

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – CARL BRUHN

The last financial year has been incredibly busy for Cystic Fibrosis Queensland and I'd like to take the opportunity tonight to provide an overview of our achievements.

A decision was made not to produce an Annual Report this year due to production costs. We felt our members would rather the money be used to provide services. We continued to receive only 9% of our costs from the government and again this year have been unsuccessful in attracting any interest from the State Government.

I am however pleased to announce that we have asked two leading Queensland business people, who have provided great support to CFQ over the years, to take on a formal relationship with us. John O'Brien OAM and Marg Kurzok have both been inducted as Business Ambassadors and we will be working with them closely in the coming year.

We have had a very successful year in attracting grant money. Grants have been received for respiratory equipment, renovation and painting of "Rose Cottage", money to pay a writer of our policy manual and a Sibling Camp - to name a few. Grants give our organization a great boost but it is precarious to rely on them.

Our volunteers continue to be a life line for all at CFQ. We now have around 250 individuals who help in a myriad of ways from working in our Book and Thrift shops, working at all our events and helping in the office. There are many things that we set out to do such as running the shops and having the big events that we could never consider to do if we did not have this army to call on. We have also been fortunate in having some students who have worked with us for some months at a time to gain university experience.

A new group of volunteers that have been added to the mix are a group called "Young Hearts". This group of 20+ year old males and females are working on events that will engage their age group and raise money for CFQ.

We now have a new book available that considers cystic fibrosis in amongst an adventure aimed at 8-11 year olds called "Mega Man". This book was written by one of our mothers, Dominique Gardiner, and we received the money to publish it from United Way. This is a great addition to the range of books available about cystic fibrosis.

I have been very pleased to see the introduction of an e-news letter. It was something that I had been wanting and I think that we are producing a very high quality product.

Our Strategic Plan has been set and one of our key goals was to open a new regional office every 18 months. This is an ambitious goal but we are achieving our aims and this October we will open an office on the Sunshine Coast.

Theiss set a new standard for us in how to expand our branding when they presented us with a car for Cairns that had the CFQ rose logo emblazoned over the whole car.

The news that gives me the most pleasure to present is that our service delivery has continued to be well provided and we continue to meet the needs of both the person with cystic fibrosis and the family who support the person. Bern Quinn, our Support Services

Manager, spent some time in Mackay during this reporting period. Bern was warmly received by the parents and was able to organize a support dinner for parents as well as attend the Outreach Clinic. It is interesting to note that our staff return from these visits full of passion and vigor even though they have hours of work ahead of them to meet the needs that have been identified during their time in regional Queensland.

We were all upset when Gerry Lawlor resigned from the board this time last year due to his health as well as his impending marriage to Chona. Gerry enjoyed a very happy time with Chona but I am very sad to tell those who don't know that Gerry passed away recently aged 51.

On a brighter note, I can't believe how lucky we are at CFQ to have attracted the caliber of Board and staff members that we have working so hard for us. I want to say a very sincere thank you, both as the President and a father, for all the work that occurs both for and in this organisation. I have been very fortunate to have had another beautiful baby boy this year and due to this and a chance of job I have had to step down as President for the coming year.

Thank you.