



**Cancer Society**

Te Kāhui Matepukupuku o Aotearoa

**2025/26**

# **Annual Report**

## **PŪRONGO A-TAU**



# Chair's foreword

**This has been an important year of renewal and progress for the Cancer Society of New Zealand.  
During the year, we introduced our 2026–2031 Strategic Plan and a new vision:  
*Working together towards a future free from cancer.***

The challenges created by cancer are too significant and complex for any one organisation to address alone. Our greatest impact comes from working alongside people affected by cancer, families, iwi, communities, researchers, health professionals, government, funders and partner organisations.

Our new strategy provides a shared direction for this work. It focuses our collective effort on supporting people and whānau affected by cancer, advocating for change, advancing research and innovation, and partnering with others to achieve greater impact. Importantly, it places equity at the heart of how we work, and ensures we consider Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

We also strengthened the foundations supporting the Cancer Society's future. In February 2026, we adopted a new Constitution following an extensive process of engagement. This was a significant governance milestone, providing a renewed governance framework for how the Cancer Society federation works collectively in pursuit of our shared vision and mission.

The Board also approved a new Research and Innovation Strategy, establishing a more deliberate and strategic approach to our investment in cancer research. These decisions position the Cancer Society to act with greater alignment, ambition and accountability in the years ahead.

None of this would be possible without the extraordinary commitment of our people. On behalf of the Board, I thank our staff, volunteers and my fellow governors across the Cancer Society. I also acknowledge the organisations that make up the

Cancer Society in New Zealand for their contribution to shaping our shared direction and for the vital services they provide in communities throughout Aotearoa New Zealand.

To our donors, fundraisers, partners and supporters: thank you for placing your trust in the Cancer Society. Your generosity enables us to stand beside people facing cancer today while working to reduce the number of people who will experience it in the future.

Finally, I thank Nicola and the National Office team for their leadership, energy and commitment during a year of considerable progress and change.

We have established strong foundations, but our work is far from complete. The Board remains committed to governing with courage, care and a clear focus on impact as we work together towards a future free from cancer.

Ngā mihi nui



**Julian Grennell**

Chair, Cancer Society of New Zealand Incorporated

# Not by chance, but by choice

**Progress against cancer is possible – but it does not happen by chance. It happens when evidence is put into action, research is backed, communities come together and we choose to move with urgency for the families and whānau who need us.**

A defining moment this year came on World Cancer Day, when the Cancer Society and Te Tātai Hauora o Hine | National Centre for Women's Health Research Aotearoa announced our intention to form a long-term partnership with one clear goal: to eliminate cervical cancer in Aotearoa, New Zealand.

We backed that commitment with an initial investment of \$1 million so practical action could begin immediately.

Cervical cancer is preventable, detectable and treatable. We already have the knowledge and tools needed to eliminate it. What has been missing is sufficient investment, coordination and pace.

Vaccination, screening and treatment are the three foundations of elimination. The introduction of HPV self-testing has been a game-changer for screening, but New Zealand continues to fall well short on immunisation.

Closing that gap will do far more than help eliminate cervical cancer. Over time, it will prevent most HPV-related anal cancers and substantially reduce HPV-driven throat cancers. This is prevention at scale and it represents thousands of cancers that could be avoided.

The Minister of Health also directed that New Zealand's National Cervical Cancer Elimination Strategy be delivered within six months. This matters. A clear, time-bound national plan can provide the focus and momentum that have been missing for too long.

The State of Cancer in New Zealand 2025 report gave us reasons for both optimism and urgency. Fewer New Zealanders are dying from cancer, more are surviving beyond five years, and advances in prevention, screening and treatment are changing what is possible. These gains reflect the extraordinary work of clinicians, researchers, health providers, communities and whānau across Aotearoa.

But the report also delivers a challenge: progress is not happening quickly or equitably enough. New Zealand is not keeping pace with comparable countries that are adopting innovation faster, scaling effective models of care sooner and giving their populations greater access to global advances.

For the Cancer Society, this reinforces the need to be deliberate about where we can make the greatest difference. Prevention has been a defining focus this year.

Alongside our cervical cancer work, we created a dedicated Programme Manager role to drive our ambitions in skin cancer prevention. That investment is already paying off: since year-end, we have secured significant new government investment to strengthen this work.

Advocacy is not only about presenting evidence. It is also about ensuring decision-makers see and hear firsthand what cancer means for New Zealand families.

On our 35th Daffodil Day, Prime Minister Christopher Luxon accepted our invitation to visit the Canterbury Cancer Centre. He bunched daffodils alongside our volunteers and, most importantly, spoke directly with families affected by cancer. Creating opportunities for our political leaders to listen to those experiences is an important part of our role.

At the same time, being there for people following a cancer diagnosis remains at the heart of who we are. Across the motu, our staff and volunteers provide transport, accommodation, information, navigation, emotional support and connection – for anyone with cancer, wherever they live.

None of this would be possible without the generosity of New Zealanders. To every person who shook a bucket, wore a daffodil, drove someone to treatment, opened their workplace to fundraising, donated, shared their story, volunteered or stood beside someone they love – thank you.

Volunteers are the heart of the Cancer Society. Donors give us the ability to act. Our partners help us go further.

As I look ahead, I am optimistic – but I am not patient. A future free from cancer is not simply a slogan. It is a choice: to prevent more cancers, find cancer earlier, back research and innovation, close inequity gaps and stand beside every person and whānau affected by cancer.

Thank you for choosing that future with us.

Ngā mihi nui



**Nicola Coom**

Chief Executive, Cancer Society New Zealand

# Our Year In Numbers

## SUPPORT



**12,382**  
New referrals



**23,284**  
Face-to-face contacts



**57,938**  
Phone contacts



**22,307**  
Drives provided



**37,134**  
Other client contacts (mail,  
email, text and video call)



**78,561**  
Accommodation nights  
provided



**1,248,938**  
Kilometres driven by  
Cancer Society volunteers



**3,709**  
Support programmes'  
attendees

## MEDIA



**706,383**  
Website page views on  
cancer.org.nz



**1,804**  
Cancer Society New Zealand  
media mentions



**\$8,926,170**  
Total Advertising Sales  
Revenue (ASR) value of  
media mentions



**33,242**  
Total followers on Cancer  
Society of New Zealand's  
social media channels\*

## PEOPLE



**7,605**  
Number of registered  
volunteers



**1,125**  
Number of volunteer drivers



**227**  
Total number of staff FTEs



**119,962**  
Number of volunteer hours  
(excludes Daffodil Day)

## RESEARCH



**\$5,557,996**  
Directed to research



*Cancer Society leaders at the launch of the Strategic Plan (from left) Nicola Coom (Cancer Society New Zealand), Darryl Carpenter (Cancer Society Wellington), Andrew Young (Cancer Society Auckland/Northland), Debra Elgar (Cancer Society Central Districts), Helen Carter (Cancer Society Waikato/Bay of Plenty) and Meredith Woodsford (Cancer Society Southern).*

## Making support easier to reach

**Across Aotearoa New Zealand, the Cancer Society is there for people facing cancer. Through our five Divisions, staff and volunteers provide practical and emotional support close to home – from transport and accommodation to cancer information, navigation and connection.**

But being present in the community is no longer only about having a physical location. People seek help in different ways and at different times. Someone may find us through an online search after receiving a diagnosis, read a social media post late at night, call for advice, or speak with a local kaimahi who understands their community.

Whatever the pathway, our goal is the same: people should be able to find trusted support easily and feel confident reaching out.

### **A clearer, more connected Cancer Society**

In 2025/26, we introduced a refreshed Cancer Society brand that better reflects who we are and our new vision of working together towards a future free from cancer.

This was more than a visual change. A strong and consistent national brand helps people recognise and trust the Cancer Society wherever they encounter us, while preserving the local relationships and community presence that are our strength.

We became more deliberate about who we need to reach, what people need from us and when they are most likely to need it.

This sharper approach produced strong results. During the year:

- interactions with our social media content increased by 41%;
- our social media community grew by more than 15%; and
- Cancer Society content was seen 31.6 million times.

These figures represent more than visibility. Each interaction is an opportunity to help someone find support, understand cancer, take action to reduce their risk, or feel less alone.

### **Testing new ways to provide support**

During the year, we began laying the foundations for a national digital support programme, shaped by insights from people affected by cancer, supporters, volunteers and kaimahi.

We invested in an ongoing South Island pilot to understand how people affected by cancer may want to engage with support online. Rather than assuming what people need, the pilot allows us to test different approaches, listen to participants and learn what makes digital support useful, accessible and genuinely human.

The findings will help inform how digital support could complement, the services already provided in communities and contribute to a more connected experience across the Cancer Society.

This work is being developed alongside our five Divisions and external partners, bringing together national capability and local knowledge. Digital channels will complement not replace the personal, human-centred care that remains at the heart of the Cancer Society.

Whether someone reaches us through a local Cancer Society centre, a conversation with a kaimahi, a phone call or an online channel, they should find support that is trusted, relevant and easy to access.

Our reach is one of our greatest strengths. Our responsibility is to ensure that reach creates genuine connection for every person and whānau affected by cancer.

### **Advancing equity and Māori leadership**

Equity is central to our vision of a future free from cancer.

Māori continue to experience unfair and preventable differences across the cancer continuum – from exposure to cancer risk and access to screening, through to diagnosis, treatment and survival. Addressing these inequities requires more than good intentions. It requires Māori leadership, culturally safe practice and sustained organisational change.

During 2025/26, we strengthened the structures and relationships needed to embed this work across the Cancer Society.

The establishment of the Kaitiaki Rōpū brought Māori leaders from all five Divisions together to provide strategic and cultural guidance. The revitalisation of Te Rito o te Harakeke Rōpū reconnected Māori kaimahi across the motu, creating a place to share experience, strengthen relationships and influence organisational direction.

Te Rito Wānanga provided a culturally grounded learning environment for Māori kaimahi, supporting connection, confidence and collective development.

This work sits within Te Puna Mauri, our framework for building cultural capability throughout the Cancer Society. Development also began on a digital learning resource that will give kaimahi access to practical, tikanga-aligned learning when and where they need it.

Alongside Kia Ora e te Iwi, these initiatives are helping us move from commitment to practice – strengthening Māori leadership, improving our responsiveness to whānau and embedding Te Tiriti o Waitangi throughout our work.

Our aim is an organisation in which Māori leadership is visible and influential, kaimahi are culturally confident, and Māori whānau can see themselves and their realities reflected in the support, information and advocacy we provide.

This is long-term work. The foundations strengthened this year give us a clearer path forward and greater accountability for turning our commitment to equity into meaningful change.



Photo credit: Heu Āhuru Mōwai Māori Cancer Leadership Aotearoa / WICC 2026



*Head of Advocacy and Public Affairs Rachael Neumann (right) networking at a parliamentary event.*

## Advocating for better outcomes

**Cancer is placing growing pressure on people, whānau and the health system across Aotearoa New Zealand. Cancer diagnoses are projected to rise from more than 30,000 in 2025 to more than 45,000 by 2044. Meeting this challenge will require sustained investment in prevention and early detection, alongside timely, high-quality treatment and a high-functioning health system.**

Around one-third of cancer cases in New Zealand could be prevented, and when cancer is caught early, many cancers are much more treatable and survivable. With our vision to work together towards a future free from cancer, preventing cancer where possible and finding it early remain central to our advocacy work, alongside our support for improvements in treatment, care and the wider health system.

### Research collaboration

We awarded and began delivering the CSNZ Otago University Cancer Society Research Collaboration – Te Rōpū Rangahau o Te Kāhui Matepukupuku – a \$2 million investment over five years. The collaboration brings together leading public health and cancer research experts across multiple departments at the University of Otago's Dunedin, Christchurch and Wellington campuses. Its focus is on building the knowledge and expertise needed to reduce the incidence and impact of cancer in Aotearoa New Zealand, with a particular

emphasis on eliminating the significant inequities in cancer outcomes between Māori and non-Māori. The research will directly inform our advocacy for world-leading cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, care and support.

### Tobacco Control

Aotearoa New Zealand's 2025 Tobacco Industry Interference Index Report highlighted a sharp decline in New Zealand's global tobacco control ranking and weaker protections against tobacco industry influence. The report, completed by the Cancer Society for the fourth time, found that Aotearoa New Zealand had fallen from 2nd to 53rd globally since 2023 and was spotlighted in the global report as one of the most deteriorated countries. Key factors included the repeal of strong smokefree legislation, a tax cut on heated tobacco products despite health and Treasury advice, and examples of the "revolving door" between tobacco lobbying and government roles.

As tobacco remains the leading preventable cause of cancer and a major contributor to inequities for Māori, the report strengthened our call for greater transparency, a whole-of-government approach to meeting New Zealand's obligations under the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, and stronger safeguards against tobacco industry interference. The findings also generated strong national media interest, helping bring public attention to tobacco industry influence.

### Skin cancer prevention

Our country continues to have one of the highest skin cancer rates in the world. This year, new research undertaken by Te Rōpū Rangahau o Te Kāhui Matepukupuku and funded by Health New Zealand was released. Led by Dr Bronwen McNoe of the University of Otago, the research revealed concerning levels of sunburn among New Zealanders, particularly young adults. The findings confirmed that awareness alone is not shifting behaviour, and that legacy sun safety messaging, while historically effective, has not kept pace with today's cultural and digital environment.



In response, with funding from Health New Zealand, we delivered a Gen Z-focused SunSmart campaign targeting 18–24-year-olds, using humour and relatable content to reach young people where they already spend their time online. The campaign also laid the foundation for a longer-term behaviour-change platform, recognising that prevention messaging needs sustained investment and the ability to adapt as culture, trends and behaviours continue to change.

We also presented jointly – “Sunsmart or Sun Slack – a closer look at UV protection in Aotearoa New Zealand” – with the University of Otago, sharing insights from the nationally representative survey of New Zealander's knowledge, attitudes and behaviour towards sun protection.

We were also proud to partner with Skin Cancer College Australasia, Melanoma New Zealand, Skin Cancer New Zealand (formerly Melnet) and the University of Otago on a Parliamentary event, raising awareness of skin

cancer prevention and early detection in New Zealand to MPs from all political parties. The event reinforced the case for skin cancer to become a national health priority, needing bipartisan support, backed by sustained investment in proven solutions such as prevention campaigns, SunSmart Schools, shade initiatives and early detection programmes.

### Election advocacy

Much of the groundwork for our election advocacy campaign was completed this year, ahead of its launch in April 2026. This included selecting our advocacy priorities, developing our manifesto, engaging with political parties and candidates, and preparing for launch.

### Bowel cancer focus

Bowel cancer remains a major opportunity to reduce New Zealand's cancer burden. We continue to have one of the world's highest incidence rates, with Māori and Pacific peoples less likely to benefit from screening. We updated our position statement, calling for biennial bowel screening from age 50 to 74, faster access for Māori and Pacific peoples, and greater awareness of early-onset bowel cancer.

### Driving policy change

One of our key roles is to advocate for effective cancer control laws and policies on behalf of our communities.

This year, we made a submission on behalf of our communities on issues including:

- Considerations to how medicines are available and delivered within the public health system.
- Building a stronger, fairer health system, with a focus on equity for all New Zealanders
- Healthy eating guidelines for children and young people, to help reduce future cancer risk
- Better, more consistent palliative care, so people with cancer and their whānau get the right support at the end of life
- Clearer food labelling, so people can make informed choices about what they eat

In the coming year, we will launch our Election Manifesto, champion cancer prevention and early detection, advocate for a national cervical cancer elimination plan and strengthen skin cancer prevention with Health New Zealand. Guided by evidence and the voices of people affected by cancer, we will continue driving progress towards a future where fewer New Zealanders develop cancer and more live longer, healthier lives.



*Cancer Society New Zealand Chair Julian Grennell speaking at the New Zealand Society for Oncology conference.*

## Supporting research and innovation

**It was a year of building strong foundations for research and innovation at the Cancer Society. Rather than a single milestone, this year was about putting the structures, strategy and governance in place that will guide our investment in cancer research for years to come, ensuring we are working as a connected and responsive leader in the sector as we head towards a future free from cancer.**

A key step was the establishment of our dedicated Research and Innovation Committee, set up to provide expert advice and oversight across the Cancer Society. This strengthens our governance and ensures our research investments and activities are guided by independent expertise, improving the quality, credibility and long-term impact of everything we fund.

Building on this, we developed for our first national Research and Innovation Strategy. We engaged with the sector through workshops and made sure lived experience voices were part of shaping our direction, ensuring our priorities reflect real sector and real-world needs.

### **Strengthening the cancer research workforce**

We also delivered our two annual funding rounds, the National Research Grant Round and the Māori Cancer Researcher Awards, continuing to build capability and

support equity in the research workforce while enabling high-quality research that will ultimately improve cancer outcomes in Aotearoa.

Over \$1 million was awarded across five projects in our 2025 National Research Grant Round, spanning two post-doctoral fellowships, two project grants and one PhD scholarship. This funding builds on a decade in which the Cancer Society has invested more than \$50 million into cancer research, and continues our commitment to supporting the research workforce.

Dr Judy Ann Cocadiz from the University of Otago received a post-doctoral fellowship to develop a small device that can be temporarily inserted into a blood vessel to directly capture circulating tumour DNA (ctDNA) released by cancer cells. The technology could allow doctors to detect cancers earlier and monitor for recurrence after treatment without the need for repeated blood samples.



*Dr Judy Ann Cocadiz*

A second post-doctoral fellowship went to Dr Yue Wang from the University of Auckland, whose research looks at how growth hormone can encourage melanoma cell growth and make the cancer harder to treat. Dr Wang has developed a blocker that prevents growth hormone from having this effect, and will use the fellowship to investigate whether it can improve the effectiveness of existing melanoma treatments.

University of Auckland cancer pharmacologist Associate Professor Stephen Jamieson received a project grant to develop new treatments for melanomas caused by a mutation of the NRAS gene, found in 15 to 20 percent of melanomas and for which there is currently no specific treatment. His team has identified a target protein within these cancer cells and will search for chemical compounds that disrupt it, providing a starting point for new melanoma drugs.

Dr Andrea Teng, a public health physician at the University of Otago, Wellington, received a project grant to explore how best to introduce screen-and-treat approaches for *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*) infection in Aotearoa. Around 90% of stomach cancer cases are linked to long-term *H. pylori* infection, and Māori and Pacific populations experience higher rates of stomach cancer largely due to untreated infection. Dr Teng's team will assess the acceptability and effectiveness of current treatment practices across ethnicities to help develop a screening and treatment programme that is both fair and effective.

Jodie Collins is starting a PhD at the University of Auckland to create a customisable prehabilitation programme to improve quality of life for colorectal cancer patients, supporting them with exercise,

nutrition and mental wellbeing so they recover better from surgery and treatment. Jodie brings a deeply personal connection to this work, having been diagnosed with Stage 3B colorectal cancer herself in 2020 after watching both her father and uncle go through the disease. Her research also draws on her professional background across sports science, nutrition and community health education.

This year's Māori Cancer Researcher Awards marked the fifth year of our partnership with Hei Āhuru Mōwai Māori Cancer Leadership Aotearoa, a partnership that continues to reflect our shared commitment to addressing inequity in cancer care and building a culturally grounded Māori cancer research workforce. Two PhD scholarships and one Master's scholarship were awarded this year, and together the recipients reflect the depth and diversity of the growing field.



*Robbie Richardson*

Robbie Richardson (Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Tukorehe, Ngāti Hauiti ki Rata, Te Whanau a Apanui, Ngāti Tuwharetoa), a Rongoā Māori practitioner completing her doctorate through Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuārangi, is researching how papakāinga living and Rongoā Māori practices can help protect whānau and whenua from PFAS contamination linked to the neighbouring Ohakea Air Force Base. The research is deeply personal for Robbie, whose father passed away from cancer a year after residents were first told of the contamination, and her work aims to build evidence for Rongoā Māori within cancer prevention and survivorship, and to support Māori-led models of care.

Ariana Drabble (Te Arawa – Ngāti Whakaue, Ngāti Raukawa – Ngāti Koroki, Ngāti Toa – Ngāti Kimihia) is undertaking her PhD at the University of Otago,

exploring how combining CAR T cell therapy with CAR-engineered Natural Killer (NK) cells could lead to more robust immunotherapy for blood cancers, with fewer relapses and side effects than current treatments allow. In the past five years, four of Ariana's whānau members have received a cancer diagnosis, giving the research a significance that reaches well beyond the lab.



*Katya Hutton*

Katya Hutton (Ngā Puhi, Ngāti Kahu ki Whangaroa, Ngāti Kura) from the University of Auckland is undertaking a Master's looking at how incorporating Māori genomic information could improve the accuracy of cancer immunotherapy predictions for Māori and Pasifika patients, whose genetic variability is often under-represented in the global DNA reference databases current biomarkers rely on. Her goal is to help ensure every patient in Aotearoa receives the best possible care, regardless of age, sex, ethnicity or ancestry.

Each of these kairangahau is carrying forward not only their own research, but the aspirations of their whānau, hapū and iwi, demonstrating what becomes possible when mātauranga Māori and scientific innovation are supported to flourish together.

### Measuring our impact

Alongside funding new research, we evaluated the impact of our previous investment to understand what it has achieved and where future funding can make the greatest difference.

The evaluation found that Cancer Society-funded research is:

- **Building knowledge:** 94% of grants resulted in published research, collectively cited 7,184 times.

A further 134 conference presentations arose from 82% of grants.

- **Developing researchers:** 70% of grants contributed to at least one new qualification, and 67 career advancements were reported – most benefiting early-career researchers.
- **Attracting further investment:** every \$1 invested by the Cancer Society generated a further \$4 from other funders.
- **Strengthening collaboration:** more than 75% of recipients worked across disciplines, 76% collaborated internationally and 80% reported engagement with iwi and hapū.

These findings demonstrate that our investment delivers value well beyond an individual research project—building knowledge, careers, partnerships and future funding. They will also help us target future investment where it can have the greatest impact.

We also provided targeted funding for Professor Parry Guildford's work using circulating tumour DNA to improve the early detection of colorectal cancer. Our investment helped retain vital expertise and maintain momentum at a pivotal stage, positioning this promising, community-connected research to attract further investment.

Together, these achievements reflect a deliberate shift towards more strategic and evidence-led research investment. In the year ahead, we will begin implementing our new Research and Innovation Strategy, with patients and whānau at the heart of the priorities we pursue.





*'Hope' hypes up the crowd at the Coast Charity Netball Clash, held as part of fundraising activity for Daffodil Day 2025.*

## Partnering for impact

**"Working together" are intentionally the first two words of our vision because we know we can achieve more alongside others than we can alone.**

ANZ has stood beside the Cancer Society for 36 years as our major sponsor. Its support extends well beyond Daffodil Day, with ANZ teams volunteering at Cancer Society centres and lodges across the motu. We are deeply grateful for this enduring partnership and its contribution to our support, research, prevention and advocacy.

We welcomed Airbnb.org as a new national supporter this year, generously providing additional temporary accommodation options and discounted stays for cancer patients and their families travelling far from home for cancer treatment. This partnership complements our Cancer Society lodges, strengthening our ability to support people when demand exceeds capacity within our own accommodation network.

We also teamed up with online shopping platform ShopGood, making it easy for Kiwis to give back while they shop – at no extra cost to the shopper.

A portion of every purchase made on the Cancer Society ShopGood page will create a donation to the Cancer Society.

On World Cancer Day, we announced a landmark partnership with Te Tātai Hauora o Hine | National Centre for Women's Health Research Aotearoa, with the shared goal of eliminating cervical cancer in New Zealand. Combining Te Tātai Hauora o Hine's clinical, research and equity expertise with our national reach and campaign capability, the partnership is backed by an initial Cancer Society investment of \$1 million.

These relationships are part of a much wider network of iwi, Māori health leaders, community organisations, clinicians, researchers, businesses, volunteers and funders who make our work possible. Each brings different strengths, but all share a commitment to improving outcomes for people and whānau affected by cancer.

## Powered by our communities

Our work is made possible by the generosity of New Zealanders and nowhere is that generosity more visible than on Daffodil Day.

In August, we marked the 35th year of this iconic campaign. More than 2,300 schools, community groups and workplaces fundraised in the lead-up to the nationwide street appeal. Across the motu, volunteers, ambassadors, clinicians, researchers, businesses and families held events, shook buckets, wore daffodils and turned communities yellow. The Vintage Car Club's nationwide Daffodil Rally for Cancer also partnered with Ford New Zealand for the first time in 2025, creating a successful new partnership that has set its sights even higher this year to achieve more for people affected by cancer.

At the heart of the campaign was an urgent message: one in three New Zealanders will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime. Every donation helps the Cancer Society provide transport, accommodation, information and practical support, while funding research and advocating for a better cancer system.

Daffodil Day was part of another strong year of community fundraising. Across our national campaigns including Jump for Cancer, Marathon in a Month, Relay for Life, The Longest Day Golf Challenge and You Can for Cancer – more than 17,000 individuals and groups fundraised for the Cancer Society, an increase of 4,000 from the previous year.

Our fundraising, like our services, is rooted in communities. We thank every person who donated, volunteered, participated or inspired others to act. Their collective effort enables us to be there for people facing cancer today while driving progress towards a future free from cancer.

Further fundraising and community highlights can be found in the annual reports of our five Divisions at [cancer.org.nz](https://cancer.org.nz).



*ANZ staff volunteering*



*Representatives from Cancer Society New Zealand and Te Tātai Hauora o Hine | National Centre for Women's Health Research Aotearoa celebrate a landmark partnership on World Cancer Day.*

# Finances

## AHUMONI

**The Cancer Society is a Federation consisting of five regions with and a national office in Wellington.**

The audited financial statements of Cancer Society of New Zealand Inc (consolidated with its subsidiary company Daffodil Enterprises Limited) can be found on our website.

These statements do not present the results or position of the whole Cancer Society Federation. While the activities of the Cancer Society presented in this report include activities of the Cancer Society of New Zealand Incorporated, the five Cancer Society Divisions, plus Cancer Society Centres and other entities that make up the Cancer Society throughout New Zealand, the results and financial positions of Divisions and Centres may be inspected through their Annual Reports or via Charities Services.

Auckland / Northland

Waikato / Bay of Plenty

Central Districts

Wellington

Southern



# Our People

## HE TANGATA

### Our Board

The Board of Cancer Society New Zealand as at 31 March 2026:

- Julian Grennell (President)
- Lara Hillier (Chair, Audit Risk and Finance Committee)
- Dr Kate Gregory (Medical Director)
- Dr Garry Forgeson
- Tony Kinzett
- Chris Staynes
- Louisa Kraitzick
- Claire Barclay

We extend our heartfelt thanks and acknowledge the contribution of those who stepped down from their volunteer director roles this year – Kate Reid, Candace Kinser, John Wyeth and Karen Bennett.

### Our staff and volunteers

Thanks to our staff and volunteers across the motu for your amazing mahi over this year. Thanks to you the Cancer Society is firmly anchored in our communities and our work is moving us forward towards achieving a future free from cancer.



### Past Presidents

- Sir James Elliott 1925–1955
- Dr. P. Lynch 1956–1957
- L. A. Bennett 1958–1959
- Prof. Eric D'Ath 1960–1961
- J. Maxwell Clarke 1962–1963
- R. O'Regan 1964–1965
- J. K. Davidson 1966–1968
- H. Gaudin 1967–1970
- J. M. Tyler 1971–1972
- C. T. Collins 1973–1974
- Arthur Ibbotson 1975–1976
- G. W. Holland 1977–1978
- E. Gifford 1979–1980
- Dr. D. W. Urquhart 1981–1982
- B. Prior 1983–1984
- John Heslop 1985–1986
- Dr. P. R. Kelleher 1987–1988
- Don Carnachan 1989–1990
- Dr. Chris Atkinson 1991–1994
- Prof. John Blennerhassett 1995–1996
- John Kelly 1997–2000
- Dr. David Perez 2001–2002
- Richard Gray 2003–2006
- Russell McIlroy 2007–2010
- Clive Clelland 2010–2013
- Murray MacCormick 2013–2015
- Peter Hutchison 2016–2020
- Alister Argyle 2021–2023
- Julian Grennell 2024–2026

## OUR VISION

# Working together towards a future free from cancer

Te mahi tahi mō te anamata mate pukupuku kore



## Cancer Society

Te Kāhui Matepukupuku o Aotearoa

### National Office

Level 6 Ranchhod Tower, 39 Terrace, Wellington

PO Box 651, Wellington 6140

Phone (04) 494 7270 | [www.cancer.org.nz](http://www.cancer.org.nz)

**Cancer Information Helpline: 0800 CANCER (226 237)**

 [cancersocietyNZ](https://www.facebook.com/cancersocietyNZ) |  [cancersocietynewzealand](https://www.instagram.com/cancersocietynewzealand) |  [cancersocietynewzealand](https://www.youtube.com/cancersocietynewzealand) |  [cancer-society-nz](https://www.linkedin.com/company/cancer-society-nz)

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