



Southern
Cancer Society

Te Kāhui Matepukupuku o Te Waipounamu

Otago Southland Division

Annual Report
2024





Neil Boniface
Chairperson

Chairperson's Report

The Cancer Society has made significant strides this financial year in its mission to mitigate the impact of cancer within our communities. I am proud to say that the number of people we have supported across our region has **risen by 46%** over the past two years.

We have grown our commitment and presence in Central Otago which has allowed us to do this, but this investment also prepares us for future population growth and need.



The Southern Cancer Society's Canterbury Cancer Centre in Christchurch

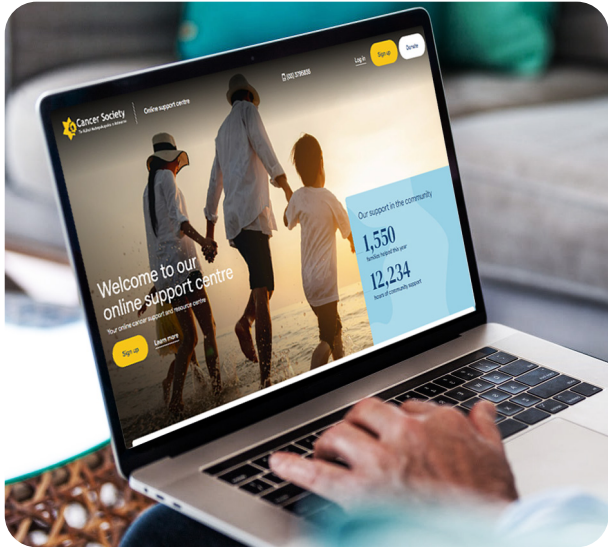
We also celebrate the opening of the Canterbury Cancer Centre which provides free accommodation for those who need to travel outside our region for treatment. In its first six months, already sixty-nine people from Otago Southland have used the facility. Additionally, we are working closely with the Canterbury and West Coast Division to form a unified South Island Cancer Society, to be named the Southern Cancer Society.

These initiatives signify a new chapter in cancer care for the South Island. However, workforce issues within our health services continue to pose challenges in diagnosing, treating, and supporting people with cancer. We recognize the efforts of both the sector and the government in diligently addressing these challenges.

The Cancer Society is committed to reducing the incidence of cancer, advocating for early detection, and supporting families throughout their cancer journey. We guide them through the healthcare system and empower them with knowledge. Our accommodation centres offer safe, purpose-built lodging, ensuring all essential services are available under one roof.

The Otago Southland and Canterbury West Coast Divisions have always collaborated effectively, but our planned merger into one entity will strengthen us, so we can better ensure equal access to services and support across our regions. The merger also allows us to streamline our operations and extend our reach so we can help even more families through their journey.

The Cancer Society is also exploring an online portal to facilitate easier access to support, giving families control over how and when they connect with the services they need. Stay tuned for more exciting developments in the next financial year.



The Southern Cancer Society's new online support portal

I want to express my gratitude to our board members for their invaluable support and strategic vision for our division. I also extend my heartfelt thanks to Nicola Coom, our CEO, for her passion and energy in leading our incredible staff to ensure we reach the 1 in 3 people affected by cancer and their families.

Our staff and volunteers are the backbone of our organisation. Without you, and the thousands of people you support each year, we would be lost. Your work for the Cancer Society is invaluable and deeply appreciated by so many.

Of course, our members and donors are equally invaluable. With one in three of us diagnosed with cancer, rates increasing, and no direct Government funding, we simply couldn't continue our work without your generous support.

A huge thank you to everyone, with a special acknowledgment to ANZ – the principal sponsor of Daffodil Day and a major sponsor of the Cancer Society of New Zealand for over thirty years. Your contributions have made an incredible impact on the wellbeing of all New Zealanders. Well done to you all.

With warm regards,

Neil Boniface
Chairperson



Nicola Coom
Chief Executive

Chief Executive's Report

Leading the Southern Cancer Society fills me with great pride. It's an honour to work with dedicated and enthusiastic people united in the fight against cancer. I extend my heartfelt thanks to our staff, volunteers, partners, and funders for their unwavering support.

While we all wish for a world without cancer, one in three of us is affected by it. This reality drives our efforts and has guided the development of our new 2024-2027 strategic plan.

In the last year the Southern Cancer Society has:



**Clients &
their Whānau**



**Free Night's
accommodation**



Volunteers

We engaged extensively across community, donors, and clinicians to understand the need, challenges, ideas and expectations, and have also drawn on global insights.

This work has led to a laser-focused plan and a new concentrated effort on supporting young adults (under 50 years) due to the alarming rise in diagnoses, increasing our investment in cancer research in line with donor expectations, and prioritising early detection, particularly for cancers with high mortality rates. You can read more about our new plan further in this report.

A significant milestone this year was the merger of Otago Southland and Canterbury West-Coast divisions, ensuring seamless support for families across the South Island and reducing costs for shared services. The opening of The Canterbury Cancer Centre was another highlight, providing free accommodation for over 600 families in its first six months. Additionally, we launched Encompass Health from this new centre, a joint venture with St George's Cancer Care Institute, offering cancer rehabilitation services such as physiotherapy, nutrition, psychology and lymphoedema massage.

The cost-of-living crisis continues to impact our families, who are struggling within a strained health system. Our Cancer Navigators have reported families selling assets for private medical care and unfunded treatments. The support our Cancer Navigators provide is both emotional and practical ensuring no one goes through cancer alone. It includes education, coordination of medical appointments, facilitating access to support services such as budgeting, transport, accommodation, cultural support, providing a listening ear and much more. If there are any barriers to the cancer journey, our Cancer Navigators work hard to remove them.

We are about to launch our online portal, a one stop shop where families can access all the information, they need as well as choose and book appointments with our navigators and other support services. This tool allows families to take control of when, how and who they interact with. We are excited about what this can offer families and think it's a game changer for cancer support.

We will continue to lobby loudly and be unwavering for better access to treatment. for better access to treatment. Cancer is the leading cause of death in New Zealand and deserves to have these issues addressed. This is one of the reasons, Southern Cancer has committed to increasing its investment into research and innovation. As we receive no direct Government funding, our donors remain our only means of continuing with our work. Their dedication to the wellbeing of New Zealanders is commendable.

Lastly, I acknowledge our clinicians for their tireless work. Your commitment to our families is deeply appreciated and does not go unnoticed.

He waka eke noa, we are all in this together.

Kindest regards

Nicola Coom
Chief Executive, Southern Cancer Society

Our Strategic plan for 2024 - 2027



One-in-three of us will be affected by cancer in our lifetimes. The number of diagnoses is predicted to double over the next few years, while those affected are getting younger.

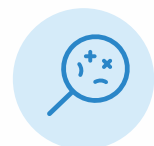
Workforce issues within our health services are providing challenges to diagnosing, treating and supporting people with cancer. Although survival rates are increasing, New Zealand's outcomes are not as good as Australia's or several other comparable countries.

While the Government and the sector work hard to improve these statistics, Southern Cancer scrutinised the work it does to support families through their cancer journeys and identify what its focus should be.



We have identified five strategic priorities for 2024 – 2027 to achieve these ambitions.

They are:



1.

Research and Innovation



2.

Early detection



3.

Extended reach



4.

Generate sustainable funding



5.

Partner for impact



The 1 in 3 could be me

Southern Cancer intends to increase its investment into **Research and Innovation** to twenty percent of our total cost base because developing cures and treatments, helping people overcome or live well longer with cancer, is essential. We have formed a strategic partnership with Deloittes, which is using its best minds from across the world, to shape our research and innovation strategy.

We are holding an inaugural Research and Innovation Conference in **March 2025** to bring our leading cancer experts together and will know we are successful when our cancer outcomes are celebrated around the world in years to come.

One exciting aspect already in place is our involvement in the Tissue Bank Trust based at Christchurch Hospital. Here tissue samples are collected and stored for use in research programmes. Without tissue donations from those living with cancer, understanding and overcoming cancer would be so much harder. Our appreciation to those who donate their tissue samples is unwavering.

Which is why **Extending our Reach**, is so important to support all New Zealanders in their cancer journeys even before diagnosis. Ensuring information is readily available to all sectors of our communities is essential.

Providing people the information they need to detect cancer, steps they can take to prevent it, and, if they are diagnosed, the treatment and the support available, is a top priority. Of course, the support doesn't stop for survivors.

There are many things families can do to reduce the chance of cancer returning and ways to live well with any lingering side effects of treatments. A new digital platform we are currently piloting is a key piece of work to support this initiative.

Although Southern Cancer is well embedded in and part of our communities, we aim to **Partner for Impact** and unite the sector even further. We have created a new partnership framework and will put more emphasis on stakeholder engagement and relationships. We will also understand and communicate the impact Southern Cancer has on our communities.

Finally, without funding none of the above is possible. To secure our future, we need to **Generate Sustainable Funding**. The Cancer Society is the only charity that supports all cancers and all people with no discrimination. If we cease to exist, there is no Government or other organisation that does what we do. The Cancer Society is the only charity that supports all cancers.

We rely on and are totally blown away by the on-going generosity of our donors, we can only do the work we do because of them. It's only through coming together that we'll drive innovation and achieve better cancer outcomes. So, if you haven't already, we ask you to join us for the fight.

Your donation helps people like Jillian facing cancer



Jillian's life took an unexpected turn when, at 60, she underwent a routine bowel cancer screening. She had no prior symptoms, and the diagnosis came as a shock. Living in quiet resilience with her supportive partner, Dave, Jillian faced the battle ahead with unwavering determination.

In June 2023, Jillian underwent surgery, followed by six gruelling months of fortnightly chemotherapy. The physical and emotional toll was immense, compounded by her pre-existing hip issues that left her largely housebound. To make matters more challenging, Dave, who is disabled and unable to drive, was a steadfast source of strength and support.

Throughout this difficult journey, the Cancer Society's Cancer Navigator, Angela Melrose, became a beacon of hope for Jillian and Dave. Angela's home visits provided not just practical support, but also a compassionate presence that lifted their spirits. With mobility being a significant hurdle, Lyn, a dedicated Cancer Society volunteer driver, became their lifeline, ensuring they could get to essential appointments and treatments.

The road was further complicated when Dave broke his arm while Jillian was undergoing chemotherapy. The additional support from the Cancer Society during this time was invaluable. Jillian has now completed her chemotherapy and is under surveillance, marking a new chapter in her recovery.

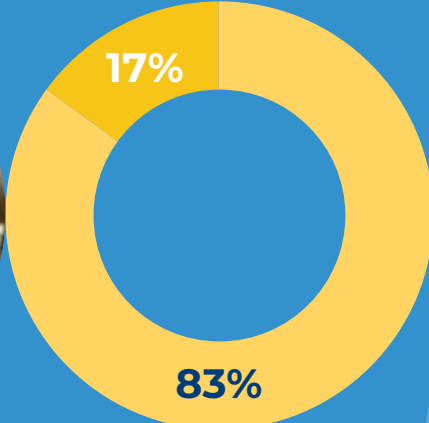
Finding solace and connection, Jillian has started attending coffee and craft groups at the Cancer Society, where she has discovered a community of strength and shared experiences. The Christmas Hamper and care packages provided by the Cancer Society brought unexpected joy and comfort during the festive season.

For over a year, Angela's unwavering support has included securing a total mobility card for Jillian, allowing her reduced taxi fees and a newfound sense of independence. Dave's unwavering support has been Jillian's rock, standing by her through every challenge. Jillian often says, "This journey has been just as much Dave's as mine. He has been there to support me all the way."

This Daffodil Day, Jillian's story stands as a testament to the power of community, love, and resilience in the face of adversity.

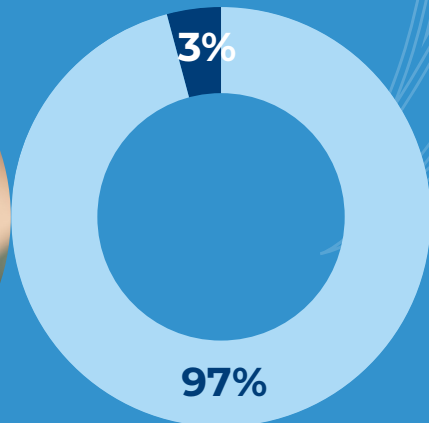
Our Finances

Southern Cancer Society New Zealand, Otago and Southland Division Incorporated



Income for the year ended 31st March 2024

Fundraising
Other Revenue



Expenses for the year ended 31st March 2024

Costs of Providing Goods / Services
Depreciation

Summary Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Fundraising	3,123,629	2,904,595
Other Revenue	631,983	510,239
Total Revenue	3,755,612	3,414,834
Expenses		
Costs of Providing Goods/ Services	3,218,477	3,042,414
Depreciation	93,523	121,819
Total Expenses	3,312,000	3,164,233
Operating Surplus for the year	443,612	250,601
Other Comprehensive Income - Investment (Losses)/Gains	102,623	(63,989)
Surplus for the year	546,235	186,612

Summary Statement of Changes in Net Assets/ Equity as at 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Opening Equity Balance	5,691,098	5,504,486
Surplus for the year	546,235	186,612
Closing Equity balance	6,237,333	5,691,098
Comprising :		
Property Revaluation Reserve	632,141	632,141
Shares Revaluation Reserve	142,703	40,080
General Funds	5,462,489	5,018,877
Total	6,237,333	5,691,098

Summary Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Equity	6,237,333	5,691,098
Represented by :		
Current Assets	3,595,898	3,051,806
Non Current Assets	2,934,434	2,942,333
Total Assets	6,530,332	5,994,139
Current Liabilities	292,999	303,041
Total Liabilities	292,999	303,041
Net Assets	6,237,333	5,691,098

Summary Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities	513,113	416,531
Net Cash Flow (to) Investing Activities	(540,099)	(251,734)

Notes to Summary Financial Statements

- These Summary Financial Statements have been extracted from the full statements which were authorised for issue by the Board on 04 August 2024.
- The specific disclosures included in these Summary Financial Statements have been extracted from the full Financial Statements for each relevant period.
- The full Financial Statements for each relevant period has been audited and a modified audit report has been issued for the year ended 31 March 2024.
- The modification is a qualification that is common with other entities of a similar nature where control over donations and other similar revenue prior to be banked is limited.
- The Financial Statements of the Society have been prepared in accordance with Tier 2 Public Benefit Entity Reduced Disclosure Regime (Not-For-Profit).
- Cancer Society of New Zealand, Otago and Southland Division Incorporated is a public benefit entity and was incorporated on 25 April 1951.
- The presentation currency is New Zealand dollars rounded to the nearest dollar.
- The Summary Financial Statements cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding as provided by the full Financial Statements.
- The Summary Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with PBE FRS 43 Summary Financial Statements as appropriate for a public benefit entity.
- The full Financial Statements can be obtained from the Chief Executive at Cancer Society of New Zealand, Otago and Southland Division Incorporated.



**Southern
Cancer Society**

Te Kāhui Matepukupuku o Te Waipounamu

Our Centres

Otago Centre

283 Great King St, PO Box 6258, Dunedin 9059

P: 03 477 7447

Central Lakes Centre

1st Floor, Aurum House, Terrace Junction,
1092 Frankton Rd

P: 03 442 4281

Southland Centre

149 Spey St, PO Box 955, Invercargill, 9840

P: 03 218 4108

E: admin@cansoc.org.nz

www.cancer.org.nz

