

The West Australian

telethon 7

HOW 2021'S RECORD YEAR OF FUNDRAISING IS BEING SPENT



THIS MUCH LOVE

ANGELA POWNALL

From teaching children's own immune systems to fight a common cancer. To developing better treatment for burns. And helping country kids with autism by showing them how to surf.

These are just three of more than 200 initiatives being undertaken by a record 97 organisations and children's

charities thanks to Telethon. Charity chairman Richard Goyder said Telethon was able to support 50 per cent more beneficiaries and good causes this year. "We can all reflect proudly that Telethon truly symbolises our shared passion, common bond, and dedication to give generously," he said.

TELETHON BENEFICIARIES PAGES 6-9



Proudly supporting Telethon to help WA kids in need.

Thank you to our customers and team members who dug deep and raised \$705,000 in 2021 to help sick kids from across the state.

telethon 7

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97 reasons to be proud

ANGELA POWNALL

A record 97 organisations, charities and good causes will benefit this year from the generosity of West Australians who donated and raised money for Telethon.

Telethon raised a record \$62 million last year — \$16 million more than in 2020 — and this success has enabled the trustees of the uniquely West Australian fundraiser to help more groups who help children and young people than ever before.

Telethon chairman Richard Goyder said last year's fantastic fundraising result meant that Telethon could support 50 per cent more beneficiaries and children's charities in 2022.

"There is an ongoing and significant need in the not-for-profit charity sector and thanks to the generosity of WA, a large number of amazing grassroots children's charities will receive Telethon funding to help transform the lives of our most vulnerable, disadvantaged and sick children," he said.

"More than 200 different grants will be funded this year by Telethon and one of the key focus areas is child mental health with a range of programs, camps and research projects to receive funding to alleviate some of the issues being experienced by children and young families who require support and help in this area."

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a wide and negative impact on the mental health of children and young people.

It has also hit charities and not-for-profit groups hard, amid economic uncertainty, the rising cost of living and the forced cancellation of many fundraising events.

Telethon saw a significant increase in both the number of organisations that sought funding and the number of grant applications received compared



Our Telethon front page last year.

with the previous year. Thanks to the big increase in funds raised last year, Telethon has been able to expand its reach to help a greater number of those organisations.

"We can all reflect proudly that Telethon truly symbolises our shared passion, common bond, and dedication to give generously," Mr Goyder said.

Little Telethon Stars Ollie Lim and Lucy Antipas were the faces of last year's record-breaking fundraising success and said they loved the experience.

Lucy said the Telethon weekend was "the most amazing time of my life", while Ollie said his favourite moment was "when they announced the final total and I knew I was playing a part in making Telethon history".

Lucy was diagnosed with spastic diplegia cerebral palsy, a neurological condition causing severe stiffness and weakness in the limbs, at 18 months old.

Ollie was diagnosed systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), in which the immune system attacks the body's own tissues damaging skin, hair, blood and the brain, shortly before his second birthday.

He has had to undergo multiple rounds of chemotherapy, and more than 50 IV methylprednisolone infusions.

This year's Telethon Weekend will be held on October 22 and 23.



Mandy and Mark Stenbeck with son Noah.
Picture: Justin Benson-Cooper

We've all got skin in the game

REBECCA LE MAY

The Fiona Wood Foundation is funnelling funds raised from last year's record-breaking Telethon appeal into high-tech scar treatment assessment and an information campaign to help burn patients cope with their trauma.

The ground-breaking plastic and reconstructive surgeon said the specialised new scanning technology mapped the surface of the skin and helped to measure whether treatments were making a difference.

"We can track that over time and we can see if our

laser program, where we're trying to un-scar the scar, is being effective and how we can make it more effective," Professor Wood said.

The information project, a partnership with child and adolescent psychiatry specialist Professor Helen Milroy, involves animations and videos addressing the psycho-social issues confronted by children who suffer burns.

Central to the foundation's efforts is feedback from families of recovering patients, one of them being Mandy and Mark Stenbeck and their three-year-old son Noah, who was just

14-months-old when he suffered burns in the bathroom handbasin.

Noah climbed up a learning tower that had been attached so he and his siblings could wash their hands, sat in the sink — covering the drain — and turned on the hot water.

His skin began peeling off but through his parents' quick actions and those of paramedics, Noah's initial assessment of 45 per cent burns was reduced to 20 per cent. Helped by the spray-on skin technique pioneered by Professor Wood, Noah left the hospital "almost completely healed", Ms Stenbeck said.



CELEBRATING
11 YEARS AS
A MILLION
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Crown is proud to have been a Million Dollar Partner of Telethon since 2010.

We want to thank the Telethon team, our employee volunteers as well as the Western Australian community who have all helped contribute to Telethon's impact in Western Australia.


CROWN
RESORTS
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HEALTHY DOSE OF OPTIMISM

Quest for the cancer drug revolution

SARAH STEGER

For Neen Barry, watching her one-year-old daughter's cancer-riddled body be given harsh, but potentially life-saving chemicals, is a heartbreaking reality she's confronted with every few weeks.

Little Ellie has been battling neuroblastoma, the most common kids cancer outside of brain cancer, since December and is currently undergoing chemotherapy at Perth Children's Hospital.

"It's a life changer, watching that happen to your baby," Mrs Barry said. "It's something that as a family we're pushing to stay positive on, but ... it's a whirlpool of emotions.

"The treatment is hectic. It's very intense. She gets absolutely exhausted. Completely wrecked, it's crazy."

Her 15-month-old is one of about six children diagnosed with the complex and devastating disease in WA every year — 20 per cent of whom will sadly die.

And if kids do manage to fight the cancer long enough, they run the risk of developing a resistance to the highly toxic drugs currently used, meaning they will not survive.

It means new treatments for the cruel disease are urgently needed — a need that has so far remained unmet, with virtually no clinical trials under way for neuroblastoma in Perth.

But a new research project at the Telethon Kids Institute's Telethon Kids Cancer Centre aims to combat this gap in research.

By using sophisticated childhood cancer models to develop new cancer immunotherapies, it is hoped scientists in Perth will find a way for kids with

neuroblastoma to use their own immune system to fight the cancer. Further, it is hoped the groundbreaking research could lead to the development of personalised medicines, derived from detailed genetic analysis, which would be able to be customised to individual children's needs.

"It would be fantastic to have something less harsh to treat kids like Ellie," Mrs Barry said.

Neuroblastoma researcher Dr Alison McDonnell said the TKI program was about identifying less toxic treatments as well as "determining the cause of treatment resistance and disease relapse, and establishing novel immunotherapy approaches that can hunt down and destroy cancer cells". "We want to learn how to better unleash their immune system on their cancers," she said.

Ellie Barry is undergoing chemotherapy for neuroblastoma. Pic: Jackson Flindell

"Working with Indigenous families to help improve the health of their children. To me that's big."

Professor Jonathan Carapetis,
Telethon Kids Institute Director.



Working one-on-one with Indigenous families, new Elder-led research will help improve the health and wellbeing of Indigenous children.

The results will bring more effective approaches that will benefit many generations to come.

bhp.com/community/programs

BHP

HERE'S A LINE IN THE SAND

Programs to tackle mental distress

REBECCA LE MAY

Demand for mental health services has rocketed during the COVID-19 pandemic, with the years-long strain compounding everyday life pressures and creating new ones, especially for young people less connected to their usual social networks.

But multiple service providers have responded with more ways to reach them, including Lifeline.

The Telethon-backed helpline started a new digital one-on-one service in November — a national first that filled a 11pm to 4am gap — and its WA crisis supporters have had more than 5000 text conversations or online chats with people around the nation since launch.

One of them was a distraught 16-year-old who initiated an online chat while in class. After receiving urgent help, the teen got in touch again digitally that same day to pass on a message to his crisis supporter: "Thank you for listening to me... tell him I am in hospital, and I am OK thanks to him".

Digital communication felt anonymous so help seekers were more disinhibited and forthcoming, crisis supporter Lia said.

"Saying things out loud over the phone requires a lot of strength and courage, and sometimes it's just too difficult to put into words," Lia, pictured far right, said.

"It's really scary for a lot of people and the text service provides another way to do it, which can be less intimidating for

Focus on South West

There is a lack of mental health services in regional WA in general, but Youth Focus is focusing extra attention on the South West.

That's because a spate of young people in the region took their own lives between November 2020 and June last year. Population growth

had soared but not been matched by investment in services, the group's Mark Barrett-Lennard said. Fortunately, today's young generations were open about their emotions and identifying distress "more readily and more openly".

some. For young people, it can be a lot more comfortable. They're used to the digital space, and texting and typing is a place that may feel safer for them."

She said the service also allowed people with speaking or hearing difficulties to seek help and could be preferred by high-risk members of the community, including those suffering family violence.

Another service provider, Australian Kookaburra Kids Foundation, is expanding its operations in WA, boosted by Telethon funds.

For the past 20 years, the organisation has helped young people living in defence veteran families who have been

affected by mental illness.

It's estimated almost one-quarter of Australian children are living in families where at least one parent has or has had a mental illness and this puts them at a 50 per cent greater chance of developing mental health problems themselves.

The organisation says there is little — if any — preventative mental health support focused on this group.

An initial cohort of 300 kids aged eight to 18 will this year take part in a combination of online sessions and monthly activity days, all designed to be more enjoyable, social and engaging than clinics or classrooms.

Then there's Youth Focus, which is being helped by Telethon to expand its early intervention, regional high school-based counselling services, adding four more schools to seven already in the program, with another eight wanting to join. In the first full year of the pandemic, WA students aged 11 to 18 reported triple the levels of severe emotional distress than six years ago, and demand for help had risen accordingly, the group said.

Lifeline: 13 11 14



Youth Focus' Joanne Lam, Tessa Gilson & Olivia Thornton. Picture: Matt Jelonek



Picture: Andrew Ritchie

NEW EQUIPMENT CHANGING LIVES*

BABIES AND INFANTS

Royal Flying Doctor Service's five Astodia diaphanoscopes use LED light to provide clear views of even the smallest blood vessels in infants, assisting in the treatment of premature babies.

LIVER DISEASE

A Fibroscan S+ probe at Fiona Stanley Hospital and Cockburn Integrated Community Health measures the amount of fat in the liver of overweight kids to allow for early intervention.

REHAB ROBOT

The Healthy Strides Foundation's ZeroG Gait and Balance System is the most advanced robotic body-weight support system and is the missing piece in paediatric rehabilitation across the country.

HEALTHY VISION

Lions Eye Institute's stem cell robot will accelerate research efforts into Usher Syndrome, a genetic condition causing vision and hearing loss, by automating the work involved in stem cell experiments.

SPORTING CHANCE

Rebound WA's 32 junior sports wheelchairs will enable disabled children the ability to be active alongside their able-bodied peers and family as a part of the Whiz Kidz program.

SUPER MICROSCOPE

The Perron Institute's Nikon A1R multi-photon microscope can image the child brain as it grows into adulthood, track responses to environmental and genetic trauma and evaluate new treatments.

SKIN PROBE

Joondalup Health Campus' Nevisense electrical impedance spectroscopy device investigates the severity and progression of atopic dermatitis, burn injuries and other skin disorders as well as efficacy of treatments and interventions.

*Telethon is funding 113 pieces of different equipment in 2022. This is a sample of what your donations are providing.



HEARING IS IMPORTANT

NEW TREATMENTS FOR TODAY, CURES FOR TOMORROW

Thanks to Telethon, our scientists can continue developing ground breaking ear and hearing treatments.

Ear Science is on the road to curing hearing loss by re-growing inner ear hair cells. Developing new treatments for chronic ear infections and one day preventing chemotherapy-induced hearing loss in our kids.

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RESEARCH | TREATMENT | EDUCATION

Wave of success for kids with autism

ANGELA POWNALL

Jasper Barrett just loves going surfing with his mates at Ocean Heroes.

In fact, his mum Emma says the charity's events are the only activity the seven-year-old, who has autism, is mad keen to do.

Ocean Heroes, which has become a Telethon beneficiary for the first time this year, is dedicated to offering free surfing lessons for WA children with autism.

Their sessions are wildly popular, with families driving hours to get to them, and often book out within minutes.

Ms Barrett said Jasper has been surfing with Ocean Heroes since he was three.

"It's the only thing he asks me to do. He asks when he's going surfing again," she said. "I think it's the freedom he gets, and he feels safe with them. They understand the order, structure and routine that they need."

Ocean Heroes was founded by three mates, Luke Hallam, Sam Moyle and Tom Johnston.

As a personal trainer working with children with autism, Mr Hallam noticed there were no surfing lessons tailored for children with autism.

He got together with his mates Mr Moyle, a marine scientist, and Mr Johnston, who runs a surf school, and they set up Ocean Heroes in 2016.

My Moyle said the beach and surfing could be quite confronting experience for a person on the autism spectrum.

"It's a sensory disorder so a busy beach, hot sand, loud noises, a busy car park can really play against someone with autism," he said.

Ocean Heroes and their volunteers make an effort to tailor the experience to these children, picking the right location and weather conditions.

"I think what works really well for us is having experienced volunteers who are so patient, caring and under-

standing to be able to read each child's behaviour, find out each child's strengths, and tailor the session," he said.

Mr Moyle said it could involve the child wearing ear muffs, or sitting on the beach making sandcastles for 20 minutes before entering the water.

The Telethon funding will enable Ocean Heroes to hold 12 free events in Esperance, Denmark, Geraldton and Broome this year.

"The regions are so underserved in terms of these kind of programs. They are always screaming out for these kind of activities," Mr Moyle said.

"We find the regional events so rewarding. The families are so thankful we have put the effort to get out there."

The charity has given surf lessons to more than 4500 children since 2016, which has been made possible by around 1000 volunteers, including a core group of 40 who help run sessions regularly.

Jasper Barrett, 7, gets his surfing fix at Scarborough Beach with Luke Hallam of Ocean Heroes. Picture: Nic Ellis



A promise to Harper.

You'll never be alone.

No matter how hard it's been or how far you have to go, your family will be by your side. And they will always have someone by theirs.

Every year, Western Australians like you keep a promise to kids like Harper. The millions you give to Telethon help provide ongoing funding to places such as Kalparrin.

Kalparrin has been there for Harper and her family, giving comfort and support whenever she's been at Perth Children's Hospital for an operation. And she's already had more than 30.

They know they can always count on Kalparrin thanks to your generosity for Telethon year after year. That's why we are proud to support Telethon and all the amazing people and groups it helps now and into the future.

RioTinto

telethon 7

THE 2022 TELETHON

Telethon is transforming the lives of children in WA and beyond. Thanks to our incredibly generous community, Telethon is providing a record-level of funding to 97 organisations that support the wellbeing of children and their families.

12 Buckets

Big Buckets and Future Leaders are group mentoring and personal development programs for educationally disadvantaged students from local high schools who need guidance and additional support during years 7-10 of high school. These programs are led by a youth coordinator with assistance from a support worker and 12 Buckets' volunteer mentors.



women, and non-offending caregivers. Young Hearts empowers vulnerable children to overcome physical, psychological, and emotional trauma, whilst developing the skills to build healthy relationships and thrive in the future.

Asthma WA

Asthma WA's Paediatric Respiratory Hub provides three essential services for children. The only service enabling children with respiratory conditions to access lung function testing, a paediatric specialist and education together, ensuring accurate diagnosis, correct treatment, and increased knowledge of managing the condition at home which decreases hospitalisations and life-threatening asthma attacks.



Ability Solutions

The All Abilities Art project aims to use innovative modified activities and adaptive equipment to enable fun, engaging artistic expression for those children who otherwise have limited opportunities to participate in these sessions at their own discretion. The Telethon High Care Kids project will work closely with children living with complex and severe disabilities under the age of 18 across Perth metro and regional areas of WA.



Ability WA

The In-Home Baby Intervention Service (IBIS) provides specialist early intervention therapy to babies 'at risk' of developmental delay or disability. IBIS provides high quality, evidence-based support with an experienced team of therapists in their own home. Without IBIS, these vulnerable families would otherwise not have had access to critical early intervention support.



All Stars for Autism

The All Stars for Autism Teen Mentoring Program provides an exciting opportunity for autistic high school students to mentor autistic primary school students. This ground-breaking initiative enables autistic children to connect, collaborate and inspire each other as they work together on creative and meaningful community-driven projects.



Anglicare WA

Young Hearts supports children profoundly impacted by family and domestic violence. This unique, free-of-charge service provides professional counselling to under 18s,



Autism Association of WA

Autism Connect optimises long term outcomes for children with autism by providing specialist programs in vulnerable communities of WA through playgroups for families of young children with signs of autism, training for community professionals that increases early identification of autism and strengthens the family unit by facilitating groups for dads and siblings.



Big HART

Maduringga Bulura is a suite of intergenerational programs to support the positive futures of Roebourne children. The design of these projects includes weekly workshops, place-based events, on country trips, community participation and the development of creative content made by Roebourne young people promoting health and wellbeing delivered to children state-wide.



Bio Rehab for Kids

Providing Advanced Biomechanical Rehabilitation (ABR) therapy to children with cerebral palsy or similar disabilities which develops and restores the myofascial in the body improving children's range, mobility, and strength. Family support is also provided for those in need that are partaking in the ABR treatment.



Bully Zero

Bully Zero's Perth Bullying Prevention Project aims to reduce incidents of bullying and its harmful effects on the physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing of WA children. The project aims to achieve this through the delivery of powerful bullying prevention programs in 100 schools across the metropolitan area of Perth.



Cahoots

Cahoots Arts and Wellbeing Program is a collaborative, holistic art therapy program designed to engage, educate, and support children aged 7-13, living with a disability or at a disadvantage in a safe and inclusive environment to discover the benefits of art therapy on mental health and wellbeing.



Cancer Council WA

Cancer Council WA's Crawford Lodge and Milroy Lodge are a home-away-from-home for regional cancer patients and their families who need to travel to Perth to access critical cancer treatments. Telethon's support



will allow us to purchase comfortable new mattresses for all the children's beds in our Lodge family suites.

Camp Autism WA

Camp Autism WA are camps for families run by families inclusive of siblings, parents, and caregivers with a person on the autism spectrum. Camps are across WA with further events and online support 24/7. We encourage connections with others through adventure and support to help our autism families shine.



Camp Quality

The enormity of a parent's (or carer's) diagnosis has a profound impact on a child's emotional and physical wellbeing. Camp Quality has developed a program that supports these children; allows them to make friendships with others in a similar situation and have a break from what can be a frightening reality.



Child and Adolescent Health Service and Perth Children's Hospital

The Child and Adolescent Health Service (CAHS) treats children from around WA and is committed to programs that promote lifelong health in children and adolescents. CAHS is made up of Neonatology, Community Health, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and Perth Children's Hospital. Discovering new ways of preventing, diagnosing, and treating childhood diseases and conditions to improve the health and wellbeing of children, thanks to the generous support of donors like Telethon, is one of the ways we aim to give children and young people the best start in life and achieve our vision of 'healthy kids, healthy communities.'



Claremont Therapeutic Riding Centre

Claremont Therapeutic Riding Centre will purchase saddles for use on ponies and horses that are specifically designed for therapeutic riders. The saddles have several features to accommodate different size children and aid in balance. Features to assist children include adjustable seat sizes, sturdy removable handlebar, and two buckle-on seat pads and padded flaps. These saddles will assist children as young as three.



Constable Care Child Safety Foundation

A unique program empowering at-risk



Aboriginal students in remote WA to deal with mental health issues. The safe environment of filmmaking is used to explore challenges and drive positive change. Students will develop skills in teamwork, empathy, critical-thinking and decision making, enabling them to develop solutions to challenging issues.

Curtin University

Professor Peter Gething is a global expert in geospatial modelling and epidemiology. He leads the Malaria Atlas Project and has been applying geospatial methods to issues in WA like COVID-19 in schools, mental health, and child development. The Help While our Children Wait project will establish the feasibility of providing an evidence-based psychological intervention while young people wait for specialist services and whether earlier access to treatment alleviates their psychological distress.



Cystic Fibrosis Western Australia

The Regional Support and Vulnerable Families Program improves access to critical services to support children with Cystic Fibrosis, regardless of geographical or socioeconomic status. The Collaborative Chronic Wet Cough Education Program is aimed at empowering regional Aboriginal communities with lung health knowledge, directly improving early recognition and access to critical treatment and preventing serious life limiting diseases such as bronchiectasis.



Down Syndrome Western Australia

Our state-wide programs help improve the wellbeing of children 0-17 years diagnosed with Down Syndrome. We provide family support and resources through morning teas, playgroups and the Trisomy 21 clinic at Perth Children's Hospital. This creates a solid foundation for the child with the knowledge and skills for life.



Ear Science Institute

A team of the brightest minds from across the globe collaborate to enhance the lives of those with ear and hearing disorders, delivering innovative treatments and developing ground-breaking cures for tomorrow's generation. This means the development of a novel inner ear cell culture system will benefit children with Usher syndrome, an internationally acclaimed novel scaffold to repair perforated



TELETHON
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INSTITUTE
Discover. Prevent. Cure.



GRANT RECIPIENTS

ear drums in children and a nano-gel for children with cancer to prevent chemotherapy-induced hearing loss, all enhanced by use of a Scanning Electron Microscope.

Edith Cowan University



"Little Aussie Bugs" are a series of educational books designed for children aged 2-4 years. The material gives Early Childhood Education and Care service providers a unique opportunity to increase literacy, develop personal hygiene skills, healthy eating, and exercise habits whilst growing resilient children. Disordered eating (DE) affects 1/3 of adolescents and is a precursor to clinical eating disorders. We will address DE in adolescents by implementing a novel emotion regulation group therapy program.

Edmund Rice Camps for Kids



Edmund Rice provides the opportunity for over 500 disadvantaged children in WA aged 7-16 to attend 15 camps throughout the year. The program also facilitates the training of over 100 volunteer mentors who attend each camp with the children and lead the activities.

Epilepsy WA



The Children & Epilepsy Program is aimed at providing seizure alert technology accessibility, support, and epilepsy education to help ensure WA children living with epilepsy and those newly diagnosed, can have timely access to all support necessary to help assist in their epilepsy management and assist in improving outcomes, reducing risk, promoting independence, and normalising bedtime routines.

Fair Game Australia



Recycle & Donate - Reach for the Regions! will deliver pre-loved sports shoes and equipment to children in some of WA's most socioeconomically disadvantaged communities, increasing access to the physical, mental, and social benefits of participating in sport.

Fiona Wood Foundation



Every year more than 1200 children attend Perth Children's Hospital with a burn. Despite receiving care, these children are susceptible to illness for years, affecting their wellbeing, education and future. We aim to understand the impact of burns and how to improve their recovery.

Foodbank Western Australia



The School Breakfast Program provides healthy food for over 68,000 breakfasts per week across 475 schools in WA. While food security is the primary aim, benefits of the program extend beyond food provision to education, health and social outcomes. Food Sensations® for Children is a nutrition education and cooking program, employing qualified nutritionists to support parents through healthy eating education classes.

Fostering Hope



Fostering Joy is a program of parties and fun and educational events for foster children where they can enjoy themselves and be treated to an exciting event. These events are primarily based around holiday events such as Christmas, Easter, Halloween, and cultural education.

Furthering Autistic Children's Education and Schooling



Children with autism currently have poor academic and social outcomes. This project provides services for children with autism using science-based methods currently unavailable in Australia supporting improved educational, social, and mental health outcomes for children with autism, their families, peers, and teachers.

Glass Jar Australia



The Seven Sisters program is delivered in partnership with children, their families, Aboriginal Elders, local Aboriginal communities, and the school, as a component of the Shooting Stars program. The program develops vital preventative mental health strategies, enabling participants to adapt to emerging challenges as they progress through life. Over a 10 week program, participants learn to recognise and name their emotions, develop strategies for cheering themselves up or calming down, and learn how to build healthy relationships, both on and off the netball court.

Hannah's House



Hannah's House is dedicated to supporting children with life-limiting and complex conditions and their families to live their best quality of life. We do this by offering vital in-home respite care, play therapies and other services to support the wellbeing of the child and their family.

With the generous funding of Telethon, we can provide care, comfort, and joy to seriously ill children, enabling them to participate fully in home and community life.

HeartKids



HeartKids provides vital in-hospital, regional and local community services to thousands of families, parents of heart kids ensuring they are supported, informed, and educated throughout their child's health journey. HeartKids works with health professionals, and service providers to provide the best outcomes for heart kids and their families.

Helping Little Hands



The Aboriginal Support Fund is a targeted, collaborative, culturally sensitive effort to support Aboriginal parents with premature or sick babies to overcome barriers to attending hospital to be part of their baby's care and attending essential early intervention follow-up clinics with the fundamental aim of improving medical outcomes.

Helping Minds



The Stepping Stones program supports Aboriginal children, aged 10-18, in the Broome/Derby areas. Using a whole-of-person-centric, co-designed, culturally, and linguistically appropriate and collaborative approach, the program includes education, empowerment and enables access to health and mental wellbeing service delivery. The program uses storyboards and activities such as football, healthy lifestyle and eating habits and cooking classes to support, develop and maintain healthy minds, healthy bodies and make healthy decisions. The program enables today's Aboriginal children to become tomorrow's leaders and role models.

HorsePower Swan Valley



HorsePower Swan Valley, provides therapeutic and recreational equine-related activities, to children and young people with physical, intellectual, or mental health challenges.

Inclusion Solutions



The United Reds Football League, a partnership between Inclusion Solutions, Telethon, Manchester United Foundation and Football West, gives children with disabilities the opportunity to play football for local clubs. Clubs and the

sport become inclusive of children with disabilities and their families, providing a sense of belonging, developing skills and creating social connections.

Indigo Australasia



To enable young people with complex physical disabilities, and complex communication needs, in regional WA to access and use eye gaze technology for communication, recreation and education. Following successful projects in metropolitan and regional schools, this project aims to develop a model of school-based alternative access support within regional areas.

JDRF Australia



Children living with type 1 diabetes (T1D) experience shorter life expectancy and poorer health than their healthy peers. The Global Centre of Excellence will deliver improved life expectancy and health outcomes for children with T1D in WA including those in regional & remote communities and millions around the world.

Joondalup Health Campus / TKI / Origins logo lock-up



The ORIGINS Project is the largest study of its kind in Australia, following 10,000 families over a decade. The study involves pregnant women, babies, and their partners to improve the health of the next generation through early diagnosis and intervention. ORIGINS is collecting detailed information on how a child's early environment and lifestyle influences child development. Acquiring a BOD-POD GS-X provides a comprehensive and accurate measurement of body composition in children and adults, and the Nevisense system will investigate skin barrier integrity and/or dysfunction, a novel and non-invasive tool for detailed skin barrier investigations.

Kalparrin



The Kalparrin Hospital Support Program provides practical and emotional support to WA children with disability and their families at Perth Children's Hospital. The project helps families, often at the point of diagnosis when their world is turned upside down, to understand the implications of the diagnosis, and to get necessary supports in place quickly.

Kid Cancer Support Group



KCSG Playgroup provides a safe and supportive environment for families

with immunocompromised children undergoing cancer treatment to come together. The program provides a much-needed opportunity for children aged 0-8 and parents to socialise with play and a focus on music and relaxation therapy techniques to assist the children and parents cope with trauma and stress.

Kites Children's Therapy



Kites' Dog Assisted Therapy uses highly trained dogs to deliver creative ways for children to achieve their therapy goals. Dog Assisted Therapy is designed to help children build their skills across several therapy focus areas. Sessions are facilitated by Kites' highly qualified occupational therapists.

Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation



Leeuwin Ocean Adventure's Ultimate Dockside Camp is about play, physical activity, social interaction and learning for young people with disability. They get a taste for adventure and make new friends without leaving the Fremantle harbour.

Legacy WA



For 100 years, Legacy WA has been delivering on our promise to help families of those who served to build a sustainable future. With Telethon's support Legacy works with these children to ensure they are not disadvantaged as a result of their parent's service through an annual camp, as well as a series of one-day activities throughout the year. They have also designed an education and training program so they can support these children in pursuing their future goals.

Life Education WA



Thanks to Telethon funding this year, there will be an expansion of the Life Education's WA 2021 "ROCKS" project. It will partner with primary schools in the Goldfields region. The program will aim to educate children in early preventive health and safety through direct delivery and virtual delivery.

Lifeline WA



Tragically, suicide is the leading cause of death among young Australians. Sadly, this cohort is also the least likely to phone Lifeline's 13 11 14 helpline service. Lifeline WA knows that digital contact is less intimidating for young people. So Lifeline is determined to offer a text and online chat service from Perth seven days a week to reach and help these vulnerable young people.

THANK YOU

Thank you Telethon, and thank you Western Australia, for helping us change the lives of kids and families not just here in WA, but all over the world.

Thank you to the thousands of families who have been part of our research into cancer, asthma, diabetes, autism, COVID-19, ear health, infectious diseases, mental health and much more.

You're helping us to make a difference.

Find out more at telethonkids.org.au

**Lionheart
Camp for Kids**

Lionheart's new family camp is a two-day bereavement program supporting grieving children following the death of a loved one. Our camp provides a safe space for children to learn critical skills and thrive despite their loss. It also empowers the family unit, so children are supported at home.

**Lions Eye
Institute**

A not-for-profit organisation and centre of excellence, combining both world-class ophthalmology treatment with ground-breaking scientific research in eye and vision health. The Lions Eye Institute and its community outreach service, Lions Outback Vision, strive towards its mission to prevent and cure blindness and eye disease, from infancy to childhood and throughout adulthood in metropolitan, regional and remote WA.

**Make-A-Wish
Australia**

Make-A-Wish grants inspirational wish journeys for critically ill children. We have made unicorns fly, sent kids to the moon, and brought dinosaurs back from extinction. For everyone involved

the impact of a wish has an immediate uplifting and positive effect, empowering children with hope and joy when they need it most.

**Meningitis
Centre Australia**

Meningitis Centre Australia will develop a targeted outreach campaign in the community with education providers and clinicians to raise awareness and understanding of the signs of meningitis, meningococcal and related diseases which can kill within 24 hours. Through this program, we will defeat these diseases and reduce their burden.

**Murdoch
University**

Researchers at Murdoch University are mapping children's metabolic development to understand the impact of maternal and early life environment on their health, developing new rapid diagnosis and treatment methods for sepsis in preterm infants and generating novel treatments for children with severe chronic debilitating disorders. Acquiring an Incucyte SX5 live-cell visualisation system will make the screening process of cultured cells for compounds that overcome genetic disorders more efficient.

**Muscular
Dystrophy WA**

MDWA's "Little Ones" will see several strategies integrated to support children aged 0-6 years with neuromuscular conditions and their families. This first-of-its-kind pilot project provides education and advocacy, counselling, resources, and social support to complement their ongoing medical management, providing a holistic approach to achieve better overall health outcomes.

Nature Play WA

Nature Play WA and a diverse group of 11-14 year old girls are co-designing a Talk 'n' Walk app to help turn around the dramatic decline in physical activity among teenage girls that is impacting their physical and mental health. With Telethon's support we will pilot, refine, and launch the app to at least 800 girls.

**Ngala Community
Services**

ABC is a 10-session evidence-based parenting intervention for caregivers of infants and toddlers (6-48 months) who have experienced early adversity. ABC intervention helps caregivers nurture and respond sensitively to their infants and toddlers to foster their development and form strong and healthy relationships.

**Nulungu Research
Institute**

This research-integrated project is for young Aboriginal people to learn how to develop and lead a Coolgardie Aboriginal Youth Safe Space, emphasising leadership, Aboriginal culture, values of inclusion and responsibility. It is a partnership between Millennium Kids, Notre Dame, Judumul Aboriginal Corporation, Shire of Coolgardie and WA Police.

Ocean Heroes

Ocean Heroes is a WA-based charity that aims to improve wellbeing of children on the autism spectrum and their families through surfing. Our regional events program is a unique opportunity for children with under-served needs to access a fun, supportive and free outdoor activity within their local community.

OzHarvest

"Nourishing Our Schools" innovatively tackles children's food insecurity both in schools and at home. Working with 60 disadvantaged Perth Metropolitan schools, the program will provide Food for Learning (food supplies enabling schools to deliver student food relief, nutrition, and cooking programs year-round) and Food for Thriving (nourishing hampers for vulnerable families).

**Parkerville Children
and Youth Care**

The innovative Multiagency Investigation and Support Team model provides WA's first integrated response to

those who have experienced child sexual abuse by co-locating all supports needed to reduce the impact of this trauma. The Education, Employment and Training Programme aims to give young people aged 14-16, who are at risk of failing school, the tools to create a successful future.

Perron Institute

Telethon's funding contributes to sophisticated imaging tools and their application to study brain development and repair in infants and children, and track responses to environmental and genetic trauma. One aim of Perron Institute's research is to reduce the impact of infant brain injury - a leading cause of death and disability in children under five.

**Perth Children's
Hospital Foundation**

Perth Children's Hospital Foundation is the official and largest funder of the Perth Children's Hospital after government. Their support in the past 25 years has totalled over \$92 million. Through the support of Telethon, the Foundation is helping to transform the healthcare of WA's sick children through the most advanced equipment and technology, ground-breaking research, innovative education and training programs, investment in the expertise of world class clinicians, and positive patient experiences.

Rebound WA

Our unique Giving Kids A Go program aims to help children with a physical disability to become more confident within themselves and in a peer environment, learn new skills through different activities tailored to their needs and provides valuable support networks for families, especially during the socially isolating COVID-19 pandemic.

Redkite

Children with cancer, and their families, from regional/remote areas of WA experience heightened emotional, financial, and educational challenges compared to those living in metropolitan areas. Redkite provides tailored, high-level support, empowering them to manage cancer's immediate and ongoing effects and have the best possible wellbeing and quality of life.

**Riding for the
Disabled Association
of Western
Australia - Carine Group**

The Developing Abilities and Enriching Lives Project will focus on building and development of Hinnotherapy and

Equine Therapy sessions by introducing new sensory, assisted technology and educational elements whilst creating a healthy and welcoming environment and community, increasing physical activity, and improving the mental health of our children.

Rocky Bay

The Early Start Intervention Program for children at risk of rare disease will be expanded to address emerging needs in mental health and social supports. The 2021 Telethon funded pilot program delivered physiotherapy, speech pathology, occupational therapy, and hydrotherapy. The AusSWIM trial will seek to nurture foundational skills to support participation in swimming and water safety awareness for children with Autism.

**Royal Flying
Doctor Service**

The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) provides emergency aeromedical care to babies and children across WA. Telethon is providing life-like newborn and toddler manikins for clinical training and transilluminators for neonatal IV insertion to improve the quality and delivery of care RFDS crews provide across regional WA.

**Save the
Australia**

Save the Children and Western Desert Lands Aboriginal Corporation are partnering to establish accommodation and support services for Martu students in the Pilbara, WA. The Home to School program supports culturally and linguistically diverse families who have migrated to WA and are likely to experience language and knowledge barriers to critical services.

SensesWA

SensesWA's brand and ethos is rooted in the themes of nurture and support, so New Buds will provide a new style of developmental therapy; a group-based approach, delivered by eminent experts, using specific techniques and tools required by infants who have vision and/or hearing loss.

Sensorium Theatre

Sensorium's Imagine program 2022 will deliver a high quality, multi-sensory, performing arts intervention program to schools, libraries, playgroups and parent child centres throughout WA, improving the wellbeing of children who are disadvantaged and marginalised as a result of disability and/or socio-economic circumstances.

FINDING SOLUTIONS IS IN OUR DNA

With the support of Telethon, we are searching for a greater understanding of some of life's most devastating medical conditions in children's health. Our goal is to find treatments to create a better quality of life for kids and their families.

Find out more at perroninstitute.org

40 perron institute

LEARN CONNECT COMMUNICATE

Telethon Speech & Hearing provides world-class programs and services for children to develop strong listening, speaking and language skills.

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Visit us in Wembley or Cockburn. No referral needed!

Every one of our members has a story about what their life is like living with a physical disability and how we've helped them to explore possibility.

See their stories at www.reboundwa.com

Telethon SAVES Young Lives

Thanks to your generosity our Young Hearts service continues to support children and young people affected by family and domestic violence.

[08 9263 2091](tel:0892632091)
getinvolved@anglicarewa.org.au

Sony Foundation Australia
Sony Foundation's Children's Holiday Camps are a series of camps providing free respite care, overnight and educational, for children with disabilities and complex needs, and their families/carers; a lifeline for vulnerable children in Perth Metropolitan and the Kimberley Region who face challenges accessing critical services.



well-being of young people living with serious, chronic, and lifelong health conditions through a range of activities. The Captain Starlight Program at Perth Children's Hospital supports the well-being of hospitalised children and families through fun, entertainment play and distraction.



Superfins
Telethon Superfins Learn to Swim Program will provide quality swimming instruction for school aged children with disabilities, to promote safety in and around water, to promote positive health and fitness outcomes for participants and to encourage children to learn the techniques involved in swimming, a sport for life.

Sotos Syndrome Association of Australasia
The Sotos Syndrome Australasia Association aims to provide our juniors living with Sotos in the community to engage alongside an older person living with Sotos to encourage them to grow and feel connected to their peers as they navigate those challenges that come with puberty, mental health, navigating teenage years and early adulthood.



Telethon Kids Institute
Our vision is simple - happy healthy kids. With top scientific minds and world-class facilities, we bring together researchers, community, practitioners, policy makers and funders who share our vision. Our researchers are searching for answers to the big issues in child health including the impact of COVID-19 on our kids and the extra challenges faced by Aboriginal kids and families.



Spectrum Space
The Telethon Holiday Makers Program provides a safe and inclusive place for autistic children amongst like-minded peers. The Program provides parents with peace of mind knowing that there are suitable holiday activities for their children, run by qualified professionals, who build participants' social skills, confidence, and self-esteem whilst they have fun.



Telethon Speech & Hearing
Telethon Speech & Hearing provides children aged 0-8 and their families affected by hearing, speech and/or language difficulties access to a suite of educational-based, diagnostic, therapy, and support services in the one location. Children are supported through individual and group-based therapy while caregivers are provided with the necessary skills to support their children at home.



Spinnaker Health Research Foundation
FibroScan® is a non-invasive device that assesses the "hardness" (or stiffness) of the liver via the technique of transient elastography. A cross-sectional assessment of fatty liver in overweight and obese children, this study will be the first to examine the prevalence and metabolic impact of fatty liver using the liver Fibroscan in WA children.



The Dyslexia-SPELD Foundation of WA
DSF will train selected WA librarians to deliver an early language and literacy development program in their communities. The Boost: Help your Child to Read and Spell program provides parents with vital information about how children develop language and literacy. DSF will also update a locally developed language screening tool - the Screen of Communication Skills.



Sports Challenge Australia
After the measured success of Stage 1 in 2021, the 'world first' and innovative E-PALS platform has been a game changer in reconnecting 'at risk' children with their own dedicated Sports Challenge mentor (24x7) outside the school gate, to improve mental and physical health and this will be expanded to more needy communities in 2022.



The Fathering Project
The connecting and supporting disadvantaged children, fathers and families program seeks to connect and support disadvantaged children by providing activities in schools to enhance the father/child relationship and school



Starlight Children's Foundation Australia
Livewire at Perth Children's Hospital supports the psychosocial and emotional



connection. The program provides individualised levels of support to schools and strategies to connect with families traditionally not involved in the school community.

The Good Chat Foundation
Mentally Strong empowers victims of bullying from disadvantaged households, aged 10 - 15 through a sporting program focused on building a sense of purpose, sense of belonging, increased confidence, and a strong support network. Providing these elements will assist our youth to build protective barriers to prevent suicide as a result of bullying.



The Healthy Strides Foundation
The Healthy Strides Foundation is a dedicated intensive therapy centre. We provide treatments that have been informed by the latest research to enable children and youth to have the best opportunities to achieve their goals and participate in everyday life.



The Humour Foundation
The Humour Foundation delivers the Clown Doctors Program at Perth Children's Hospital at no cost to the hospital. We are seeking assistance in paying for this much loved program. The program benefits over 17,000 children and their families every year, distracting at times of distress and bringing joy.



The Katina Woodruff Children's Foundation
This 12-month project aims to support 20 refugee or migrant children recently arrived into Western Australia. Working with the Beaconsfield Intensive Language Centre, Department of Education and Training's Early Childhood Support Unit and referrals from families and schools, we provide cultural and educational support to these children to help them adjust to their new life in WA.



The Salvation Army
Graceville provides a safe place for women and children escaping domestic violence. The introduction of a Child Counsellor to the program would provide children with immediate support while in crisis care to improve their mental, emotional, and physical well-being and identify pathways for long term recovery.



The University of Western Australia
UWA will support mothers in hospital to feed colostrum and quantify formula supplementation; investigate Respiratory Syncytial Virus transmission in childcare centres; provide biological evidence linking pregnancy complications with nitrate contaminated groundwater; generate data to ensure



multiple medications are safe; improve outcomes for Central Auditory Processing Disorder; and help children with complex needs to thrive through afterschool exercise programs.

Therapy Focus
Therapy Focus will deliver therapeutic tools to meet individuals sensory and emotional regulation needs and, oral motor development as part of their individualised therapy programs. The Neuro Now program will provide children living with neurological conditions greater access to specialised rehabilitation devices, equipment and holistic therapeutic approaches.



Thriving
Thriving in Motion provides various inclusive, accessible and fun exercise programs to improve the health outcomes of children and young people. The team use their expertise to target young people experiencing challenges or barriers to participating in physical activity. Thriving Minds is a community mental health education program developed to improve the mental health literacy of Telethon beneficiaries, and improve timely access to critical services for WA young people experiencing mental distress.



Tiny Sparks WA
Tiny Sparks developmental playgroup, funded by Telethon, provides children born early or sick with early intervention in a play-based setting. By educating, empowering and supporting families with a unique and comprehensive program, we can assist them to flourish and live their best lives. Neonatal unit care packages, funded by Telethon, provide essential items to support families during their unexpected neonatal unit stay. Each item, such as a cooler bag for safe transport of expressed breast milk, or baby's first tiny outfit has been selected by graduate families for both practical and memorable reasons.



Type 1 Diabetes Family Centre
The Type 1 Diabetes Family Centre is the go-to organisation for families impacted by type 1 diabetes (T1D) in WA. This project will extend the Family Centre's existing CONNECT program to two regional areas, providing the families of children with T1D with accurate health information, practical support, effective support families during their unexpected Neonatal Unit stay.



WA Child Research Fund
The WA Child Research Fund was established in 2012 to fund research of direct significance to child and adolescent health, enhance the translation of research findings into evidence-based health policy and practice and contribute to integrating research capability across universities, research institutes and health services.



WA Disabled Sports Association
WADSA's vision is that people with disabilities are empowered to participate in sport and recreation. WADSA enhances the lives of people with a disability through meaningful participation in sport and recreation including families, volunteers, staff, and the wider community.



Wheels for Hope
Wheels for Hope changes lives for WA families through the gift of mobility with its fleet of 40 vehicles. Wheels for Hope loans eligible families a wheelchair accessible vehicle to transport their child to medical and remedial appointments, school, community and family activities.



Women and Infants Research Foundation
Grants awarded by Telethon to the Women & Infants Research Foundation in 2022 have shaped pioneering research studies that are focussed on improving the health and outcomes of WA neonates and infants from pregnancy to childhood. With Telethon support, our researchers are pioneering a new era of preventative medicine, solving problems at the earliest stages. Through this partnership, we are delivering the healthiest possible future for the next generation of WA families.



Youth Focus
The world-changing events of the last 18 months have severely impacted the mental wellbeing of WA adolescents. Supporting Youth Focus to meet the continuing demand for its free youth counselling services via face to face and telehealth platforms in office, community and school-based settings will ensure this vulnerable cohort can access professional early intervention support and build long-term mental well-being. Support from Telethon will also enable expansion of counselling to four high schools in south west WA.



Thank you for bringing positivity, fun and laughter back into the lives of kids facing cancer.

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Thanks Telethon for helping Hannah's House!

Our Telethon funding provided over 3500 hours of in-home respite and care to 30 children with life-limiting and complex conditions and their families during 2021. Your kind donations help us bring care, comfort and joy to these amazing kids.

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It'll be a hard nut to crack

Food allergy study a game-changer

SARAH STEGER

Every parent wants the best for their child, but with the most recent research into the prevalence of food allergies in kids published some 10 years ago, it's time for a fresh look.

The Perth Children's Hospital Food Allergy Clinical Research Program, which is a Telethon beneficiary, is on track to conduct a ground-breaking trial that could not only lead to a treatment that reduces the severity of allergic reactions in young children, but potentially eliminates reactions completely when a child is accidentally exposed to the "wrong" food.

The first of its kind in Australia, the new oral immunotherapy trial will look at treating the five most common nut allergies in preschool-aged children simultaneously.

With peanut and tree nut allergies the most common cause of

food-induced anaphylaxis, and many children having multiple nut allergies, the demand from parents is growing rapidly — a demand which the multi-nut study, due to start in the second half of the year, aims to alleviate.

With most oral immunotherapy studies in the past focusing on treating a single nut at a time, the WA study could become a game-changer for parents with kids affected by multiple food allergies.

Carine mother Kristen Wullemin is deeply aware of the challenges that come with having a child that suffers from one or more food allergies.

She still remembers the terror she felt the first time she gave her four-year-old daughter Claire, pictured, a peanut butter sandwich.

"She had an anaphylactic reaction. Her lips swelled and she started wheezing, it was very

scary," Ms Wullemin said. "I didn't know what to do."

The mother of two admitted having a child with a food allergy required "constant planning". "You have to check everything is safe to eat, double check with people when you're at their house, ask awkward questions, and with kids, well you have to teach them to advocate for themselves, because you're not always going to be there," Ms Wullemin said.

Dr Michael O'Sullivan said the program focused on measuring and understanding how common food allergies were in infants.

"We actually don't have up-to-date figures on that," he said. "We rely on research from Melbourne which is now 10 years old."



In the name of the father

A resources and support network furthering better fathering is being driven by a mountain of evidence that better dads have more well-adjusted kids.

Adrian Engel, pictured with daughters Allayna and Kayla, who has worked for The Fathering Project for several years, says the program has helped him personally.

"Being a dad really is a work in progress," he said.

"We all try our best but we can still occasionally find ourselves in situations where advice and support is desperately needed."

The network has expanded nationally since being created in WA in 2013, helping to gain exposure through its public face, cricket star Justin Langer.

"If an Australian cricketer legend who has held multiple sporting records admits that he sometimes needs advice, then maybe it's OK for me to ask for help, too," Mr Engel laughed.

Langer said it was a "no brainer" to become the project's ambassador after reading a book on fathering by founder and friend Professor Bruce Robinson.



THE TELETHON HOME HEADS TO THE SeASiDE

Satterley is delighted to once again support Telethon by **donating the land for the 2022 Telethon Home at Seaside**, a stunning coastal estate in Madora Bay.

The Telethon Home, built by **Home Group**, will be located just 7kms from Mandurah and an hour from the Perth CBD.



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PUT TO THE SCREEN TEST

Parents to get help reducing children's exposure to devices

SARAH STEGER

Watch too much TV and you'll get square eyes — that's the warning anyone who grew up before the 2000s was given by their parents.

Nowadays, screens are no longer restricted to the television set in your living room. From mobile phones to tablets, school-required laptops to smart watches, staying across all the devices your child uses on a daily basis is practically impossible. But while technology continues to advance, the research into its effect on early childhood has failed to keep up.

The Telethon Kids Institute screen time study aims to combat this disparity while also helping parents navigate the ever-changing world their kids are growing up in, and manage their exposure to devices.

Aimed at measuring the impact early screen time has on a child's development, the research will build upon a smaller study by the Telethon Kids Institute which found babies as young as six-months-old were being exposed to an average of 90 minutes of screen time each day.

Telethon Kids Institute

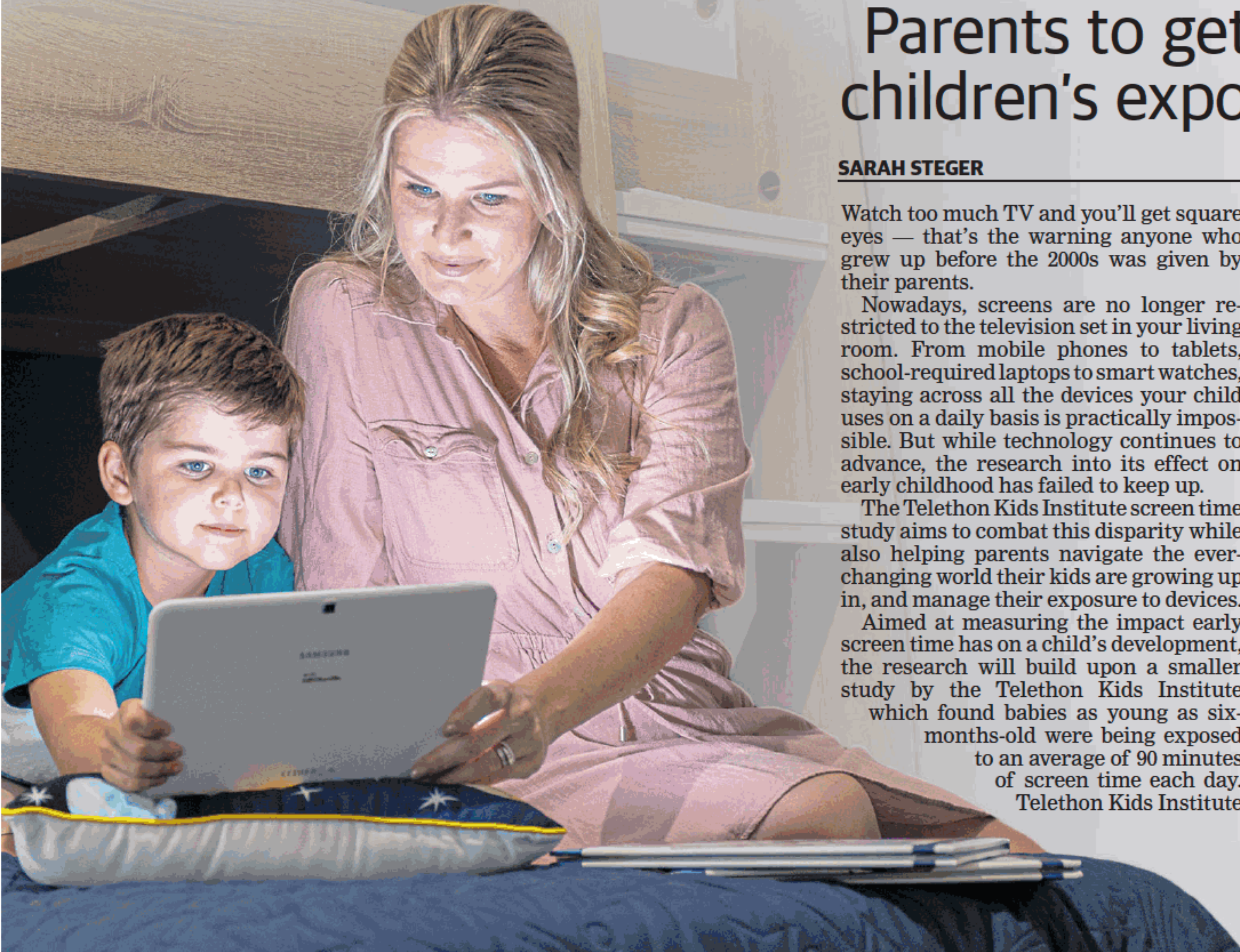
Professor Sally Brinkman, based at the Fraser Mustard Centre in Adelaide, will lead the study and said the impact of screen time in early childhood was one of the looming public health challenges of this decade.

"By the time a child is in primary school, those screen time patterns are already established so it's too late," Professor Brinkman said.

"Some of the research in this field has struggled to keep up with technology. A lot of it is based on even just a few years ago, when most of a child's screen time was based around a TV in the lounge room."

The project, which plans to start recruiting families with kids aged under two this year, will also develop new interventions and guidelines to help parents, with the current recommendation that children aged under two have "zero hours" of screen time proving unrealistic for modern families.

Bunbury mum Shannon Scott's son Jaxon, pictured, participated in the earlier, smaller study that saw researchers attach a small recording device known as a LENA recorder to him when he was a baby. The device recorded the number of words spoken to Jaxon by his parents in each day, and what impact that had on his development.



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Back page: Little Telethon 2021 stars Lucy Antipas and Oliver Lim. Front page: Annie, 4, who underwent major heart surgery when just five weeks old.

Thanks for your support

Thanks to the support of Woolworths customers and team, we proudly presented Telethon 2021 with a cheque for \$500,000.

Since 2013, you have helped us raise more than \$4 million for Telethon to help kids across WA.

Please join us in continuing to support Telethon by buying a \$2 Easter token or making a donation at the checkout.

100% of the funds raised supports the good work of Telethon.

