

## **Cystic Fibrosis Queensland AGM**

**17 June 2008**

### **Chief Executive Officer's Report**

The past financial year was another busy time for all sections of Cystic Fibrosis Queensland. As the number of services we provide grows, so does the need for our fundraising to increase.

It has been wonderful to see the increase in the services we provide every year. This year we introduced a course for physiotherapists in Cairns – this entailed flying up specialist staff from Brisbane to train their counterparts in Cairns. By doing this we hope that staff in regional areas are better equipped to look after and care for people with CF. Our Cairns office continues to offer a great support service to the clients in the region and it is a model that we have decided to introduce to other regions as funding permits.

The Parents Support Groups continue to operate with some more successful than others. The continued attendance at the Sibling Camps ensures that we run two of these per year. Some children travel quite a distance to attend and participate in these camps.

The Physical Activity Request subsidy is growing rapidly and, while this is very expensive to fund, it means that clients partaking in physical activity are more likely to stay out of hospital (according to a study presently being undertaken at the Mater).

During this financial we became aware that hospital staff were more frequently asking us to cover costs that are outside of our normal program. We may need to evaluate the services we are currently offering to determine if they are the ones most needed and consider our position if the Health Department are cutting back on their services.

Fortunately we have had a very successful year with fundraising and this has enabled us to fund all of our activities. The Ball, held during this financial year, was the most successful we have ever experienced as were the Brisbane and Gold Coast lunches. We made many improvements to the Tour De Kawana which was held for the second time – unfortunately, unlike the first year when we woke to a beautiful sunny morning, this year it was raining.

Our Community Fundraising was very successful with events such as the 65 Roses Dinner being held – this dinner is run by a group of parents and their friends run every second year in Toowoomba. We are very lucky to have many parents, aunts, uncles and friends who decide raise funds for CFQ.

As always our volunteers have been amazing and we currently have 250 people registered as volunteers. These people range from those who have been working with us for years at one of our shops, to those who may only work with us one day a year at a specific event. Whatever tasks they do, we wouldn't be able to run this organization without them.

The Board members, of course, are counted amongst our volunteers and this is a group, that for a multitude of reasons, CFQ could not do without. I would like to thank them for their support and encouragement over the last year.

The staff at CFQ are pretty special – they are a group that have the success of this organization at heart and work well outside the norm to ensure that success.

Once again it has been a privilege working for Cystic Fibrosis Queensland, as this is an organization that has very entrenched goals of working with and for the client.