

The Hammond Foundation

# Impact Report

A photograph of two women sitting on a couch, smiling and knitting together. The woman on the left is older with short white hair, wearing a light-colored button-down shirt. The woman on the right is younger with long brown hair, wearing a pink t-shirt. They are both holding knitting needles and a ball of pink yarn. The background is a bright, slightly out-of-focus interior.

**20  
25**

**CHANGE  
LIVES TODAY,  
TRANSFORM  
AGEING  
TOMORROW**

# From our leaders

## A message from our CEO, Andrew Thorburn

I am honoured to present the Hammond Foundation Impact Report, which celebrates the remarkable difference made possible by your generosity. This report is a testament to what we can achieve together - going beyond what government funding allows, and investing in innovative programs that bring dignity, comfort, and hope to those who need it most.

Thanks to your support, the Hamond Foundation has been able to turn compassion into action - whether it's providing urgent help through the Care Fund, making cherished wishes come true through the Dreams Program, or supporting research and frontline staff through scholarships and innovation, including programs like the Embrace Program. Your partnership enables us to reach people facing some of life's toughest challenges, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Every story in this report reflects your impact. From Penny, who found stability and hope thanks to the Care Fund, to families who created lasting memories through the Dreams Program, your generosity is at the heart of every life changed.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to you, our supporters. Your commitment allows us to set new standards in relationship-based care and to shape a future where every person receives the respect and compassion they deserve. With your ongoing support, we can continue to transform lives - today and for generations to come.

With sincere appreciation,



**Andrew Thorburn**

Chief Executive Officer, HammondCare



## A message from Executive General Manager of the Hammond Foundation, Anna Barker

It's a privilege to share the Hammond Foundation Impact Report for Financial Year 2025.

This report is more than a collection of numbers and stories - it's a reflection of the real change made possible by your support.

Your continued generosity not only enables us to deliver compassionate care and practical support, it drives innovation and research translation - backing bright ideas, testing new approaches, and scaling what works across our services and the wider sector.

Whether it's providing essential equipment, supporting research and innovation that tackles the challenges of ageing or enabling bold initiatives for system-wide change, the impact you make matters. Your support doesn't just fill gaps; it transforms lives.

This year, we've seen care programs expand into regional communities, urgent needs met with swift action, and dedicated staff empowered to deliver initiatives that matter. Each milestone is a testament to what happens when people come together with purpose.

You are a vital part of our mission to promote compassion in action, seed innovation and catalyse transformation. Together we can improve lives for people with dementia, palliative care and complex needs.

On behalf of the Hammond Foundation team - and the many lives you've touched - thank you. Your partnership is extraordinary. Together, we're not just imagining a better future; we're building it, one practical step at a time.

With heartfelt gratitude,



**Anna Barker**

Executive General Manager  
of the Hammond Foundation





# About the Hammond Foundation

## Our Purpose

**The Hammond Foundation exists to turn generosity into life-changing, impact-fueling innovation, research, and compassionate care across HammondCare’s integrated health and aged care services. We connect donor passion to real outcomes, supporting people with dementia, palliative care needs, and complex care challenges through three pillars: compassion in action, seeding innovation, and catalysing transformation.**

With your support, the Hammond Foundation drives innovation and research translation - backing bright ideas, testing new approaches, and scaling what works across our services and the wider sector.

Your generosity also extends compassionate care, providing dignity, comfort, and extra support for those in need - from fulfilling last wishes to bridging gaps in care through the Dreams Project and Care Fund.

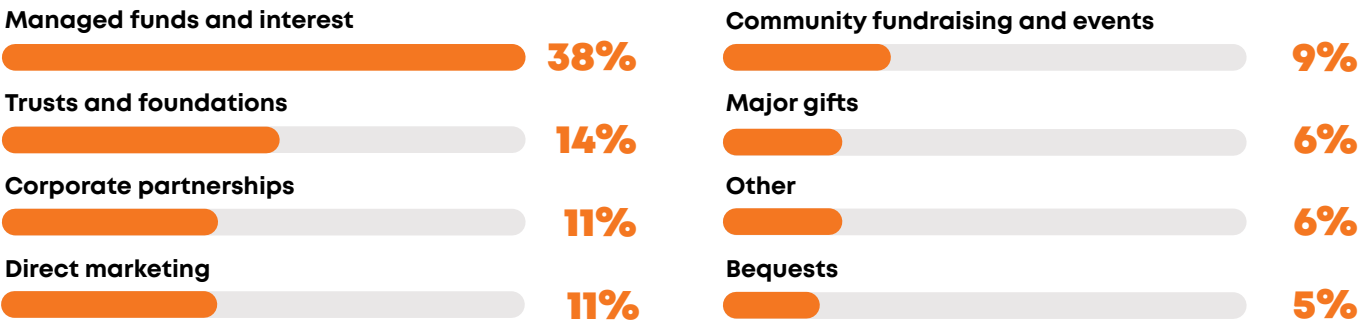
At the same time, you help shape the future of aged and health care by powering strategic initiatives, innovation, leading practice, and advocacy that influence system-wide improvement.

**Where government funding stops, your support steps in - investing in evidence-informed infrastructure, frontline training, and research that strengthens best practice.** Every donation is generosity in action, improving quality of life for people in need today and for generations to come.

**In 2024–2025,  
the Hammond  
Foundation raised**

**\$1,931,978**

## Donations by income source



# Care Fund

## Care Fund recipient Penny receives life-changing support

For people like Penny, a proud First Nations client living on Dharawal Country, The Hammond Foundation's Care Fund bridges the gap between crisis and stability. 'I didn't think anyone would hear me. I'd been let down before. I was just trying to hold on,' shares Penny.

When Penny first connected with HammondCare, life felt like it was closing in. Chronic pain made sleep near impossible. Her fridge barely worked, and fresh food was a luxury she often went without.

Forced into medical retirement due to complex health conditions, Penny was suddenly living on a drastically reduced income.

But when she mentioned her broken fridge to Sue Chadburne, a HammondCare Care Navigator, something shifted. Sue didn't just listen – she acted.

The very next day, Penny was approved for a brand-new fridge through the Care Fund. 'It floored me,' she said. 'I was overwhelmed. Suddenly I could keep food fresh. Cold water on a hot day felt like a gift.'

Not long after the fridge arrived, Penny also received a new mattress – one that eased her pain and helped her sleep through the night. The impact wasn't just physical. It was deeply emotional.

**I used to wake up in tears, and I dreaded going to bed, knowing when I woke up again, I'd be in pain. Now I start my day with energy. I'm eating properly again. Seriously, it's changed everything.**

PENNY

The Hammond Foundation's Care Fund was created to support people in our care who are facing hardship and have nowhere else to turn. It provides fast, practical help – like grocery vouchers, essential white goods, furniture, bedding, clothing, and one-off medical or utility costs – when other funding sources fall short.

The Care Fund has been made possible entirely by generous donations. Since its launch, it has helped dozens of people across home care, residential care and hospital services – restoring dignity, comfort and hope when it's needed most.

'I feel seen and valued; I'm not just a name on a page. I know I matter now.'

-Penny

## The Care Fund in FY25



137 referrals received

112 referrals approved

### How we've supported people in need:

- 28 equipment (e.g. wheelchair)
- 26 emergency housing assistance (e.g. hoarding and squalor cleans)
- 25 essential furniture items (e.g. bed)
- 24 white goods and electronics (e.g. fridge)
- 23 medical bills
- 14 food/grocery vouchers
- 6 clothing and bedding
- 3 transport
- 3 utilities
- 2 home modifications.



Penny (left) and Sue

# Dreams Program

## Paul's dream: a family's unforgettable getaway

**Paul, a devoted husband, father and passionate and gifted golfer, was facing a terminal illness and the emotional challenges of palliative care.**

Finding some solace and joy with his family seemed unlikely, but the Community Palliative Care team and the Dreams Program made plans so the family could reconnect amidst the beauty of the Blue Mountains, with Paul's medical needs taken care of.

Paul's gratitude was profound: "Wow! Many thanks for supporting my family for our dream weekend. Lilianfels was the respite we have been needing to reconnect and make some lasting memories. Deepest thanks from all of us. This is a perfect initiative."



Paul (middle) and his wife and sons

## Brian's dream fishing trip

When palliative patient Brian expressed his wish to go fishing with his brother, nephew and closest mates, the Dreams Program brought it to life. On a beautiful day out on the water, Brian relished the company of his loved ones as they reeled in several fish and wrapped up their outing with burgers at a local café - cherishing the simple pleasure of being together for a memorable day.



Brian (left) with his brother, nephew and closest mates

# Life Stories

## A legacy of love and memories

**David Dwyer, diagnosed with terminal cancer in early 2024, found great value in having his life story written to share with others.**

The Life Stories program helps patients reflect on their lives and leave a meaningful legacy. David worked with a Volunteer Life Stories writer to shape key moments of his life into a book - a process he described as "all positive," praising his writer Jayne as "marvelous with getting it right."

The finished story, enriched with photographs, became a treasured gift for his family.

**I gave the book to my two grandchildren for Christmas... you've got to think about what you are leaving to other people.**

DAVID

Thanks to generous supporters, the Hammond Foundation helps make it possible for dedicated volunteer writers to work alongside patients in shaping their stories into treasured keepsakes that bring comfort, connection, and lasting impact to families.



David at his 80th last year with his son Damien

## Life Stories in FY25



**72**  
Life Stories  
completed



**3,762.80**  
hours contributed  
by volunteers

## Program reached:

- Illawarra and the Southern Highlands
- Greater Sydney
- The Central Coast
- Hunter New England
- Central West



# Darlinghurst Social Club

## Creating connections at Darlinghurst Social Club

**The Social Club at HammondCare Darlinghurst is a space where residents reconnect with their passions, share their stories and find a renewed sense of purpose.**

With generous support from The Snow Foundation, the new Social Club has opened its doors, offering activities from trivia and art classes to board games, documentary screenings and even bus trips to Bondi Beach.

The Social Club has been truly life changing for many.

Jimmy, a long-time resident, would rarely leave his room in the past. He had often wished for a pool table and, thanks to generous donations, his wish came true. Jimmy is now a regular.

The Social Club now fosters a sense of belonging and connection previously not possible for many others like Jimmy.



Jimmy playing pool at Darlinghurst Social Club

# Art Engagement Program

## Arts on Prescription launches in the Hunter region

The Hammond Foundation helps fund the Arts on Prescription program, launched this year in the NSW Hunter region to bring creative therapy to older people, including those living with dementia, Parkinson's disease, or experiencing isolation. Led by professional artists, the program fosters wellbeing and strengthens social connection through meaningful, relationship-based art experiences.



Participants Donka (left) and Rose (right) with Medical Specialist Duncan McKellar and Lead Artist Practitioner Charlotte Salusinszky

## Healing through art: Hillary's journey at Greenwich Hospital

Greenwich Hospital's innovative Arts on Prescription program, a three-year pilot funded by generous donations, is transforming lives through creative engagement. One of many success stories is that of Hillary, a patient at HammondCare's Riverglenn Unit, an older persons' mental health unit at Greenwich Hospital in Sydney. After initially feeling overwhelmed when she joined the Riverglenn Arts on Prescription group, Hillary soon found solace in the program's nonjudgmental, creative environment. Guided by artist Liz McCarthy, Hillary immersed herself in various art forms from drawing bush landscapes inspired by Margaret Preston to painting Van Gogh's sunflowers. Ms McCarthy said watching Hillary's transformation has been incredibly rewarding: "Art became her 'happy place', providing relaxation and a sense of achievement." Kate Needham, overseeing the program, said its impact is pivotal for many: "The Arts on Prescription in Hospitals program not only enhances mental wellbeing, it fosters connections and offers patients a sense of purpose." Thanks to generous Foundation supporters, patients like Hillary can continue to find healing and joy through art, making a profound difference in their lives.

# Embrace Program

## Holding on to what matters most

**Living with a terminal illness can bring immense distress, yet for many it can also open a space for reflection and personal growth. For Trish, HammondCare's Embrace program provided exactly that - a safe, supportive environment to speak openly about her experience and rediscover meaning and purpose.**

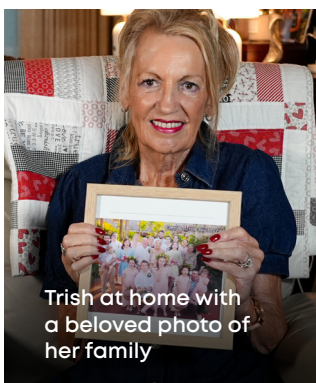
A mother of six and grandmother of 15, Trish was diagnosed with non-curable oesophageal cancer in 2018 after experiencing swallowing difficulties while on holiday. "Oesophageal cancer is not like breast cancer - there are no support groups, not even a general support group at the hospital," she explains. That's where Embrace made a profound difference.

Developed under the leadership of Professor Melanie Lovell, HammondCare Senior Staff Specialist in Palliative Care, the group-based program supports people through the emotional, psychological and spiritual challenges that accompany serious illness. Embrace has supported more than 30 people across inpatient and community palliative care services.

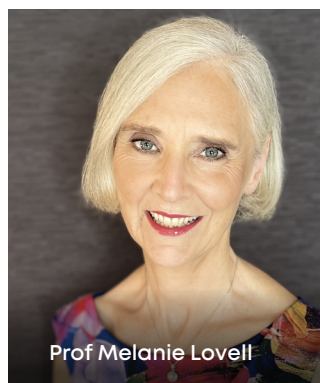
Sessions combine reflection, practical strategies and the power of peer connection. Dr Peter Archer, Head of Pastoral Care (Healthcare & Hospitals) and one of the program's developers, describes how Embrace uses metaphors - such as the Japanese art of kintsugi, where broken pottery is repaired with gold - to help participants reframe their experiences. Embrace has been formally evaluated through research generously funded by the Hammond Foundation, with support from the David and Judith Taylor Foundation.

**The simplicity of it [kintsugi] that something can be broken and then can be put together and it can still be functional and beautiful without being perfect ... you can still have a functional life and you can still get a lot out of your life and give a lot out of your life.**

**DR PETER ARCHER**



Trish at home with a beloved photo of her family



Prof Melanie Lovell

# Anna Carlborg scholarship

## Scholarship enables an inspiring journey

**Trained in oncology nursing, Grace Gao developed a strong interest in palliative care through her work at Greenwich Hospital.**

Grace wanted to pursue further study in palliative care, so she applied for the Anna Carlborg Scholarship, established in memory of the compassionate care Anna received at Greenwich Hospital.

**It gave me the chance to follow my dream and deepen my knowledge**

**GRACE**

She has also shared her learning through in-service training, improving care right across her team.

Thanks to generous Foundation donors, professionals like Grace can continue delivering high-quality, compassionate care to those who need it most.



Grace Gao with one of her two children



# Supporting social connection

## Lasting impact of community's generous spirit

**The Italian Catholic Federation in Smithfield has supported HammondCare's Braeside Hospital for over a decade, donating more than \$28,000 since 2009 to improve facilities and services.**

Treasurer Gina Morosin said their support began when the hospital lacked enough beds to open.

Their donations - raised through community events like Bingo, holiday lunches and raffles - have helped fund many key projects.

When presenting their recent Christmas gift of \$3,000 to Braeside, Gina said: "It's very rewarding to present a cheque like this after such great teamwork from our members".

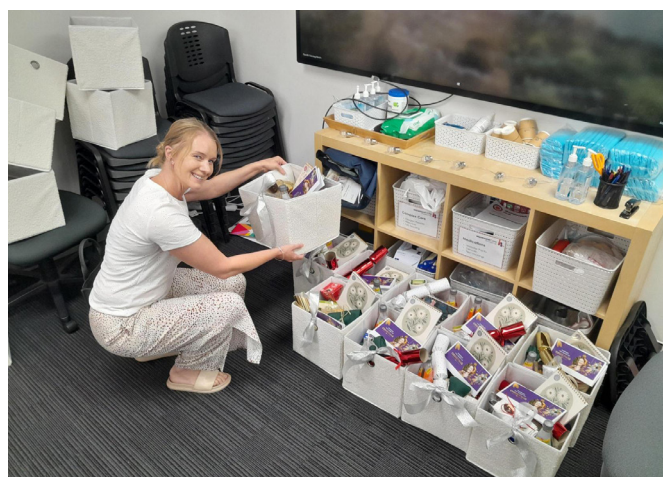


Presenting the Federation's Christmas donation at Braeside Hospital

## The true spirit of Christmas

**Christmas is a time of togetherness and joy, but for those in hospital or without loved ones nearby, it can feel lonely. At HammondCare, the spirit of Christmas shines through the kindness our donors, staff and volunteers who ensure no one is forgotten. Thank you to everyone who helped make Christmas warm and meaningful across HammondCare. As one volunteer shared, "The usual more sombre atmosphere was replaced with genuine joy as families and guests filled the rooms with smiles, laughter, love."**

Our hospitals at Greenwich, Neringah, Braeside and Mona Vale are home to remarkable people - from nurses who take a moment to sit and share a story to volunteers who bring festive cheer. Our supporters play a vital role too. Thanks to generous donors, we provided more than 100 Christmas hampers and celebrations to ensure no one in our care felt alone at Christmas.



# Thank you to our supporters

**The Hammond Foundation gratefully acknowledges the generosity of all our supporters, with a special mention to:**

- Desmond Lim
- EBOS Healthcare
- Hildanna Foundation
- Hindmarsh Construction Australia Pty Ltd
- Italian Catholic Federation of Smithfield
- JHA Consulting Engineers
- Janet Pruden
- Kelvin Bissett
- Keith Ketheeswaran family
- Malcolm Halstead
- Mary Elsie Sturme
- Neil Lewis
- Pamela King
- Peter Donnelley
- Stephen Edwards Constructions
- The Honda Foundation
- The Wicking Trust
- Vernon Sinclair Fund, managed by Equity Trustees
- William Yeates
- Xuan Hoang Nguyen



## Here's how you can get involved

There are many ways for you to partner with us.

### Leave a gift in Will

Leaving as little as one per cent of your estate is a simple and easy way for you to make an impact and leave a lasting legacy of faith and caring for generations to come. For information on leaving a gift in your Will to the Hammond Foundation, please contact [foundation@hammond.com.au](mailto:foundation@hammond.com.au) or our Planned Giving Specialist, Owen Craig, on 0422 030 333.

### In memory giving

Was someone you loved touched by the work of HammondCare? You could choose to celebrate the life of a loved one in a meaningful way by giving a gift in their memory, or choosing to ask for donations in lieu of flowers at their memorial service.

### Regular giving

By choosing to give a regular donation, you will be helping us to plan ahead. A regular gift allows us to plan for the future because we know, day in, day out, that we will have a steady income stream that we can rely upon.

## Different types of giving

Here are some flexible ways you can help support people in need

### Community fundraising

Raise funds and awareness for those in need by creating your own fundraising event, either as an individual or group. To get started, get creative and choose an idea, theme or challenge, then reach out to our team to get your authority to fundraise, and any support and help you need for your fundraiser.

### Corporate partnerships

Research has shown that workplace giving improves your employees' satisfaction, performance and morale. Come and partner with us to empower, engage and motivate your staff, while raising funds and awareness for a great cause. Not only is it a tax-deductible way of giving, but it is also a great way to lead and engage within your community.

### Gift in kind

By giving an in-kind donation you can help HammondCare access goods and services that would otherwise be unaffordable, or free up resources to be spent elsewhere. In-kind donations are a simpler way for your business to give because you don't have to worry about cash flow. Please reach out to the Foundation team if you have a gift that you believe would benefit those we serve.



**Donate today to  
make a difference**

**20  
25**

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## **Donate today to make a difference:**



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1800 998 111



[foundation@hammond.com.au](mailto:foundation@hammond.com.au)



HammondCare acknowledges and  
pays its respects to the Traditional  
Custodians of the lands on which our  
services operate.



**HammondCare** 