



Crohn's
& Colitis
Australia

40 years of living fearlessly with IBD

IMPACT REPORT

2025

ABOUT US

Crohn's & Colitis Australia (CCA) is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, governed by a skill's based board of directors, many of whom have lived experience of IBD who represent the Crohn's and colitis community.

As a Public Benevolent Institution and deductible Gift Recipient covered by item 1 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, CCA is registered with the Australian Charity and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC).



**AUSTRALIAN CROHN'S AND COLITIS ASSOCIATION
TRADING AS CROHN'S & COLITIS AUSTRALIA
ABN: 42 082 747 135**

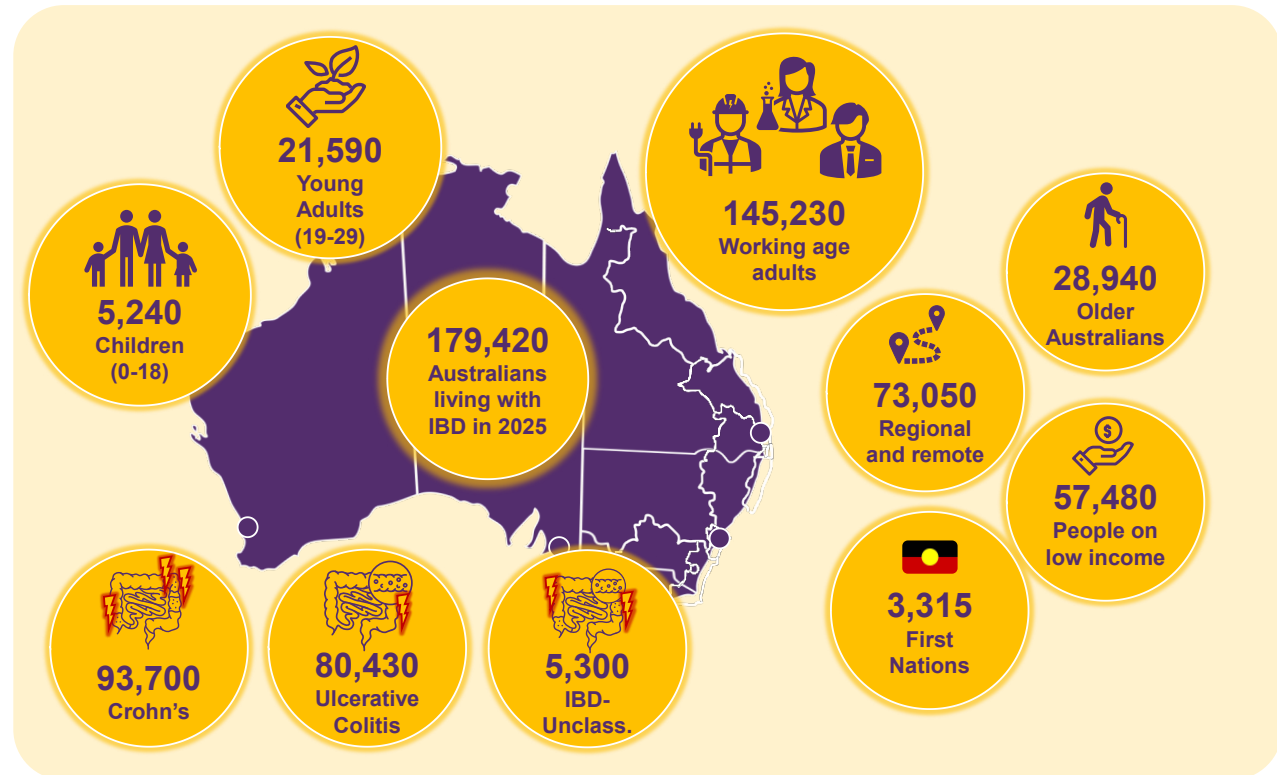
In this report

About CCA	3
Strategy toward 2028	4
Message from the Chair & CEO	5
A Year of Achievement	6
Strategic Priority 1 Develop valued, accessible, tailored and innovative offerings to enhance quality of life	7
Strategic Priority 2 Invest in advancing quality of life and care pathways through advocacy and research	10
Strategic Priority 3 Strengthen leadership and advocacy to influence better outcomes for our community	14
Strategic Priority 4 Increase awareness and engagement, driving knowledge, support and commitment to our purpose	16
Strategic Priority 5 Promote a healthy culture in a sustainable organisation	18
Our Valued Donors	19
Our Board	21
Board Advisory Committees	22
Our Fearless Partners	23

State of the Nation in Inflammatory Bowel Disease in Australia

Australia has among the **highest incidence of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)** of any nation globally, growing at the **fastest rate** among similar nations

IBD impacts young and working age Australians



Vision

Empower those with IBD to live fearlessly as we drive towards a cure and ultimately a future without Crohn's and Colitis.

Purpose

We believe in being fearless and at CCA we:

- **Improve quality of life** by helping people understand, respond to and actively manage their care.
- **Empower and support our community** – encouraging innovation, **advancing quality of care**, and facilitating new knowledge informed by deeper research.
- **Advocate, educate and facilitate**, leading tough conversations about taboo topics.

We want people to be authentic and unapologetic about their Crohn's or Colitis – whether that leaves them laughing or crying. We know being fearless means there will still be bad days, bad months, or bad years – this is a long-term and life-altering condition which impacts physical and mental health – it's about giving people the courage, confidence, and the ability to face things head on.

Because in fearlessness, there is strength to drive us toward a cure for IBD.

2028 Ambition

1. Provider of valued services and products to support the IBD community across the lifespan.
2. Driver of research that progresses the search for a cure and better management of IBD.
3. A fearless and frank communicator, advocating for system change, improved information, and education.
4. A trusted and influential organisation, respected by the community, philanthropy, health and medical industry and government.
5. Sustainably funded and financially stable with a diverse and wide community of support.

Our ambition will be achieved through the delivery of five strategic priorities:

1. Develop valued, accessible, tailored and innovative offerings to enhance quality of life.

INITIATIVES

Continue activation of digital tools and automated processes
Continue to assess community demographics to tailor services across the lifespan and care pathway
Continue our forums (community, GP, specialist) to engage on IBD, evaluate and seek feedback for improvement
Further build the education for consumers and clinicians on GutSmart and CCA website
Explore the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to support our IBD helpline and/or information sharing

Fund PhD scholarships, Nurse Practitioner scholarships and Post Doc Fellowships aligned with our research priorities
Advocate for implementation of Paediatric Audit and IBD State of the Nation recommendations
Action recommendations from our IBD State of Nation Report, leveraging horizon scanning partnerships
Identify quality of life (QOL) needs and plan responses

Advance our ambassador program
Explore expanded advocacy opportunities
Develop structured advocacy and education programs targeting key stakeholders
Actively expand partnerships with corporates, health industry, patient organisations, health professionals, research bodies and government

Undertake a data acquisition program for improved understanding of our community
Improve our engagement strategy for key stakeholder groups
Develop our engagement programs for tailored two-way communication
Expand our brand champion network to raise awareness
Test and learn experimentation framework for impact-driven innovation

Develop our engagement plans for funders (government, corporates, and philanthropy)
Implement our bequest strategy
Complete our policy updates
Retain and build our CCA team – capacity and capability
Review our business model, risk framework and investment strategy on a regular basis

4. Increase awareness and engagement driving knowledge, support and commitment to our purpose

3. Strengthen leadership and advocacy to influence better outcomes for our community

2. Invest in advancing quality of life and care pathways through advocacy and research.

5. Promote a healthy and inclusive culture in a sustainable organisation

OUTCOMES

Uptake and adoption of AI driven tools and users accessing our services
Validate and prioritise our list of tailored initiatives from digital strategy
Launch new products/services with feedback mechanisms to optimise
Increase uptake and completion of courses on GutSmart

Be the leading influential source of IBD information and support
Increase our group of ambassadors, advocates and partners both nationally and internationally
Increase access to support services

Recommendations from Paediatric audit addressed by government
Priorities and Business Case from IBD State of the Nation Report addressed by government
Increased investment in research scholarships

Grow our customer relationship management database in quality and size
Increase donation and funding opportunities
Increase number of people reached by 30%
Increase impact (measured by segment and lifestyle stage)
Increase engagement and awareness from current baseline

Secure sustainable and diverse funding sources
Retain at least 12 months of operating expenditure
Maintain consistent and engaged staff and team leadership
Sustain the reputation and trust CCA currently possesses both nationally and internationally

FROM THE CHAIR AND CEO

In 2025, Crohn's & Colitis Australia proudly marked 40 years of standing beside the IBD community.

What began with one woman in suburban Melbourne – Angela McAvoy AM – recognising “the silence, the stigma and sheer lack of physical and psychological support”, has grown into a national movement of strength, advocacy and impact.

Today, 180,000 Australians live with IBD, and for half of them, active disease continues to disrupt daily life. The burden spans every generation: 5,240 children, 21,590 young adults, 145,230 working-age adults and 28,940 older Australians. These numbers remind us why our work matters.

This year, we were honoured to see the Minister for Health, Ageing and Disability, the Hon Mark Butler MP, launch the IBD State of the Nation Report at Parliament House. This landmark report updates Australia's understanding of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis and reveals the true scale of the challenge: IBD cost Australia \$7.8 billion in 2025, and without action, that figure will soar to \$77.9 billion over the next decade.

But we are not standing still.

We know what works – and we have a national strategy ready to deliver real change. With a focused four year investment, we can shift the trajectory by driving three critical priorities:

- Implementing multidisciplinary IBD care
- Ensuring early access to novel therapies
- Increasing investment in IBD research



These actions will put more people into remission, improve quality of life and reduce the long term burden on Australia's health system.

We are deeply grateful to every member of the IBD community– people living with IBD, families, carers, friends, health professionals, researchers, partners and supporters. Your commitment fuels our mission, and CCA remains dedicated to being your trusted advocate and ally.

We also thank the CCA Board, committees and staff for their leadership and expertise. This year we welcomed two new board members – gastroenterologist Associate Professor Réme Mountifield, and former Federal MP Jenny Ware to the board. Their long-standing advocacy for autoimmune diseases and lived experience with Crohn's disease enrich our organisation.

Together, we have faced challenges with courage and purpose. The achievements in this report reflect the strength of our community and the power of collective action.

We hope you feel proud of the impact you've helped create.

Your contribution matters – and it is deeply appreciated.

In fearlessness, there is strength.

Bruce Rosengarten
Chair

Leanne Raven
Chief Executive Officer

A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT



542 CCA Helpline enquiries answered

195 CCA NurseLine assessments and support contacts



142 GutSmart course enrolments



2050 CCA members



234 volunteers throughout 2025

\$246K

raised during 2025 Live Fearless Challenge



24% increase in active users viewing CCA website

142 GutSmart course enrolments

2050 CCA members

234 volunteers throughout 2025

130 sites lit up for World IBD Day



30k+ followers across our social media platforms

9

advocacy submissions

12

Support groups, both online and in person



83 awareness month media outcomes

2

conference abstracts (posters)



2

reports/journal articles

3

youth events (Camp Fearless, Kids Fun Days)



\$80K raised from community events during 2025

16

research studies promoted

4

information forums - face-to-face or online



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

DEVELOP VALUED, ACCESSIBLE, TAILORED AND INNOVATIVE OFFERINGS TO ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE

Strategic initiatives focused on activating digital tools, automating our core business processes to improve experience, exploring the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and conducting our webinars and forums for the community. By assessing community demographics, services can be tailored to meet the unique needs of individuals across different life stages and points along the care pathway. This data-driven approach ensures that interventions are both relevant and effective, addressing disparities and improving access to care and quality of life. To foster a more inclusive and collaborative approach, establishing connections—bringing together community members, general practitioners, and specialists—will be crucial in facilitating dialogue around IBD. This engagement will serve as platforms for education, engagement, and continuous feedback. Additionally, exploring the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) to support IBD helplines and information sharing could further enhance patient support and responsiveness, ensuring timely access to accurate resources, evidence based information and assistance when needed.

A comprehensive strategy for managing Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) continues to centre on expanding accessible support, strengthening digital capability, and delivering tailored services that respond to the diverse needs of the community.

In 2025, Crohn's and Colitis Australia (CCA) progressed key initiatives that enhance patient experience, improve access to care, and support individuals across all stages of life and along the care pathway

Through a combination of in-person engagement, digital innovation, and targeted education, CCA is ensuring that people living with IBD are better supported wherever they are in Australia.

SUPPORTING KIDS WITH IBD ACROSS AUSTRALIA

In 2025, CCA expanded its youth engagement activities, delivering inclusive and innovative events designed to support children, young people, and their families.

CCA hosted a **Youth Fun Day** in Perth at Cahoots Adventure Camp in the Swan Valley, marking the first time that Kids Fun Day and the Youth Empowerment Program (YEP!) were combined into a single event. This new format was introduced to better serve Western Australia's IBD community and encourage greater participation. The event attracted strong interest, with over 100 registrations and 89 attendees including families, volunteers, staff, and guests.

The day featured a mix of recreational activities, mentoring opportunities, and connections with healthcare professionals from Perth Children's Hospital. Young people participated in peer-led mentoring sessions, while families

engaged directly with clinicians and CCA staff. The event also included a welcome

from CCA CEO Leanne Raven and a personal story shared by West Coast Eagles AFL player **Jake Waterman**, helping to inspire and connect with attendees.

Additional highlights included media engagement, video content development for CCA's digital platforms, and a range of inclusive activities such as laser tag and rope courses, designed to build confidence and peer connection.



A **Kids Fun Day** was also delivered in Brisbane, bringing together 24 children and 21 adults, alongside volunteers, staff, and guest speakers, with strong media coverage across the east coast. We were excited to welcome teen pilot Byron Waller to share his personal experience of IBD.



VITAL EDUCATION RESOURCES FOR CONSUMERS AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

CCA continued to strengthen its education offering for both health professionals and the IBD community through the Consumer Education and Awareness IBD (CEA-IBD) Project and GP Aware initiatives.

Significant progress was made in expanding accessible, multilingual resources. The "Managing my IBD" video was released in seven additional languages, alongside a new awareness video available in eight languages, improving reach into culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

CCA launched a dedicated Older Persons and IBD web resource, accompanied by the "Ageing with IBD" webinar series, with sessions delivered in September and November 2025. Additional new resources included new health information web pages about colonoscopy, biologic medication, gut microbiome and smoking.

The CEA-IBD program continued to meet key milestones, with all reporting requirements delivered to the Australian Government on time. Additional funding was secured to extend the program into 2026, supporting continued expansion of these critical resources.

Through the GP Aware initiative, CCA delivered six GP education workshops, attracting 143 registrations and 70 attendees. The program also expanded its reach through conference engagement, digital publication of educational content with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, and targeted promotion of training opportunities.

The GutSmart platform continued to evolve as a central hub for IBD education. The transition of the "IBD for GPs and Physicians" course onto the CCA platform was completed, alongside the launch of new fact sheets and improved functionality. Platform usage increased significantly compared to 2024, reflecting growing demand for accessible, high-quality education. Additional support enabled psychologists to undertake specialised IBD training, further strengthening multidisciplinary care.

CCA acknowledges and thanks its partners and supporters who contributed to the success of these programs.



CCA's national **Camp Fearless** was held at the Collaroy Centre in Sydney in September, with 18 young people attending. The camp continues to provide a unique opportunity for young people living with IBD to build independence, resilience, and lasting peer connections.

Our online teen platform **YEP! Online** continued to grow in participation with the Discord chat a popular place to discuss health, music, pets, travel and all things 'living with IBD'.

CCA also completed a **Child Safe self-audit** in 2025, forming the foundation of a strengthened organisational Action Plan to ensure best practice in child safety across all programs and activities.



DEEPENING PARTNERSHIPS FOR COMMUNITY BENEFIT

CCA continued to build and strengthen partnerships that enhance outcomes for people living with IBD. Through collaboration with government, healthcare organisations, and advocacy groups, CCA is contributing to a more coordinated and effective healthcare ecosystem.

FILLING CARE GAPS WITH TELEPHONE SUPPORT

CCA's Helpline and NurseLine services remain critical in addressing gaps in care and providing timely, personalised support to people living with IBD by providing high quality information and support to assist self-management capabilities.

In 2025, demand for these services increased significantly. The Helpline responded to 542 enquiries, while NurseLine delivered 195 assessments and support contacts. These services provide trusted guidance for individuals navigating diagnosis, treatment options, travel, and access to appropriate healthcare providers.

CCA acknowledges the ongoing support of partners who enable the delivery of these free essential services for the IBD community.



Telephone helplines

If you want to speak to someone about Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis CCA offers two telephone support services:

- Crohn's and Colitis Helpline (Helpline Coordinator)
- Crohn's and Colitis NurseLine (IBD nurse)

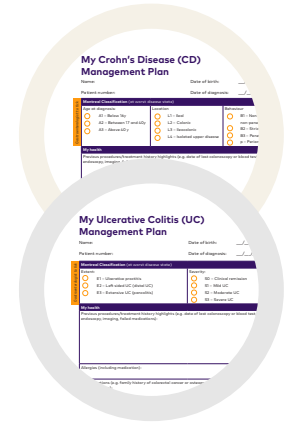
1800 138 029

EXPANDING DIGITAL REACH AND INNOVATION

CCA continued to strengthen its digital presence and capability in 2025, improving access to reliable, evidence-based information for the IBD community.

Website performance showed strong growth, with user numbers increasing significantly across both Q1 and Q2, alongside substantial growth in page views. Organic search remained the primary driver of traffic, demonstrating the continued importance of high-quality, accessible content on the CCA website.

New website developments included design and initial rollout of a dedicated recipe section, expanded educational content, and resources supporting the IBD State of the Nation Report. A "How to use Management Plans" video was also published to support patient self-management.



CCA also explored new digital innovations, including development of a Symptom Checker prototype and the establishment of an AI Working Group to guide the responsible adoption of artificial intelligence across the organisation. A Generative AI policy was developed, alongside exploration of staff training opportunities to build internal capability.

The GutSmart platform also experienced strong growth in usage, supported by the integration of new courses and resources, including materials designed for clinicians to share directly with patients. A new consumer course focused on IBD in the workplace was launched in 2025 and named GutSmart Insight: IBD In the Workplace. The consumer insights are available free to CCA members.



These initiatives reflect CCA's ongoing commitment to innovation, accessibility, and delivering meaningful support to the IBD community through both digital and human-centred approaches.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

INVEST IN ADVANCING QUALITY OF LIFE AND CARE PATHWAYS THROUGH ADVOCACY AND RESEARCH

To advance the understanding and treatment of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), a key strategic focus is to fund scholarships aligned with our research priorities, fostering the next generation of IBD researchers and clinicians.

The launch of our Paediatric Audit marks an important step in evaluating care for younger patients, and we will actively advocate for the implementation of its recommendations. Additionally, the completion of our IBD State of the Nation Report, supported by horizon scanning partnerships, has provided critical insights to inform policy, planning, and future research directions.

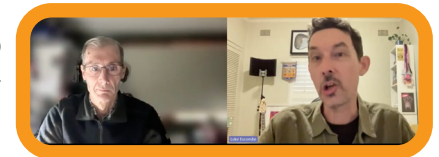
Building on this foundation, we aim to develop targeted action plans guided by quality of care research, ensuring that improvements in clinical practice translate into better outcomes for people with IBD.

Advocacy for increased IBD research funding remains a core priority, essential for driving innovation, discovery and a cure for IBD. Equally important is the identification of quality of life (QOL) needs among people with IBD, enabling the development of tailored responses that address the broader impact of the condition on daily living.

SHARING INFORMATION WITH THE COMMUNITY

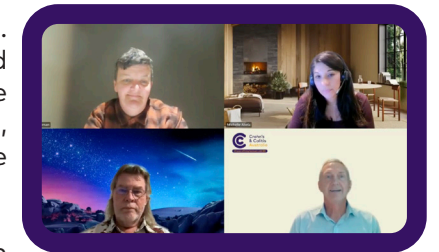
Crohn's & Colitis Australia's IBD information forums provide much needed specialised information for people diagnosed with inflammatory bowel disease, their families and carers.

In 2025, CCA continued to deliver targeted and accessible information to the IBD community through a combination of webinars, digital content, and community-informed initiatives.



A Women's Health and IBD forum was recorded and published across digital platforms, generating strong engagement, including over 125 views on YouTube and significant reach across social media channels. Content from the forum, including presentations by Dr Emma Flanagan, was widely viewed and shared, demonstrating the ongoing demand for tailored information addressing specific population needs.

CCA also progressed its focus on supporting older Australians living with IBD. An Older Persons Workshop was delivered in June 2025 to better understand the needs of individuals ageing with IBD or living with the condition for more than 30 years. The workshop explored health literacy, information preferences, and unmet needs within this cohort, providing valuable insights to inform future resource development and service delivery.



Building on this work, CCA continued to expand its multilingual resources, with additional videos developed in eight languages to improve accessibility and support culturally and linguistically diverse communities. These resources focus on awareness, symptoms, and navigating care, ensuring more people can access trusted and relevant information.

CCA also recorded an expert interview with Professor Laurie Keefer (USA) on key IBD topics, to be released in the following reporting period as part of its ongoing expert insights series.

In May 2025, CCA hosted a national webinar on the IBD State of the Nation and IBD research, which included the announcement of Dr Zaid Ardalan as the 2025 Angela McAvoy AM IBD Post Doctoral Fellow. The event attracted 200 registrations and strong post-event engagement, reflecting community interest in research and future directions in IBD care.

CCA would like to thank its supporters for enabling the continued delivery of these important information initiatives.

FACILITATING IMPACTFUL RESEARCH

As the peak patient body for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, CCA facilitates impactful research by connecting researchers with patients and by participating in sector events and forums.

In 2025, CCA continued to support and share key research initiatives with the IBD community. This included contributions to emerging publications and ongoing collaboration with research partners to ensure patient perspectives are embedded in study design and delivery.

CCA also contributed to international advocacy and research collaboration, with CEO Leanne Raven participating in a Global Alliance for Patient Access (GAfPA) roundtable on the unmet needs of people living with IBD in the Asia-Pacific region. This work informed the development of a consensus statement to support advocacy efforts across the region. The Consensus Statement "Removing Barriers for Inflammatory Bowel Disease Patients in the Asia-Pacific Region" was launched at a meeting of IBD advocates in Japan in September. The shared advocacy framework calls for clear actions, including:

- Reducing Diagnosis and Treatment Delays: Initiatives should focus on breaking barriers such as social stigma, lack of awareness, and access issues, with a spotlight on education and advanced therapies.
- Prioritizing Individualised Care Plans: Encourage shared decision-making to tailor treatment for long-term outcomes, such as endoscopic remission.
- Approaching Care Holistically: Achieving endoscopic remission should be the goal, supported by multidisciplinary care that addresses psychological and lifestyle factors.
- Enhancing Global Collaboration: Drive research toward discovering the cause of IBD by recognising its growing impact and securing funding for medical advancements.

Research priorities for IBD were also published in the Internal Medicine Journal, further strengthening the evidence base to guide future IBD research and policy directions.

IBD STATE OF THE NATION PROJECT

In 2024, CCA led a landmark project to update estimates of IBD incidence and prevalence in Australia and quantify the financial and social burden of the disease.

Understanding the prevalence of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and its impact on the Australian community is essential to improving quality, equity and access to care.

The objectives of the project were to:

- Research IBD incidence and prevalence data to update national estimates
- Provide 10-year projections of IBD prevalence across Australia
- Estimate healthcare and broader economic costs
- Describe the burden of disease, including disability impact
- Identify priority actions and undertake cost-benefit analysis

In 2025, the IBD State of the Nation Report was successfully launched at Parliament House in Canberra by the Hon Mark Butler MP, Minister for Health and Ageing.

The launch generated extensive national media coverage across print, television and radio, significantly raising awareness of IBD and its impact.

CCA has since engaged with the Department of Health to progress key recommendations from the report and ensure that findings translate into meaningful policy and system improvements.

CCA would like to thank our philanthropic donors and industry sponsors: Pfizer, Takeda, Bristol Myers Squibb, GSK and AbbVie for their support of the project, acknowledge the Advisory Committee for their leadership and the team from Insight Economics.



ADVOCATING FOR CARE

CCA works to raise awareness of IBD in the general community and with policy makers, politicians and healthcare professionals to drive meaningful change. We support people living with IBD to share their lived experiences and advocate for improved care and outcomes.

2025 Advocacy highlights include:

- Advocacy to support young people transitioning from paediatric to adult IBD care, including engagement with government regarding continued access to biologic therapies. This resulted in a positive outcome, with the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee addressing the issue at its last meeting in December for implementation in 2026
- Submission of the State of the Nation pre-budget proposal to the federal government, alongside targeted engagement with federal politicians to build awareness and support for key recommendations.
- Participation in national advocacy initiatives, including collaboration with the Australian Patient Advocacy Alliance to progress a chronic disease framework review and Research Australia to progress investment in the research sector.
- Ongoing engagement with government and advisory bodies, including submissions and consultations relating to health technology assessment and access to treatments and productivity in the health sector, and use of genetic testing results in life insurance.
- Representation at key sector events and parliamentary forums, strengthening CCA's voice in national health policy discussions and reforms.
- Continued collaboration with research and advocacy organisations to promote equitable access to care, including contributions to national and international initiatives focused on improving outcomes for people living with chronic disease.
- Participation in the Rare Voices Australia Navigator Project whereby evaluation data was contributed about CCA's NurseLine in addition to other models of nurse navigation for people with rare or complex conditions.

FUNDING IMPACTFUL RESEARCH

CCA continues to invest in and support research that improves understanding, treatment, and outcomes for people living with IBD.

In 2025, Dr Zaid Ardalan was awarded the Angela McAvoy AM IBD Post Doctoral Fellowship. Based at Monash University, Dr Ardalan's research will evaluate the accuracy of non-invasive ultrasound techniques compared to colonoscopy, with the aim of providing more accessible and patient-friendly approaches to monitoring inflammation and guiding treatment decisions.



CCA also continued to support research through collaboration and advocacy, including providing letters of support for grant applications and participating in national research initiatives.

Engagement with donors and research partners remains a priority, with ongoing discussions to support future research funding and expand CCA's impact in this critical area.



State of the Nation Report Advocacy

As the federal election approached in 2025, Crohn's & Colitis Australia (CCA) supported by Gastroenterological Society of Australia (GESA), Dietitian Crohn's Colitis Australian Network (DECCAN), Crohn's Colitis Cure, Advanced Pharmacy Australia (AdPha) and Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia (GENCA) called for urgent government action to improve care for the nearly 180,000 Australians living with Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD).

CCA has proposed a practical and evidence-based solution to the government based on the findings of the CCA State of the Nation in IBD in Australia report,

Leanne Raven, CEO of CCA commented:

"We've shown the government the impact of IBD and exactly what needs to be done to improve lives and reduce healthcare system strain. Now we need public support to get the political will to act on our proposed plans.

"With the election coming up, we're asking Canberra to put their money where their mouth is and make a no-regrets decision."



IBD Is a Crisis Hiding in Plain Sight

Unlike many chronic conditions, IBD hits young people hardest. The peak age of onset is between 15 and 29, meaning 145,000 Australians with IBD are of working age, with many struggling to stay in work or school. Outside of painful gastrointestinal symptoms, **70% experience fatigue and/or brain fog, while 48% suffer from anxiety or depression.**

Australians with IBD also face long diagnostic delays, with **over one in three** living with symptoms for a year or more before being diagnosed, and **more than one in ten waiting over five years.** Even after diagnosis, **41% endure five years of active, debilitating disease before achieving remission.**

The result: IBD patients are "frequent flyers" in our hospitals, with **higher rates of hospitalisation and emergency department visits per person than cancer or heart disease.** The economic impact is staggering, **\$7.8 billion this year**, including \$1.6 billion in lost wages and \$759 million in hospital costs.

"IBD isn't just a medical issue, it's a productivity and economic crisis. People are suffering and so is our economy and it doesn't have to be this way," said CCA'S CEO Leanne Raven.



A Plan That Works: The Living Well with IBD Program

CCA's plan includes a **\$34.1 million investment over four years**, representing **less than 0.01% of the national health budget.** It would deliver:

- **The Living Well with IBD Program** to provide multidisciplinary care and move more people into remission.
- A national **IBD Clinical Care Standard** to improve care quality.
- **Education for health professionals** to reduce diagnostic delays.
- An **IBD Clinical Registry and digital health infrastructure** to drive innovation and attract research.

The return on investment for a four year investment is undeniable:

- **23,400 people** would gain access to multidisciplinary care.
- **9,360 people** would reach remission **at least a year sooner.**
- **The probability of remission jumps from 15% to 58%.**
- Hospitalisations would drop by 30%, emergency visits by 78%.
- Workforce participation increases by 26%, and student retention triples.
- The proposal would generate **\$200 million in benefits** by 2035, with a **benefit-cost ratio (BCR) of 7.1** over four years.

CCA continues to advocate for the Living Well with IBD program. To support the program and learn more about CCA's advocacy efforts see www.crohnsandcolitis.org.au/advocacy-campaigns.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

STRENGTHEN LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY TO INFLUENCE BETTER OUTCOMES FOR OUR COMMUNITY

A vital component of our strategy is the advancement of our ambassador program, which plays a key role in raising awareness and representing the voice of the IBD community. We will explore expanded advocacy opportunities to ensure that the needs and priorities of those affected by IBD are heard across a wider range of platforms and decision-making arenas. By developing structured advocacy and education programs, we aim to engage and inform key stakeholders, including policymakers, healthcare providers, and the general public.

To strengthen our impact, we are committed to actively expanding partnerships across multiple sectors. This includes collaboration with corporate partners, the health industry, patient organisations, health professionals, research institutions, and government bodies. Through these partnerships, we can amplify our message, enhance our reach, and drive collective action toward improved care, research, and support for people living with IBD.

CROHNS AND COLITIS AWARENESS MONTH 2025

Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Month 2025 was a highly successful national campaign, driving strong community engagement, awareness, and advocacy for people living with IBD.

The campaign was supported by a range of initiatives, including the promotion of CCA's IBD State of the Nation Report and participation in an international roundtable discussion, reinforcing Australia's contribution to global conversations on improving access to IBD care.

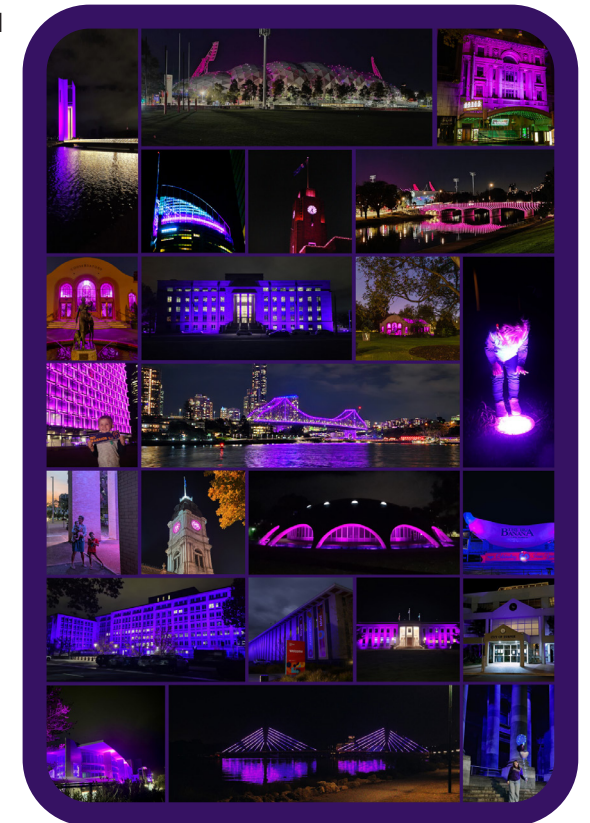
A key feature of this year's campaign was the rollout of a convenience advertising program to promote CCA's Symptom Checker tool. Running from 1 May to mid-July 2025, the campaign achieved significant national reach across high-traffic venues, with an estimated audience of over 42 million patron visits. The campaign delivered strong value, exceeding booked media through bonus placements and achieving a highly efficient cost per thousand reach.

Community engagement was demonstrated through more than 400 QR code scans, with over half of users completing the Symptom Checker and a number choosing to provide their contact details for further support. Insights from this activity highlighted that most users were experiencing multiple symptoms, reinforcing the importance of early awareness and intervention.

Building on these learnings, CCA has transitioned the Symptom Checker promotion into digital and social channels, with future campaigns to explore more targeted and regionally tailored approaches.

World IBD Day continued to be an important moment of solidarity, with the community coming together to raise awareness and support people living with IBD across Australia.

CCA would like to thank its partners, supporters and community members for contributing to the success of Awareness Month 2025.



CCA CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

In 2025, Crohn's & Colitis Australia marked an important milestone by recognising 40 years of supporting Australians living with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).

The anniversary highlighted the organisation's long-standing role in providing education, advocacy, research funding, and community support to the more than 180,000 people affected nationwide.

Over four decades, it has worked to reduce stigma, improve access to care, and empower individuals to live more confidently with conditions such as Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, reinforcing its mission to help people "live fearlessly."



EFCCA ROUNDTABLE: UNITING FOR ACCESS

In 2025, CCA continued its engagement in global advocacy efforts through participation in an international roundtable hosted by the European Federation of Crohn's and Ulcerative Colitis Associations (EFCCA).

CCA CEO Leanne Raven contributed to discussions focused on improving access to IBD care, sharing insights from Australia and the findings of the IBD State of the Nation Report.

The roundtable brought together global leaders and stakeholders to address shared challenges and identify opportunities for collaboration across regions.

LIVING FEARLESSLY FOR IBD

CCA's Live Fearless Challenge (LFC) continues to be a flagship fundraising and community engagement initiative, encouraging people to take part in activities that support both physical and mental wellbeing.

In 2025, the Live Fearless Challenge achieved outstanding results, raising over \$243,000 and engaging more than 500 participants across Australia. The inclusion of two matched giving days, supported by sponsorship, significantly contributed to fundraising success and community momentum.

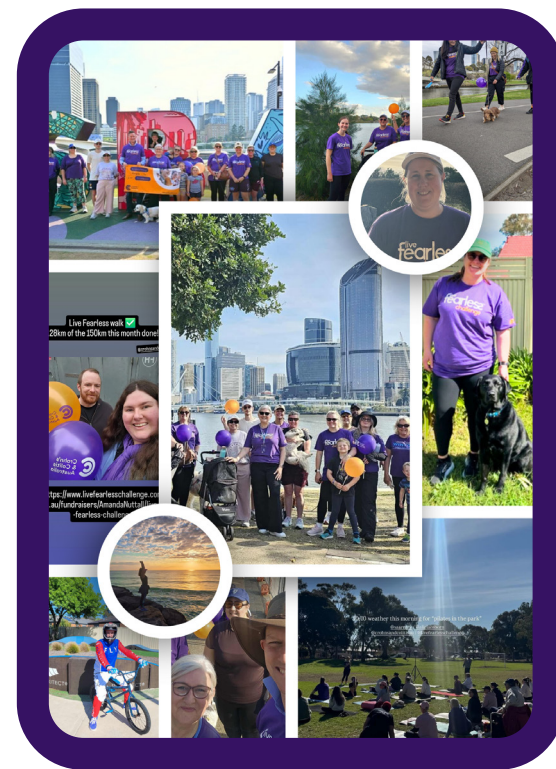
Participants once again embraced the flexibility of the challenge, taking part in a wide range of activities suited to their individual health and circumstances. The Fearless Community Wall was a standout feature of the campaign, with participants sharing personal stories and motivations, creating a powerful sense of connection and inspiration across the community.

A range of local events and activities were held nationwide, further strengthening engagement and visibility of the campaign.

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING AND SUPPORT

CCA's End of Year Appeal 2024 campaign achieved its fundraising target, raising \$142,746 to support ongoing programs and services for people living with IBD.

These funds contribute directly to CCA's ability to deliver vital support, education, advocacy and research initiatives, ensuring continued impact for the IBD community.



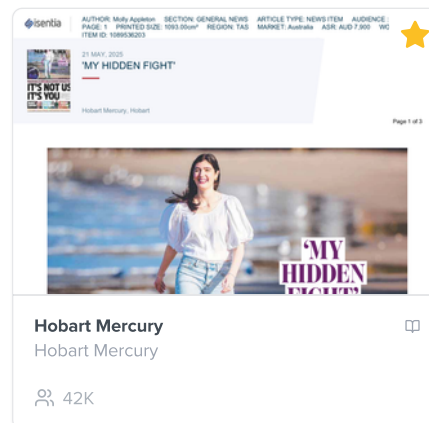
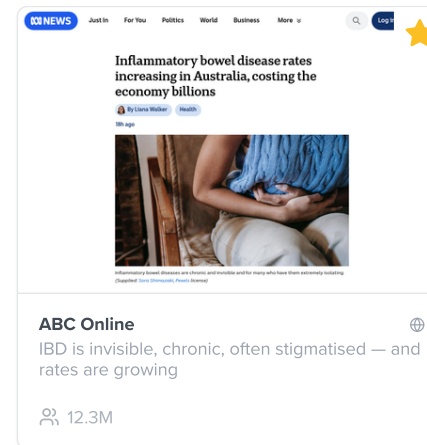
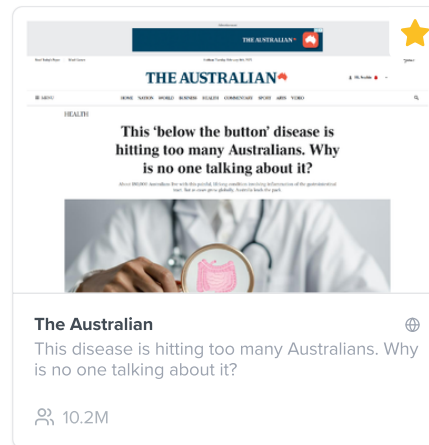
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

INCREASE AWARENESS AND ENGAGEMENT, DRIVING KNOWLEDGE, SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT TO OUR PURPOSE

To deepen our understanding of the IBD community, we will undertake a dedicated data acquisition program that captures meaningful insights into patient experiences, needs, and outcomes. This evidence base will inform a refreshed engagement strategy designed specifically for key stakeholder groups, ensuring our communication is both relevant and effective. By developing tailored two-way engagement programs, we aim to foster stronger, more meaningful connections that reflect the diverse voices within the IBD community.

In parallel, we will expand our network of brand champions to help raise awareness, share lived experiences, and extend our reach across different audiences. To drive continuous improvement and innovation, we will implement a "test and learn" experimentation framework. This approach will support the development of impact-driven solutions, allowing us to trial new initiatives, evaluate their effectiveness, and adapt in real time to better serve our community.

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS





MEDIA COVERAGE

Crohn's & Colitis Australia received 374 pieces of coverage across online, offline and social clips throughout 2025, with a yearly reach of 286 million.



The bulk of this came from online readership (277 million), with 2.53 million print circulation and 4.13 million broadcast reach.

Broadcast TV news coverage in key markets including Perth and Brisbane, surrounding CCA's youth events, were a particular highlight.



The launch of the State of the Nation Report in February also drove strong traffic.



MEMBERS

2024 membership remained steady at over 2000 members supporting Crohn's and Colitis Australia over the course of the year. CCA has invested in programs to further support our members including education resources on our GutSmart site to be launched in 2025.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers provide invaluable support for CCA and enable our small staff team to support people living with IBD across Australia. In 2025, 200 volunteers helped at CCA in the office, running support groups, at events, in their professional capacity, and in many other ways to enable CCA to thrive.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS!

We thank the following volunteers for their dedication in 5 years service to CCA:

- Thomas Beecher
- Madee Byrne
- Justan Singh
- Helen Moon
- Gemma White
- Gemma Davidson
- A/Prof. Emma Halmos
- Dylan Swan
- Dani Ross

- Claire Reilly
- Chae Calder
- Amber Miall
- A/Prof. Edward Giles
- James Oliver
- Loretta Bayliss
- Stephanie Buckton
- Katrina Chambers



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5

PROMOTE A HEALTHY CULTURE IN A SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATION

To ensure long-term sustainability and growth, we will further develop our engagement plans targeting key funders, including government bodies, corporate partners, and philanthropic supporters. Strengthening these relationships will be essential to securing the resources needed to support our mission. Alongside this, we will develop a dedicated bequest strategy, offering supporters meaningful opportunities to contribute to our work through legacy giving.

Internally, we are committed to maintaining a strong and adaptive organisation. This includes reviewing our investment and capital position to ensure financial stability, completing necessary policy updates, and refining the CCA risk framework. To deliver on our strategic goals, we will focus on retaining and building the capacity and capability of our team. Additionally, we will keep our business model under regular review to remain responsive to emerging challenges and opportunities in the health and not-for-profit sectors.

A copy of CCA's audited financial reports can be found on our website at crohnsandcolitis.org.au/annual-report

A healthy culture at CCA is a strategic priority and this year a staff engagement survey was completed. Whilst the response indicates a high level of engagement with an overall average rating of 86.9%, the next survey will include a section inviting comments and the trend will be tracked thereafter.

OPERATIONAL RESULTS

This report is for the 12 months ended December 2025. The financial surplus of \$76,497 decreased by \$407,143 compared with the previous year.

Operating revenue decreased by 2.6% compared to 2024, primarily driven by a reduction of Bequest income, which significantly boosted donations income in 2024. Despite this, all other operating income increased, particularly grant income up 62% and sponsorship income up 87% compared to 2024.

With the exception of grant expenditure which increased in line with new grant income, our costs remained steady in 2025. Administration also remained stable year-on-year. A total of \$130,358 was generated from term deposit investment and returns from our managed low-risk investment, resulting in a 4% increase compared to 2024.

Given a positive result for 2025, our cash position continued to strengthen increasing the liquidity ratio to 2.45 from 2.32.

With a stronger balance sheet, we can report an increase in net equity to \$2,327,787 for this year, compared with \$2,251,290 in 2024.

During the year the organisation has continued its focus on organisational sustainability. Risk management has continued to be a key theme with cyber security a regular focus at our finance audit risk committee meetings.

Category	Notes	Target	2025	2024	2023
Liquidity Ratio	Current Assets/Current Liabilities	2:1	2.45	2.32	2.05
Profitability	Net Income/Equity	10-14%	3%	21%	2%
Debt to Assets	Total Liabilities/Total Assets	<1	0.30	0.34	0.36
Grant application success	Successful/Total	40%	37%	46%	65%

OUR VALUED DONORS

Crohn's & Colitis Australia are grateful for the generous support of so many individuals, organisations and businesses. We would like to acknowledge and thank everyone listed below for making a positive difference and contributing to our impact at CCA during 2025.

Community Fundraising

\$15,000

The Yarranabbe Foundation

\$5,000 or more

Paypal Giving Fund, G Iliopoulos

\$2,000 - \$4,999

Adelaide Beer and Beef, M Hobson, C Trevillyan, Play for Purpose


\$1,000 - \$1,999

N Lytas, A Beutel, G Josipovic, C Talbot, J Nys, A Concannon, D Radisavljevic, P Eriksson, T Roth, S Buckman, E Behrendorff

\$200 - \$999

C Kwiecien, S Starkey, R Harrington, C & E S'SAINT, R Bartlett, Q Miller, J Chapman, A Byrne, M Arandjelovic, D & R Bejjani, M Westbrook, A Jelinek, S Reid, M Wroby, C Henderson, A Kimberlin, L Saville, L Russell, I Shanks, C Concannon, T Santocono, C Arto, Social Enterprise Students, D Bosscher, S Gittani, B Grinstein, J Xuereb, B Kelly, G Moore, S Gillon, S Gibson, 5G Networks, D Broad, R Guizzo, T Binetti, J Viney, P McAuliffe, K Moran, G O'Hare, B Kohn, J Roth, M Sakr, D Cencic, H & L Mertzandis, S Pilgrim, J Greig, T Cielak, D Bogojevic, L Hamilton, R & D Maletic, L Arandjelovic, M Smith, D Salmon, N Young, M & D Velmahos, S Rogers, L Wardell, M Boyd, M Stewart, B Goodwin, J Taylor-Bartels, G Morgan, B Van Rensburg, L Harris, C Datson, C Walsh, M Armstrong, C Mardula, C Stellini, C Tsiounis, J Makanyanga, J Stokes, P Thompson, Focus on Blokes, J Climent, D & J VRP, L Nicolas, K Armstrong, S Fink, L Bruford, T Tzioutziouklaris, J Sharp, D Lustig, C Green, R Guizzo, M Rugari, M Evans, Coogee United, N Ford, Bonnee Symonds, N O'Brien, J Gray, J Meyers, A Mazevski, K Crocker, M Bowden, P Doherty, J Jones, D & L Rudland, E Hunter, C Glenn, D Tilley, G Cheaib, E Pearce, G Sikoski, L Ryan, S Antal, L Venville, K & R Westbrook, N Nocera, K Veskovic, T Dimitirovski, I Cason, P Harcourt, S Rutherford, B & J Dunnet, G Balbontin, T Leahy, S Arandjelovic, Advisory Partners, D Kewish, D Jones, J Brown, Entertainment Publications Of Australia Pty Ltd, C Townrow, G Pearce, K Ivancevic, J Klingbiel, I & T Matijevic, O Lancelot, O & C Sharp, G Sargent, S Arandjelovic, A Tolley, JDZ Building Design, J Short, L Woodin, J Welbourne, S Girardi

CCA also received a number of donations from donors who wish to remain anonymous. We wish to express our gratitude to these donors for their generosity.



thanks!

General and Research Donations

\$25,000

Anonymous Foundation

\$10,000

P & H Butts, Redman Family, C Berryman

\$5,000 - \$9,999

R Tatarka, H Gunther, S Trevor, L Szumowski, N Whelan, Australian Philanthropic Services Foundation, D Birner, L Raven, Cabam Pty Ltd T/as Matheson Family Trust

\$1,000 - \$4,999

The Bruce & Ros Rosengarten Family Fund, K Liebelt, Max and Lorraine Cousins Charitable Fund, Carnegie Lions Club, M Krebs, T Sandison, G McCormick, A Newman, M Walker, K Rogers, H M Chew, P Crupi, C & H Martin, B Webster, R Ramsden, S Sheedy, D Shanahan, C Busby, P Cane, T Fenton, M Lord, N Barrow, J Raath, D McDermid, AJ & LJ Raath, J Avramides, R Hibbard, B Whitlock, K Gallus, V Anich, Lions Club Of Morayfield & Dist Inc., R Tobler, L Chehade, N Went, Joseph Palmer Foundation, C Azzopardi, N Schot, R Singleton, J Stokes

\$200 - \$999

D Reckenberg, P Knight, J Chan, M & M Muscat, J Kooloos, Stauff Corporation Pty Ltd, B Balfour, R Lee, V Hoogstad, K Bettison, ATCO Gas Australia, K Dyer, A Tippetts, A See, H Lo, R Causley, A Stewart, N Sonenberg, I Tesdorpf, M Ritchie, K Obst, N Spitzer, D Fehlberg, B Kentwell, T Scaglione, G Hershan, H Koustas, T Janz, A Helgensen, E Camarri, S Klineberg, R Legoe, J Fahad, C Lloyd, J Coleman, B Kentwell, T Janz, R Legoe, S Klineberg, P Re, C Salievic, K Rich, Melissa Border Crane Consultants, W Wise, B Azzopardi, L Potok, I Mackenzie, T Kim, R Mackenzie, T Kim, J Page, A McWhirter, K Muckert, B Hughes, T Cameron, M Branford, A McWhirter, L Gatfield, R Hart, A Joyce, M Melville, L Ogden, F Rizzo, J Van Der Hoek, A Opper, P Shannon, M Catchpoole, D Lynch, D Spanidis, K McDonald, E Semon, S Cameron, C Manoharan, G Bell, F McCall-Wolf, A Paterson, P Snell, G Bosworth, J Connery, A Patane, D Cooper, K McDonald, K Temple, L Graham, G Eaton, J Walsh, P Sheldon, S Cameron, G Boland, J Cendron-Harvie, M Burger, Hawaiian Pty Ltd, E Rutherford, B McGrath, J Walsh, F Castillo, M Ossedryver, A Dang, B Thomas, B Dekker, L Down, D Chhabra, P Farnan, A Borserio, J Harris, B Hayllar, S Gillon, W Webb, K Obst, J Rose, P Tille, D Antarakis, G Letschert, D Tissue, A Ferguson, B Dimon, R Baston, P Edey, E Tinawi, C O'Driscoll, C Gibbons, A Smallacombe, B & M Bates, A Katsos, S Ahrens, D Sergi, K Diamond, S Flatt, J Weldon, F MacRae, M McCarthy, S Townsend, R Lovenfosse, M Jeffries, R Smith, W Buxton, D Anderson, M Kooloos, I Gullan, R McKay, J Voigt, M Kent, N Morrow, J Amprimo, B Zahra, S Baker, D & K Rechtman, J Bernardi, D Gunn, S Richardson, M Jeffries, G Culvenor, H Tyner, C Floreani, D & N Simonds, T Pick, L Hoult, J Fahad, M Dean

Bequests

\$ 280,000.00 The Estate of Guy Dare Van Heusden

\$ 50,000.00 The Estate of Dianne Marie Greenwood

\$ 49,366.26 The Estate of Prue Maguire

\$ 21,282.16 The Estate of Terrence Shepherd

Donations made in memoriam of: J Krebs, A Sellmann, J Hall, B McMeeken, H Cohney, L Bouckley, J Farnan, J Lewis, F Klain, W Mifsud, D Parkins, G Holt, A Hallett, L Kladnig, N Kowaltschny

Donations made in celebration of: T De Jong Curtain, R Goldberg, S Key, E Humphries, K Brightwell, B MacDougall, D Helgensen, R Schonberger, J Hamilton, T Thomassen, R Maddocks, Ani, Kieran, Julie, A Clayton, C Evans, L Bland

OUR BOARD

For more information on our board, please visit crohnsandcolitis.org.au/our-board



Bruce Rosengarten FAICD
— Chair



Lisa Belcher



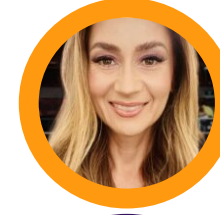
James Oliver
— Treasurer
Chair, Finance, Audit & Risk
Advisory Committee



Bruce Goodwin GAICD



Dominique Tim So GAICD
— Company Secretary
Chair
Governance, Nominations
& Remuneration Advisory Committee



Réme Mountifield FRACP
— Appointed 17 February 2025



Gregory Moore, FRACP
— Chair
Scientific, Medical and
Quality of Care Advisory Committee



Kate McQuestin



Loretta Bayliss GAICD



John Brennan



Kara Ward



Jennifer Ware
— Appointed 10 November 2025

The following board directors retired
from the board of CCA in 2025:
Lisa Neville (retired 17 February 2025)

BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Governance, Nominations and Remuneration Committee

Dominique Tim So (Chair)

Bruce Rosengarten
James Oliver
Bruce Goodwin
Leanne Raven

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

James Oliver (Chair)

Bruce Rosengarten
Loretta Bayliss
Dominique Tim So
Lisa Belcher
John Brennan
Leanne Raven
Renee Hill

Stakeholder and Engagement Advisory Committee

Bruce Goodwin (Chair)

Leanne Raven
Blake Tierney
Bruce Rosengarten
Kate McQuestin
Jenny Ware

AI Working Group *Advisory Committee reformed as a working group to focus on AI Strategy.*

Kara Ward (chair)

Loretta Bayliss
Leanne Raven
Ian Stewart

Scientific, Medical and Quality of Care Advisory Committee

A/Prof Gregory Moore (Chair)

Prof Paul Pavli
Dr Shoma Dutt
Dr Hugh Giddings
Leanne Raven
Prof Jane Andrews
Dr Emma Halmos

A/Prof John Ding
A/Prof Simon Knowles
Bruce Goodwin
Ruth Malcolm
Wayne Massuger
A/Prof Reme Mountifield

IBD State of the Nation Project Advisory Committee

A/Prof Gregory Moore (Chair)

Julie Weldon
Kelly Lambert
A/Prof Edward Giles
A/Prof Rob Bryant
A/Prof Simon Knowles
Prof Antonina Mikocka-Walus
Dr Emma Halmos
Ruth Malcolm
Daniel Lightowler

Dr Hugh Giddings
A/Prof Jane Smith
Bruce Goodwin
Prof Paul Pavli
Prof Jane Andrews
Blake Tierney
Rose Mitchell
Leanne Raven
Wayne Massuger

OUR FEARLESS PARTNERS



Australian Government
Department of Health



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

Johnson & Johnson



Together we know more.
Together we do more.

abbvie



SANDOZ

GSK

Bristol Myers Squibb™

Stan Perron
Charitable
Foundation



Eirene
Lucas
Foundation



James
Kirby
Foundation



RESEARCH AUSTRALIA
Championing Australian health & medical research & innovation



CHF Consumers Health Forum OF Australia



Allens & Linklaters

Houston

MinterEllison.



Thank you!

Thank you to our volunteers, donors and partners.
Thank you to all the committed and generous people who supported us this year.
Your invaluable support is making such a difference.



- ✓ **Get involved**
- ✓ **Find out more**
- ✓ **Donate today**
- ✓ **Join our community**



Live fearlessly with IBD

© Crohn's & Colitis Australia 2026
All rights reserved.