity Manager has supported member organisations by upskilling staff in investigations, presenting nationally and internationally on classification and sport law, and finalising an internal tribunal to strengthen integrity processes.

We advanced corporate services through a renewed pro-bono partnership with Dentons Australia, collaborative work on a potential self-insurance program and governance reform via a new Constitution establishing a skills-based, independent Board.

In communications, we appointed a dedicated advisor and developed

## ASAPD Yearly Review

a marketing plan to ensure clear, consistent and accessible messaging. Membership also grew, with Boccia Australia joining as our ninth member.

International partnerships were established with organisations in Iceland, Finland, Sweden and the IPC, while domestically we strengthened ties with Surfing Australia, Swimming Australia and AUSactive.

Our education and training work included Easy English policy translations, a Disability Inclusion Resource Guide with Cricket Australia, and strong engagement with our online modules – the coaching module alone surpassing 900 completions. Planning is well advanced for the inaugural ASAPD Sport and Disability Forum, set for Sydney in March 2026.

Research collaborations with leading universities secured more than \$5 million in grant funding, while the launch of our shared services program in January 2025 has already delivered significant

value in HR, finance, grant writing and communications support for members.

Finally, we continue to represent disability sport nationally through the ASC Volunteer Coalition, Play Well Leadership Group and DFAT's Sports Diplomacy Roundtable, ensuring the voice of our community is heard at the highest levels.

As a proud member of ASAPD, Transplant Australia plays a vital role in promoting participation and inclusion for people in the transplant community. Your leadership and programs demonstrate the power of sport to transform lives, and we value the contribution you make to the broader movement for equity and access in Australian sport.

Sincerely,

**John Croll AM**  
*Chair, ASAPD*



## A message from the Chief Executive Officer of the Organ and Tissue Authority – Lucinda Barry AM

The Organ and Tissue Authority (OTA) is proud to continue our partnership with Transplant Australia, an organisation that plays a key role in celebrating the gift of life and promoting the importance of organ and tissue donation across Australia.

Transplant Australia's hosting of the 2024 Games in Canberra and participation in the 2025 World Games in Germany supports the OTA's national DonateLife program to build support for organ donation so that more Australians can receive a life-saving transplant.

These events are more than sporting competitions – they are powerful platforms for community engagement, public awareness, and peer support. They showcase the transformative impact of transplantation and honour the generosity of donors, and their families.

I am looking forward to hearing about the opportunities future games present to further amplify DonateLife messages nationally.

To all organ and tissue donors, and their families – thank you. They are the reason these games exist, and their legacy lives

on in every athlete who competes, every family reunited, and every life saved.

To all people who have received a transplant, their families, volunteers, and supporters – thank you. Your courage, generosity, and commitment continue to inspire us all.



Transplant Australia thanks donors, their families and living donors for helping to make the gift of life come true.

 Transplant Australia Ltd  
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[transplant.org.au](https://transplant.org.au)



This Members Report may be read in conjunction with the 2024 Financial Statements available at [transplant.org.au](https://transplant.org.au)

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