



# The Butterfly Effect

Spring 2009

Since October 2007, Hannah's Chance Foundation has aimed to become the passionate voice in the fight against sarcoma. Thanks to the generous support of the Australian community, Hannah's Chance Foundation is now poised to make this a reality.

It is with great pleasure and pride that the Foundation announces the commencement of two key programs which will help ensure it fulfills its mission of changing the future for sarcoma sufferers.

The first program is targeted at funding sarcoma medical research projects to enable Australian scientists find answers to the many unknowns that surround sarcoma. Due to the lack of research funding, significant advances in sarcoma care to improve outcomes and survival are not being made.

The second program is called 'Friendly Wards' and is focused on providing sarcoma patients and their families with comfort and support once they are diagnosed and on their treatment journey.

Stay tuned for exciting developments to these programs in future editions of 'The Butterfly Effect'.



Hannah Ciobo-O'Driscoll

## Sarcoma at a glance

So what is sarcoma? Sarcoma is a cancer of the connective or supportive tissue, which includes bone, cartilage, fat, muscle, blood vessels, and soft tissue. More than one thousand people in Australia are diagnosed with sarcoma every year.

Sarcomas are given a number of different names, based on the type of tissue from which they arise. For example, osteosarcoma arises from bone, chondrosarcoma from cartilage, and leiomyosarcoma from smooth muscle. Synovial sarcomas affect soft tissue such as muscles and ligaments.

## Sarcoma research project funded



Dr Scott Sommerville, sarcoma researcher

Hannah's Chance Foundation, in partnership with the Wesley Research Institute, will jointly fund a major research project aimed at identifying the molecular and cellular origins of osteosarcoma. This may pave the way for the development of the most significant new treatment for osteosarcoma in 20 years.

In particular, the new research offers hope to those sufferers who do not respond to traditional drug therapy and have no other curative options available to them.

Osteosarcoma is the second most common primary cancer of the bone and the sixth most common type of cancer in children. Most patients afflicted by this disease are only in their teens and currently about 30 per cent of these patients will not survive.

To support this research effort, Hannah's Chance Foundation has also sponsored a 'Sarcoma Research Office' located in the Wesley Research Institute's new Health and Medical Research Centre in Brisbane. The office provides a collaborative hub for sarcoma researchers and provides the Foundation with important visibility within a world-class research institution.



I would like to support Hannah's Chance Foundation by making a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my donation to be directed towards:

- The area with the most urgent need OR
- Sarcoma research
- Friendly Wards program

### BECOME A HANNAH'S HELPER

I would like to become a 'Hannah's Helper'

by donating \$ \_\_\_\_\_ every month to Hannah's Chance Foundation until otherwise advised

- I have provided my credit card details to the right

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Please find enclosed

- My cheque/money order made payable to Hannah's Chance Foundation OR

Please charge my credit card:  Visa  Mastercard  Diners  Amex

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry \_\_ \_\_ / \_\_ \_\_ Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of card holder \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Your gift will be acknowledged by an official receipt and is tax deductible





Tracey Wickham

## Tracey Wickham appointed ambassador

Tracey Wickham, Australian-swimming great and Hannah's mother, has officially been appointed the first Ambassador of Hannah's Chance Foundation.

The role will enable Tracey to utilise her public profile to raise money for the Foundation's sarcoma awareness, research and support.

"It is a role that Hannah and I dreamed about doing together but her absence makes my role all the more important because I will be doing it on behalf of both of us," Tracey said.

"This is why I was born to swim fast. This is why I was put on this earth. To help make sure that the world doesn't lose its greatest asset, its young people. People like Hannah who would have had so much to contribute if they'd just had the chance."



Mr Tony Phillips, Chairman

## Introducing the Board of Directors

The Hannah's Chance Foundation's Board of Directors has recently been appointed and is responsible for the strategic direction and governance of the organisation.

Chaired by Tony Phillips, Managing Director of Brisbane-based Murdoch Lawyers, the Board greatly assists the Foundation in key areas including media and marketing, financial services and fundraising.

Board Members also include Robert Ciobo, William Fowles, Rodney Hockey, Thomas O'Driscoll, Vincent McFarlane and Leigh Webb.

The Wesley Research Institute will continue to help administer the Foundation and manage its medical research projects in order to maintain the highest level of scientific and ethical validity.



## In Hannah's words

*"We all know it's hard to live like a butterfly with no wings or yourself with no smile, but when it's your time to look back on the hardest challenge you conquered with a smirk on your face, you know that anything impossible is possible for you."*

Hannah Ciobo-O'Driscoll, July 2005



## FUNCTIONS FOR THE foundation

Hannah's Chance Foundation has been the grateful beneficiary of a number of fundraising events. Schools, community groups, corporates and individuals from all over Australia have generously contributed to the Foundation by way of dinner dances, golf days, cooking shows, surf challenges, high teas and even a bed race! Please enjoy a selection of photos above from these events as well as the Hannah's Chance Foundation's own event, held every 1 September. The smiles on people's faces at these events are testament to the feeling of shared positivity and optimism Hannah's Chance Foundation helps provide sufferers, their families and the community.



Hannah's Chance Foundation c/- The Wesley Research Institute

ACN Number: 135 752 877

Level 8 East Wing, The Wesley Hospital, 451 Coronation Drive Auchenflower Qld 4066

Postal Address PO Box 499 Toowong Qld 4066 Phone 61 7 3721 1777 Facsimile 61 7 3721 1590

Email [hannahs-chance@wesleyresearch.com.au](mailto:hannahs-chance@wesleyresearch.com.au) Website [www.hannahs-chancefoundation.org.au](http://www.hannahs-chancefoundation.org.au)

Proudly supported by

