



Remembering Western Health in your Will

**Your legacy... transforming the health
and wellbeing of Melbourne's inner
and outer west for generations to come.**

Pictured: Emily, Joseph and Baby Caleb with the donated POCUS machine



Western Health
FOUNDATION

A message from our Chief Executive

For more than a century, Western Health has been part of the story of Melbourne's west - growing alongside the community and shaped by the people it serves.

Our beginnings are deeply rooted in community generosity. In 1894, it was public support that helped build a hospital in Williamstown. Half a century later, the people of the west came together once again to fundraise for Footscray Hospital, which opened its doors in 1953. From these humble beginnings, a strong tradition was formed - one where community and care go hand in hand.

Today, we are privileged to care for more than one million people across one of Australia's fastest-growing and most culturally diverse regions. Our dedicated team of thousands of staff and volunteers are more than healthcare professionals - they are neighbours, friends, and family members, united by a shared commitment to care for their community.

In the past year alone, we cared for more than 176,000 patients in our hospitals, delivered over 30,000 clinic appointments each month, and responded to more than 165,000 emergency presentations. Behind every number is a human story - lives supported, families reassured, and moments where compassion and expertise mattered most.

While we have grown significantly over time, one thing has never changed: we always put our patients first. We are proud to provide care that is not only excellent, but equitable, compassionate and responsive to the unique needs of Melbourne's west - from welcoming new life into the world, to supporting mental health, managing chronic illness, and delivering critical emergency care.

We also know that healthcare in our community is becoming more complex. Demand continues to rise, and many in our region face significant health challenges. To meet these needs, we must continue to look forward - investing in innovation, expanding services, and strengthening our ability to care for future generations.

You may wish to be part of that future. Leaving a gift in your Will is a meaningful way to continue the legacy that began more than a century ago. Every gift counts, no matter the size, it helps us deliver better care and creates lasting impact.

By remembering Western Health in your Will, you are helping to build a healthier, stronger future for the people of Melbourne's west - ensuring that exceptional care continues for generations to come.



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Prof Russell Harrison
Chief Executive
Western Health

About Western Health

Western Health is the trusted provider of public healthcare services for our community in Melbourne's west.

Caring for patients and their families, we are working with our community to shape the future of healthcare, providing best care for every person, every time.



Four acute hospitals plus specialist services

We provide medical, maternity, emergency and acute public healthcare at hospitals in Sunshine, Footscray, Bacchus Marsh and Williamstown. We also provide a broad range of specialist and community services, including in places like Melton and Sunbury.



Servicing a community of over one million and growing

Our community represents one of the fastest growing populations in Australia. We provide care to a diverse population of people who speak more than 110 languages.



Registered training organisation

We are one of the largest healthcare training providers in Victoria and are recognised for our excellence in health education and professional development.



Significant research facility

From ground-breaking research, to health system innovation, Western Health is at the forefront of revolutionising care for everyone in our community.

Making an impact that lasts beyond your lifetime

When you or a loved one faces a healthcare crisis, you want to be sure that you'll receive the right care, at the right time, close to home.

You can trust that the incredible staff of Western Health will be here for you when you need us most, and that the latest equipment and technology will be ready for you.

The fewer things that our patients need to worry about, the more they can focus on healing. And the less their families have to worry about, the more they can focus on providing support to their loved one.

But what of future generations? How can we ensure that they receive the same excellent care?

When you remember Western Health in your Will, you're ensuring future generations can enjoy the same excellent care we've all come to expect from Western Health.

Your bequest helps us to provide the best care for our patients and the best working environment for our clinicians, researchers and healthcare professionals.

It's a powerful and long lasting gift that makes Western Health stronger.

After taking care of her extended family, Dorothy Gilmore left a portion of her estate to numerous charities including Western Health – Williamstown Hospital. This generous bequest was the impetus to start the Heart of Williamstown Appeal which raised \$2.5million to transform visitor and staff facilities at Williamstown Hospital.



Your questions answered

What is a bequest?

A bequest simply means you will include Western Health (through the Western Health Foundation) as a beneficiary in your Will. The Western Health Foundation was established by Western Health to receive bequests and donations to support Western Health in our mission to provide best care to the community of the west.

Do I need to write a new Will to make a bequest to Western Health?

If you already have a Will, there's no need to re-write it. You can simply add a clause (a codicil) to your existing Will.

Doesn't the government cover the Hospital's funding?

While government funding meets the everyday healthcare needs of our community, donations help us to innovate and provide a stronger healthcare system for everybody.

How can I leave a bequest to Western Health and still provide for my loved ones?

We understand that family comes first for many of us. After you've taken care of your family and friends you may have capacity to include a charity in your planning. There is no 'right' size for a gift in a Will, only what is meaningful to you.

Can I leave a gift to a specific area of healthcare?

Yes, of course. Naturally, we encourage you to talk to us about your plans, to make sure that your preferred area of care or research is properly detailed in your Will and that we are able to make the best use of your gift.

Wouldn't it be better to help now rather than later?

Both present and future gifts are very much needed and appreciated. You don't need to make a choice between making a gift now or later. Many donors choose to continue making regular gifts in addition to their intention to remember Western Health in their Will.

How can I learn more?

We'd be delighted to speak with you about including Western Health in your Will. Please contact the Western Health Foundation Office on 03 7078 1690 or email foundation@wh.org.au

We strongly advise you to seek advice from your solicitor prior to writing your Will.

How to remember Western Health in your Will

After you have made provisions for your family and loved ones, there are a number of ways that you can leave a lasting gift towards the health and wellbeing of the community of the west.

Your solicitor or trustee company can give you more information, but in general there are three major types of bequests:

- **Specific Bequests** are gifts of particular items of value, such as property, shares, cars, furniture and jewellery, given to a particular person or organisation.
- **General (or Pecuniary) Bequests** are usually specific sums of money given to people or organisations.
- **Residual Bequests** are made up of the remainder of your estate after all costs and Specific and General Bequests have been distributed. You may wish to leave residual bequests in the form of percentages of the remaining value of your estate to your family, friends and Western Health.

Telling us about your decision

You are under no obligation to tell us that you've remembered Western Health in your Will.

If you do choose to tell us, we will provide you and your family with the chance to connect with the work we do, which is made possible by gifts like yours. We will also invite you to special events and activities where you can meet other donors and learn more about Western Health.

For a confidential discussion, please contact:

Lee McGregor
Legacies and Relationships Coordinator
T: 03 7078 1694
E: Lee.mcgregor@wh.org.au



In appreciation for the care provided to his beloved late sister Bernice, Trevor Bradley left a substantial gift in his Will to Western Health's pastoral care program. This generous gift has employed counselling staff to run support programs for patients and families during some of the hardest times in their lives.

Information for your solicitor

To assist donors and their solicitors, the Western Health Foundation suggests the following clause options in your Will:

I _____
bequeath to Western Health Foundation (ABN 37 867 721 909)

Monetary donation:

the sum of \$ _____

OR item/asset

the _____

OR percentage of residual estate

_____ % of my residual estate after other gifts have been distributed

To be applied for the purposes of _____
or by Western Health Foundation in such a manner as its Directors
may determine. If this cannot be accommodated funds shall be
applied for general purposes to benefit Western Health. I direct that
the receipt in writing of an authorised officer of Western Health
Foundation shall be deemed proof of payment

Western Health Foundation

Footscray Hospital,
89 Ballarat Rd,
Footscray VIC 3011

Locked Bag 2,
Footscray VIC 3011

www.whfoundation.org.au

T: 03 7078 1694



Pictured: Dr Penny Kee and
Dr Arun Sett with the donated
POCUS machine to help critically
ill babies, like Caleb.



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Lee McGregor

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Western Health Locations:

Bacchus Marsh

Footscray

Melton

Point Cook (under construction)

Sunbury

Sunshine

Williamstown

Western Health Foundation

(ABN: 37 867 721 909)

Footscray Hospital, 89 Ballarat Rd,

Footscray VIC 3011

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