

18 March 2022

PRIMETIME

There is no bigger platform in Advocacy in Australia than the House of Representatives. This is the heart of legislative power in our country and the CF Community is about to get its moment in the limelight.

Petitions are brought before Parliament fairly often, and fairly often they are overlooked. This is because they are presented in bulk with a number of other issues and because they are backed by only a handful of signatures. Cystic Fibrosis Australia has been working round the clock to ensure that these pitfalls do NOT apply to our Trikafta petition – we want Canberra to sit up, take notice and importantly, take action!

There are some significant achievements which help to support and emphasise our petition when it goes before Parliament. Firstly, Trikafta has become a national media issue, being covered on shows like 'The Project', Sky News and The Morning Show with Ray Hadley. CF ambassadors like Jess Ragusa and Nick 'The Honey Badger' Cummins have helped to intensify interest in our campaign and let the politicians know that CF cannot be ignored.

Secondly, our community has rallied around this issue in an unprecedented way. Thank you! When the link closed for our Trikafta petition we had accrued 58,274 signatures. This was more than any other petition listed with the APH at the time. When our petition goes in front of Parliament it will be backed by nearly sixty thousand voices raised in support of urgent action on Trikafta.

Since the petition closed last week, our work has massively intensified behind the scenes to make sure that our petition is individually presented by an MP who deeply understands our cause. Dr Mike Frelander is a friend to the CF Community, an accomplished physician and a great communicator. He will be our champion in the House of Representatives and no one is better qualified to present our case in that illustrious forum.

Through hard work and the support of our community we have managed to position our appeal to government in a very favourable light. However, the ongoing financial costs of this effort are significant, and we know that we cannot relax our efforts until our Trikafta goals are fully accomplished. Effective advocacy groups must always be independent of government funding. This means that our fundraising activities are key to the integrity of our advocacy work.

We are currently looking to raise \$20,000 to ensure the coming weeks of advocacy are fully funded as we continue to pursue this intense campaign. We hope that you will consider donating [HERE](#) in order to help us achieve this. All donations above \$2 are tax deductible and

you will be directly facilitating CFA to bring Trikafta to our community. Please don't underestimate the difference that even a small contribution can make.

Best Regards

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads "Jo Armstrong". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jo Armstrong
Chief Executive Officer
Cystic Fibrosis Australia