


# Impact Report 2023





Every day in the Mater Hospital, we see the positive impact our supporters have on the lives of our patients. Our community of supporters are the heartbeat of our mission to transform and improve patient care in the Mater Hospital.



# Contents

<b>About the Mater Hospital Foundation</b>	<b>04</b>
Our Vision, Mission, Values and Beliefs	<b>06</b>
Our Work	<b>09</b>
Specialities and Key Statistics	<b>10</b>
CEO and Chair Welcome	<b>13</b>
2023 Highlights	<b>18</b>
<b>Priorities and Achievements</b>	<b>22</b>
Looking to the Future	<b>26</b>
<b>Your Impact</b>	<b>28</b>
Advancing Medical Equipment	<b>29</b>
New Services and Hospital Redevelopment	<b>34</b>
Patient, Family and Staff Support	<b>38</b>
Research and Innovation	<b>39</b>
<b>Financial Review 2023</b>	<b>40</b>
Summary of Financial Statements	<b>42</b>
Governance and Compliance	<b>43</b>
Principles of Fundraising	<b>43</b>
Mater Hospital Foundation Legal Information	<b>45</b>

# About the Mater Hospital Foundation



**The Mater Hospital Foundation exists to give every patient, and every family that loves them, the very best care at the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital (MMUH).**

As a registered charity and the official fundraising body of the Mater, we raise vital funds to support the work of the hospital.

Through the commitment of our supporters, we continue to invest in the future of the hospital by funding advanced state-of-the-art medical equipment, new services and hospital redevelopment, research and innovation initiatives, and by providing patient, family and staff support when it is most needed.

“I owe my life to the many doctors and nurses who treated and cared for me. Everybody in the Mater came together to give me back my life.”

- Aidan, Trauma and Cardiac Patient

# Our Vision, Mission and Values

## Our Mission

We will harness our supporters' kindness and generosity and work together with our partners to continuously transform and improve patient care at the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital. We will ensure that the hospital is at the forefront of research and innovation and is a leader for healthcare in Ireland.

## Our Vision

Every sick person in Ireland will have timely access to world-class healthcare when they need it.

## Our Values

The Mater Hospital Foundation is a strategic, caring and responsible organisation. We are entrusted by our supporters to honour their commitment and dedication by putting their vital donations and philanthropic supports to the most impactful use to help provide world-class patient care at the Mater Hospital.

We are driven by six core values:

**Integrity**  
**Honesty**  
**Compassion**  
**Transparency**  
**Excellence**  
**Respect**



# Our Beliefs



**We believe that every sick person, without exception, deserves world-class care and treatment so that they have the best chance of the best outcomes.**



**We believe patients and their families are at the centre of everything we do. Their quality of life, their hospital experience, their chance of the best outcomes are our greatest priority. We believe in equality of access for all, regardless of means or circumstance.**



**We believe in our committed, kind and caring supporters and volunteers. Their generosity helps transform countless lives.**



**We believe that the hard-working, skilled and dedicated frontline staff in the hospital need the most up-to-date and appropriate technology, equipment and facilities so that they can deliver world-class care and better outcomes for our patients.**



The Mater Hospital carries out its 1,000th robotic-assisted surgery





# Our Work

**Supporting the life-changing work of the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital is at the core of everything we do in the Mater Hospital Foundation. The funds raised with your help are used to support our four key pillars:**

- 1 Advancing Medical Equipment**  
State-of-the-art equipment saves lives. That's why the funds we raise are used to purchase the most up-to-date medical equipment money can buy. When it comes to critically ill patients, every second counts.
- 2 New Services and Hospital Redevelopment**  
Ensuring all patients who come through our doors are cared for in a caring and comfortable environment is paramount. That's why we strive to upgrade and refurbish our hospital wards while also developing new and enhanced services.
- 3 Research and Innovation**  
Recognising that today's research could be tomorrow's treatments and cures, we are proud to invest in life-changing research to ensure that we stay at the forefront of world-class care.
- 4 Patient, Family and Staff Support**  
Very often it's the little things that have the biggest impact on a patient and their loved ones. That's why we fund those little extras that mean so much, things like clothing and hygiene packs for vulnerable and homeless patients. We also support staff to be their best through specialist training.

“It was a tough year but the Mater was there when I needed them and they did everything above and beyond. The nurses were great, the doctors were great and I'm just very thankful that the expertise and equipment was there to help me.”

– Fergus, Cardiac Patient

# About the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital

**Since 1861, the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital has been a beacon of hope and healing in Ireland. It is a level four teaching hospital based in Dublin's north inner city, providing a range of frontline and specialist services on a regional and national level.**

The Mater Hospital Foundation stands shoulder to-shoulder with our hospital colleagues, working together to make the ordinary, extraordinary. The essential funding we receive from our kind supporters nationwide, helps us fund a range of new and innovative services and supports that have a real impact on hundreds of thousands of lives.

The Mater Hospital is a national centre for a wide range of specialities and supra specialities. It is a main centre for cancer care and one of two Major Trauma Centres in Ireland.

The Mater is the National Centre for the following specialities:

- Cardiology
- Heart and Lung Transplant Centre
- Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ACHD) service
- Pulmonary Hypertension (a rare lung disease)
- National Spinal Injuries Unit
- National Isolation Unit
- Rare Disease Centre
- Centre for Inherited Metabolic Disorders
- Adult Scoliosis
- Adult Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO)
- Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC)
- Deep Brain Stimulation
- Ventricular Assist Device (VAD)



# Key Hospital Statistics 2023



**96,095**

Patient presentations to the Emergency Department



**76,853**

Day case procedures



**226,152**

Outpatient attendances



**2,562**

New cancers diagnosed (approx.)



**14**

Patients in receipt of ECMO advanced life-support treatment



**181,968**

Health and Social Care Professional attendances



**44**

HIPEC (Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy) surgeries



**19**

Lung transplants



**318**

Robotic assisted surgeries





# Chief Executive Officer and Chair Welcome



Mary Moorhead  
Chief Executive  
and  
Aidan O'Connell  
Board Chair

**On behalf of our Board and Mater Foundation Team, we are delighted to present the Mater Hospital Foundation 2023 Impact Report.**

**Every year, it is a highlight of the Foundation to be able to share with you the advancements that have been made possible through the kindness of our supporters, and 2023 is no exception.**

As you know, it was another incredibly challenging year for the not-for-profit sector with many hurdles to overcome. International conflicts, the energy crisis and the spiralling cost of living have all contributed to these challenges.

Despite this, our steadfast supporters once again showed their unwavering commitment to our patients and the Foundation, enabling us to raise €3.39m to advance patient care across the Mater Hospital campus.

Working alongside our colleagues in the hospital to improve patient care truly is an honour. We are only as good as the people who support us, and each year we continue to be astounded by the volume of grateful patients, families, communities and businesses all around the country who answer our call for support.

In 2023, the Foundation team worked hard to innovate and develop new exciting fundraising offerings, while seeking out additional opportunities.

As we reached the mid-point of our 2021-2025 Strategic plan, and to help us more effectively communicate our vision and goals, we embarked on a brand refresh project in 2023. The brand name was updated to The Mater Hospital Foundation; better communicating our position within the Mater Hospital community, and our work for its patients.

New Brand Statement and Signage



Branded Community Hub



Branded T-Shirts

An updated brand look and complementary colour palette was developed, providing us with the tools needed to develop a strong and clearly identifiable visual image. Our updated brand symbol features interlinking circles, representing the hospital and the Mater Hospital Foundation, and their unified supportive, caring and organised bond.

A new brand statement was developed, "Putting your generosity to good work." This statement speaks directly to our supporters and affirms the positive impact of their donations on the lives of patients in the Mater.

A range of new promotional materials was created for roll-out across key areas of the hospital, including lift wraps, banners, window signage and our new Foundation Community Hub, located in the heart of the hospital.

The establishment of this hub has proven invaluable. It has allowed us to showcase our work and connect on a deeper level with grateful patients, families and our healthcare colleagues. We look forward to continuing the roll-out of this impactful and refreshed identity and building our brand awareness in the months and years to come.

Logo Refresh

# THE Mater Hospital FOUNDATION

Lift Wraps



We were thrilled to secure a new special event for our calendar in 2023. The Aer Arann Islands Half Marathon, which saw more than 150 people take to Inis Mór in April to run, walk or jog its rugged landscape, raising over €105,000.

The Foundation was fortunate to retain many of its loyal corporate supporters as well as securing new and exciting partnerships through the launch of its Go Pink for Breast Cancer Care campaign in October, where more than fifty businesses across the country turned their workplace pink to raise vital funds and awareness. Securing new and innovative partnerships remains a key focus for the organisation over the next few years.

Thanks to a more robust supporter journey, we saw a positive uplift in our retention of regular givers in 2023. These supporters are the life blood of the Foundation, ensuring we have a sustainable income stream, which allows us to plan with greater confidence each year.

We continue to remain focused on delivering on our strategic plan 'A Strong Foundation Builds a Better Future' whilst ensuring we are aligned with the Mater Hospital's strategic objectives and are ready to invest in our four key pillars; advancing medical equipment, research and innovation, hospital redevelopment and patient, family and staff support.

In 2023, we invested more than €2.45m in upgrading and purchasing new medical equipment and in essential hospital projects, thanks to the generosity of our supporters. You can read more about these important advancements in our 'Impact' section and learn how these funds have been put to work across a range of areas, specialities and supports.

As always, the work we do is only made possible through the generosity of individuals, communities, families and companies across the country, who donate and raise funds to support the life-saving work that happens in the hospital every day. We are immensely grateful to each person who played a role in supporting our work in 2023.

We would like to sincerely thank our hospital colleagues for believing in and supporting the work of the Foundation. Our gratitude goes to our Board, who continue to provide vital guidance and our dedicated team, whose commitment to our community of care shines through every day.



Mary Moorhead, Chief Executive



Aidan O'Connell, Chairperson

The Dickie Dip  
2023 in Skerries,  
Co. Dublin







Over fifty companies  
took part in our new Go  
Pink campaign in 2023 to  
support breast cancer care  
in the Mater Hospital.



# 2023 Highlights

**€3.39m**

raised in 2023, through the kindness and generosity of our supporters across Ireland.

**More than  
€2.45m**

invested in advancing state-of-the-art medical equipment, new services & hospital redevelopment, research & innovation initiatives and patient, family and staff supports.

**€961k** allocated to upgrading medical equipment including:

€226k - new mobile X-Ray machines

€61k - Biometry machine for cataract surgery

€123k - Vasopressor equipment for spinal injuries

€256k - State-of-the-art Mammogram for the Breast Health Symptomatic Unit.

**€169k** invested in new services and hospital redevelopment, including:

€30k - Cardiology Multi-Disciplinary Team conferencing facility

€70k - Learning technologist - enhancing the continuous personal and professional development of staff.

**€845k** invested to provide essential Patient, Family and Staff supports, including:

€42k - bespoke Social Work initiatives including €17k on patient care packs

€6k - Fit-To-Sit Care Programme for the Elderly

€23k - Pain Clinic exercise equipment.

**€477k** invested to support ground-breaking research and innovation initiatives:

Recognising that today's research is tomorrow's treatment and care, the Foundation allocated funding to support Triple Negative Breast Cancer Research.



# Thank you to our dedicated supporters



More than **50,000** people followed our work across Facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn and TikTok in 2023.



More than **5,000** individuals from across the country took part in our challenge events, including Dickie Dip, Squats Challenge and 100 Miles in a Month.



In excess of **150** community fundraising initiatives and events were held on behalf of the Mater Hospital Foundation in 2023.



**2631** active regular givers in 2023.



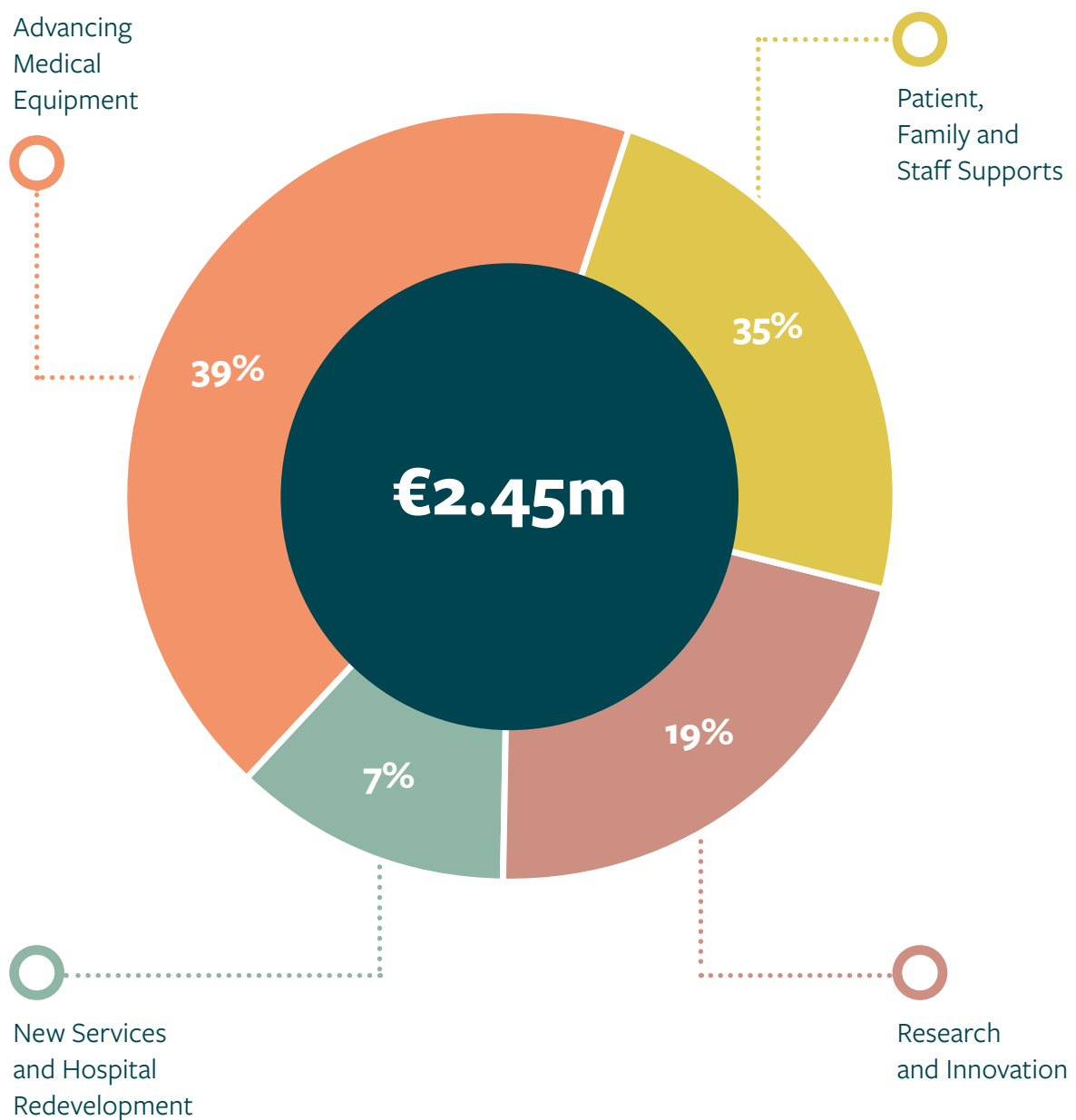
“If I had any words for those who fundraise for, and support the work of, the Mater Hospital Foundation it’s that what you do really makes an impact. I know that the exceptional care that I have received across the transplant and oncology wards is helped in no small way by the patient-focused projects that the Foundation has supported with your help.”

– Mary, Cardiac and Oncology Patient





# Funds invested in MMUH in 2023



# Priorities and Achievements 2023

The Mater Hospital Foundation is halfway through its five-year strategic plan, and we continue to work hard and strive to realise our strategic objectives and advance patient care in the Mater Hospital. In the following pages you will see our key objectives for 2023 and how we performed against these:



## 1 Develop our people

Objectives	Performance and Outcome
Continue to review and develop our organisation structure and map all processes.	Continued to develop, enhance and map all business processes in line with organisational developments.
Invest in resources needed to deepen expertise, experience and capacity.	Recruitment undertaken for key positions when required and external support services engaged to assist with increased activity.
Ensure staff retention by developing skills, providing support packages and building a strong team culture and shared values.	Continued to engage HR support to provide expertise to strengthen and develop our team, maximise staff retention and build a strong positive team culture.  New benefits package implemented following an industry benchmark review.  New modern performance appraisal system reviewed.
Invest in technology and review policies to ensure best practice for a modern, vibrant workplace.	New project management tools introduced to enhance team working practices and fuel efficiencies.  A modern office redesign was undertaken to allow for the new blended working model and future team growth.

## 2 Grow our income

Objectives	Performance and Outcome
To raise a total gross income of €3.7m from fundraising activities.	The Mater Hospital Foundation raised €3.39m in 2023. This was achieved through the generosity of our supporters.
Develop a comprehensive fundraising strategy in line with the organisation's strategic objectives.	New Fundraising Growth Plan and Marketing & Communications Strategy developed and implemented.
Invest in acquisition of new supporters whilst retaining our loyal supporter base.	Greater investment in cold acquisition programmes.  Enhanced 'Welcome Pack' and supporter journey strategy for monthly direct debit supporters.  Continued to test new digital challenges and campaigns.
Increase our supporter base across a diverse range of income streams.	Created a suite of corporate marketing materials targeting our corporate supporters. Significant uplift in community engagement. Secured major gifts through enhanced grateful patient programme.



The Mater performed its 1,000th Robotic Assisted Surgery in 2023, made possible with cutting edge equipment funded by our generous supporters.

### 3 Deepen our relationships

#### Objectives

#### Performance and Outcome

<p>Ensure the Foundation is aligned with the Mater Hospital’s strategic plan and objectives.</p>	<p>The Mater Hospital Foundation is fully aligned with the Mater Hospital’s strategic plan launched in 2023.</p>
<p>Work with the Mater Hospital management and the wider hospital campus to encourage engagement with the PAC (Project Appraisal Committee) process.</p>	<p>Continued to develop and refine the grants process (PAC). Enhanced hospital engagement and communication of impact across MMUH campus. 31 grants approved totalling €650k.</p>
<p>Develop a comprehensive communications strategy encompassing both internal and external communications.</p>	<p>Developed a comprehensive communications and marketing strategy and internal communications programme. Successful brand and messaging refresh with enhanced visual branding across the MMUH campus. Continued development of our patient centred pipeline.</p>
<p>Strengthen our engagement with our partners, supporters and wider stakeholders.</p>	<p>Continued to develop an ambassador programme, and grateful patient programme. Delivered impact presentations to various stakeholders. Established a presence on the MMUH campus through our new Foundation Community Hub.</p>





## 4 Strengthen our organisation

Objectives	Performance and Outcome
Develop our Board knowledge and skills.	Board handbook reviewed and updated. Successful recruitment of a new board member in 2023. Board evaluation completed and actioned.
Continue to maintain high standards of good governance and financial reporting.	Upheld our Triple Lock status. Fully adopted the Governance Code Compliance form. Risk Appetite statement devised and implemented. Regular review of risk register. Continuation of our data audit, data cleanse and review of data protection policies. Internal audit programme – successful completion of year two. Continue to develop and refine the grants process.
Increase the profile of the Mater Hospital Foundation.	Enhanced visual branding across the MMUH campus. Improved media engagement nationally.
Invest in IT	Ongoing CRM development. New cloud-based Finance package introduced with expected roll out in January 2024. New project management tools introduced to enhance team working practices.



# Looking to the future

**In the year ahead, we look forward to continuing our work to deepen relationships and forge even stronger connections with our friends and colleagues in the Mater Hospital. Working hand-in-hand with the hospital community is key to our future success as we strive to deliver more impact for patients and families.**

Having greater visibility across the hospital campus will allow us to respond to more grateful patients who wish to fundraise on our behalf and work closely with our partners and supporters to deliver real change and improve patient outcomes for all.

Our work is only possible with the right team in place, and we will continue to develop our People to ensure we have the right levels of expertise and experience to ensure we are best placed to innovate and develop new fundraising offerings and income streams.

We will also continue to refine and enhance our grants process to ensure we can invest in our most urgent priority projects that will bring benefits to the patients who come through the doors of the hospital. To ensure we have sufficient funding to meet these needs the Foundation aims to raise at least €4.7m in 2024 and we would like to thank our supporters for their unwavering support for our work today and into the future.

The Mater Hospital Foundation is committed to its ongoing mission. To ensure we keep delivering on that mission, we will continue to harness our supporters' kindness and generosity and work together with our partners to continuously transform and improve patient care at the Mater Hospital.

We will ensure that the Mater Hospital is at the forefront of research and innovation and is a leader for healthcare in Ireland. We will do this by continuing to implement our 2021-2025 Strategic Plan, 'A strong Foundation builds a better future', which will focus on four key strategic priorities, to help us ensure that the Mater Hospital is a pioneering leader in acute care and a beacon for excellence in Irish Healthcare.

#### These priorities are:

- 1 **Develop our people**
- 2 **Grow our income**
- 3 **Deepen our relationships; and**
- 4 **Strengthen our organisation**

We will continue to operate at the highest levels of governance, transparency and best-practice, and instil a culture of excellence in everything we do. We commit to keeping our supporters informed and updated every step of the way, so that they know how their kind donations are being put to work to bring real and lasting change to the lives of the patients who attend the Mater Hospital.

The Mater Hospital has ambitious plans for significant expansion and development of services over the next five years and our strategic roadmap will enable us to raise funds to help invest in advancing medical equipment, research and innovation, new services and hospital redevelopment and patient, family and staff support.



# Your Impact

# Advancing Medical Equipment

## 3D Imaging Mammogram – €256k

**Bringing equity in healthcare to all**



New  
mammogram  
for the breast  
health unit

**When you're dealing with aggressive breast cancers, speed and clarity matters. That's why it was so important that the Foundation was able to invest in a third state-of-the-art mammogram machine in 2023.**

Funded entirely by the generosity of people all across Ireland this new 3D Imaging Mammogram will ensure equity of care for all patients attending the Breast Health Symptomatic Unit.

Established in 2000, the Mater Hospital Breast Health Symptomatic Unit sees approximately 14,000 patients per year and diagnoses around 400 people with breast cancer.

This specially designed facility allows the unit to continue its mission to advance the quality of care delivered to women who attend the hospital with breast cancer symptoms.

Prior to this machine being funded, only two out of three machines had 3D imaging. As you can imagine, having this third state of art mammogram ensures all patients now have access to the highest level of imaging possible, improving healthcare outcomes for all.

This crucial investment in women's health, follows on from an investment of €186k over 2021 and 2022 to upgrade facilities, making the unit a more comfortable and supportive environment for all.

# What Makes This the World's Best Mammogram Machine?

With the highest quality imaging, your kindness will help to find even the smallest, most subtle cancers.

Because this machine shows imaging through a computer screen, results are instant. When you're dealing with aggressive cancers, time is of the essence.



Here's where the machine can pinpoint the precise spot that a 'marker' or biopsy is needed - like a roadmap to even the tiniest cluster of suspicious cells.

Cutting-edge and post contrast imaging means our doctors can zoom right in on areas of concern. It means we can better detect invasive cancers and reduce the need for follow-up investigations like MRI scans.



“If I could give any advice - please get your boobs and bits checked. Early detection, with no symptoms, saved my life...”

- Tara, Breast Cancer Patient

## Meet Tara

**Tara was diagnosed with breast cancer in September 2022 following a routine mammogram. We caught up with her eight months later as she reached the end of her chemotherapy treatment.**

“This afternoon I’m in the Mater for my 5th chemo session. Chemo #5 of 6. People receiving treatment are not too chatty, understandably, but the nurses help to lift the mood. Some patients are bald, some in wigs, some it’s hard to tell. Some are women, some are men, some are angry with the world and some just smile.

The chemo journey is tough... it builds up in my body causing fatigue that takes so, so long to lift. I get an ‘inner shake’ from head to toe... I have anxiety... I’m menopausal, full of emotions and hot flushes galore. Two days after chemo, I have to give myself an injection to rejuvenate the good cells that get blasted

along with the bad cells. This brings me pain in my lower back, it’s uncomfortable and sometimes I can’t sleep.

For me, my journey has a destination. It’s a positive destination, but a rocky road. I can come in here knowing my cancer was removed from my breast successfully, and a ‘dot’ removed from 1 of 4 lymph nodes during the same surgery. My cancer is gone. I’m absolutely blessed. I know how lucky I am!

If I could give any advice - please get your boobs and bits checked. Early detection, with no symptoms, saved my life when I was called for my first routine mammogram.”

Ophthalmology surgery



## Mobile x-ray machines – €226k

### Bringing X-Ray technology to patient's bedsides

Mobile X-Ray machines allow for a timely, bedside service that reduces the risk of cross-infection that can sometimes occur when moving patients across the hospital campus.

We were delighted in 2023 to support the hospital by providing three of these much-needed machines for the National Isolation Unit, ICU and the new Rock Wing.

Before this equipment was in situ, mobile X-Ray units were limited in the Mater Hospital. These new digital units provide enhanced imaging, and thanks to WiFi, these images are available for viewing and reporting within seconds of the examination, allowing for rapid patient treatment and management.

Approximately 3,000 examinations will be carried out using mobile X-Ray technology in the hospital every year.

## Biometry machine for cataract surgery – €61k

### Improving eyesight and quality of life for cataract patients

Every patient in need of cataract surgery in the Mater must have biometry carried out to measure the correct lens implant for their needs. And that's why we were delighted to be able to support the Ophthalmology Department in 2023 by funding IOL Master Biometry Equipment for cataract surgeries.

Optical biometry equipment is a vital piece of machinery for cataract surgery that measures the anatomical characteristics of the eye. These calculations are critical to ensure that the correct intraocular lens, known as an IOL, is implanted during the operation.

This area of the hospital is extremely busy, with a growing number of patients needing this surgery. In order to meet these needs and reduce waiting times, the Ophthalmology Department needed a second biometry device for the hospital's two new ophthalmic operating theatres.

With this second biometry device, the number of cataract operations can be increased in the hospital, leading to shorter waiting times and improving quality of life for patients.

#### Benefits of cataract surgery include:

Promote independence

Reduce falls

Positively impact mental health

Significant improvement in eyesight





## Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy – €74k

### Life-saving and sustaining treatment for patients with kidney failure

Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT) is a type of blood purification treatment provided to patients suffering from an acute kidney injury. This is a sudden kidney failure, usually due to infection or trauma, and is a symptom being shown by 15% - 30% of patients with COVID-19 who have been admitted to the Intensive Care Unit.

During CRRT, a patient's blood passes through a special filter that removes fluid and uremic toxins, returning clean blood to the body. The slow and continuous nature of this process, typically performed over a 24-hour period, allows patients with unstable blood pressure and heart rates to better tolerate this process.

The need for blood purification systems has increased since the emergency of kidney failure in some COVID patients.

## Vasopressor Equipment for Spinal Injuries Unit – €123k

### Round-the-clock care for patients with serious spinal injuries

We are delighted to share that our supporters' generosity in 2023 enabled us to fund vital new vasopressor equipment for the National Spinal Injuries Unit (NSIU).

Vasopressors are medications that narrow the blood vessels and increase blood pressure. For those who need them, they help the body provide more blood to organs to keep them functioning.

This monitoring equipment is vital for patients who suffer a serious spinal injury as it helps the spine to heal and prevents brain damage by keeping the patient's blood pressure at a specific level.

Having designated vasopressor equipment located in the Spinal Injuries Unit has had a transformative effect on patient care. Following a serious spinal injury, it is vital to keep a patient's blood pressure up for at least seven days as this has been proven to improve spinal and neurological outcomes, which in turn impacts a patient's recovery journey.

Prior to having this crucial machine in the Spinal Injuries Unit, this treatment was only available in the High Dependency Unit and the Intensive Care Unit.

Thanks to the Foundation's investment in this vital piece of equipment patients can now remain in the Spinal Injuries Unit, which in turn has freed up 306 critical care beds each year. This is the true value of fundraised money.

Steven, who was cared for in the NSIU after suffering a severe spinal injury in a car accident says,

"I wouldn't wish what I went through on my worst enemy. But if the worst does happen to you, and you do end up with a spinal injury like mine, there's nowhere else you'd want to be. The unit is just a different world. In a different league to anything I've experienced before, or since."

- Stephen, Spinal Patient

# New Services and Hospital Redevelopment

## Cardiology MDT conference room – €30k

### Bringing experts together for excellence in patient care

The Cardiology Service in the Mater Hospital is a major referral centre for national specialities including Congenital Heart Disease, Neonatal, Transplantation and Pulmonary Hypertension.

With the help of our supporters, we funded a Multi-Disciplinary Team Conference Room in the hospital, equipped to facilitate remote access and teleconferencing.

This advancement is vital to the Cardiology Service in allowing information sharing and timely decisions on patient care to be made with clinical specialists across the country.

To-date, remote access for clinical multi-disciplinary meetings and sharing of diagnostic images to support clinical decision-making had been unavailable due to the lack of technology available.

With this new technology, the Cardiology Multi-Disciplinary teams can meet virtually and view all diagnostic scans. This allows for the timely development of patient-centered treatment plans and collaborative delivery of care.

The benefits of this new conferencing facility include improved care coordination, better patient outcomes and streamlined treatment pathways. It also offers more educational opportunities for health experts and strengthens working relationships between cardiology and maternal medicine teams, reducing morbidity and mortality rates.

The new Mater Rock Wing was officially opened in April 2023. The new wing houses 98 single rooms, including 16 new ICU beds and a new home for the National Isolation Unit.





“Everybody in the Mater came together to give me back my life.”

- Aidan, Trauma and Cardiac Patient



## Meet Aidan

**A road traffic accident left 50-year-old Aidan Sherry with serious injuries, but when his heart suddenly began to fail his life was in real danger.**

“I was involved in a serious, single vehicle, road traffic accident, suffering multiple injuries which required surgery. After initial treatment, my health started to deteriorate rapidly. I was rushed to the Mater...I was in heart failure.

I woke in the Mater’s Coronary Care Unit (CCU), attached to numerous machines; the start of my ‘heart journey’. I needed an Echocardiogram every day for a month to try identify the cause, but swelling from my broken ribs was preventing a clear picture of my heart.

Eventually a damaged valve and a hole in my heart were discovered. I was diagnosed with Gerbode Defect, a rare congenital heart anomaly.

The Mater team swung into action. I had three catheterisation surgeries. I moved between Coronary Care and Intensive Care

(ICU) and back again, all while being expertly cared for by an amazing team of nurses and doctors. They fought to keep me alive.

I had surgery to repair my leaky heart valve and close the hole in my heart. Then I spent time in the Intensive Care Unit and the High Dependency Unit and finally the Cardiothoracic Ward to recover. In December, I headed home just in time for Christmas. I continue to make steady progress and attend the Mater as an outpatient to ensure everything is on track.

I owe my life to Mr. Nolke, Professor Casserly and the many doctors and nurses who treated and cared for me. And I’d have been lost without the hospital’s wonderful catering staff – who went above and beyond to try and get me eating again. Everybody in the Mater came together to give me back my life.”

## Learning technologist (L&D team) – €70k

### Enhancing staff development and upskilling

The Mater is constantly seeking to invest and support one of its most valuable assets – its staff. For the hospital to continue to deliver the highest level of care to its patients, it's vital that it attracts, retains and develops the best people.

As part of this focus, the hospital launched its new Learning and Development Department in 2021. The Mater Hospital Foundation is committed to supporting the continuous training and upskilling of staff by funding the provision of a Learning Technologist to develop this department.

The Learning Technologist will help enhance the continuous personal and professional development of staff in both clinical and non-clinical roles and they will lead out on the development of more bespoke mobile and virtual learning. This reflects the need for staff training content to be available 'anytime and anywhere', and the limited amount of time staff can devote to upskilling.

#### The availability of this training will:

- Improve patient experience and support, due to increased staff expertise and efficiencies
- Aid the recruitment and retention of high-quality staff
- Provide staff with a personalised and professional development programme
- Help staff meet the full range of statutory and mandatory compliance training requirements.

We're delighted to be able to put your generosity to good work, to ensure that hospital staff can benefit from this vital resource.

“I love everyone in the Mater Hospital. I love my doctors, I love my nurses, I love all the staff, I love the people who cleaned my room every morning when I couldn't even smile or open my eyes, but they still treated me with kindness. I love all the kitchen staff, who did everything they could to make sure I ate, as I was always asking for ice cream, pizza, or something sweet. They always fulfilled my wishes, just to make my day a little brighter. And for that, I have no words, only immense gratitude.”

– Bella



# Patient, Family and Staff Support

## Social work initiatives

### Sometimes the little things are everything

The Mater Hospital's Medical Social Work Department help patients and their families with psychological, emotional, social or practical difficulties that arise during their hospital stay. Here at the Foundation,

thanks to your continued support, we are able to work on a number of initiatives with the Medical Social Work team that make an everyday impact for patients and families.

#### Initiatives such as:

##### ○ Patient Care Packs - €17k

As a public hospital located in Dublin's North Inner City, the Mater serves Ireland's most socially and economically deprived communities and vulnerable populations, including patients who are homeless and needing acute medical care. The hospital can frequently care for up to 50 patients who are homeless on a single day.

The Patient Care Packs provide vulnerable patients with clean, dry clothes and basic hygiene items in a waterproof rucksack – things most of us take for granted – supporting their health, dignity and self-worth during their hospital stay and in preparation for discharge. Having access to these basics can enable people to complete their treatment and engage with healthcare.

Your support in helping to provide warm clothes and hygiene items positively impacts the physical and mental health of patients. Particularly those who are marginalised or have difficulty accessing and engaging with health services. Unfortunately this is an increasingly pressing issue in society, which is reflected in our patients' needs.

##### ○ The Helping Hand Fund - €25k

Every day the medical social work team meet patients and families from around the country who are in crisis as a result of their hospital stay. Admission to hospital can lead to unexpected financial strain which adds additional stress at an already very distressing time.

The Foundation established the Helping Hand Fund to allow social workers provide immediate financial assistance for basic costs such as travel, food, and accommodation. This makes a significant difference in the lives of patients and their families, ensuring they get the care and support they need and can be together when it matters most, including after major trauma and at end of life.



# Research and Innovation

## Triple negative breast cancer – €196k

### **Better understanding patient response to treatment**

2023 was the second of a two-year research project, funded with the support of The Mater Hospital Foundation and focused on the Molecular Dissection of Triple Negative Breast Cancer. The second batch of funding for this vital research was drawn down in 2023, bringing the total funding to €196,500.

Triple negative breast cancer (TNBC) comprises 10-15% of all breast cancers and is an aggressive subtype. Women presenting with this cancer are often younger, with surgery and chemotherapy being the main treatment options. Those patients who do not respond are at high risk of relapsing in the first three years after their diagnosis.

The Mater Breast Cancer Research Group are comprehensively studying this cancer subtype by examining samples (blood and breast cancer tissue) of the TNBC before, during and after chemotherapy.

The research examines why some women respond to treatment and others do not. It also aims to improve the classification of triple negative cancers, so we can know earlier which cancers are likely to respond versus those that are not.

With one-quarter of women diagnosed with breast cancer in Ireland being diagnosed, treated and followed by the Mater Hospital, it is an ideal location for a dedicated Breast Cancer Research Group.

The multi-disciplinary team involved are dedicated to developing studies that answer the important clinical questions they face daily. While the patients involved in the research are helping to solve and answer questions that may in some cases directly impact on their care, and that of other breast cancer patients in the future.

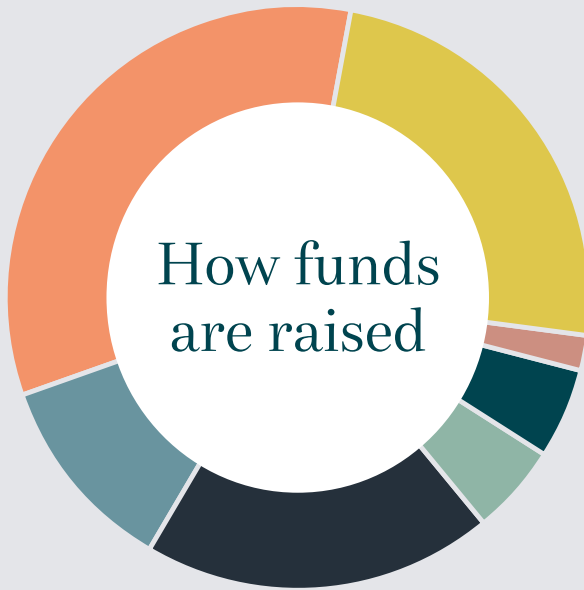
It is hoped that the Research Group will be able to report on its findings in November 2024.



# Financial Review 2023

The Mater Hospital Foundation had a solid financial performance in 2023, raising more than **€3.39m** during the year. As always, we are immensely grateful to our supporters for continuing to stand by the Foundation and share our vision for the future. We would like to sincerely thank each and every person who donated in 2023.





In 2023, The Mater Hospital Foundation granted more than **€2.45m** to the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital

••• **€961k** allocated to upgrading medical equipment

••• **€169k** invested in new services and hospital redevelopment

••• **€845k** invested to provide essential Patient, Family and Staff supports

••• **€477k** invested in life-changing research and innovation

“We continue to remain focused on delivering on our strategic plan ‘A Strong Foundation Builds a Better Future’ whilst ensuring we are aligned with the Mater Hospital’s strategic objectives.”

– Mary Moorhead

# Summary of Financial Statements

## Statement of Financial Activities

<b>Income</b>	<b>2023 €</b>	<b>2022 €</b>
Donations and legacies	3,390,716	3,749,272
Income from investments	3,522	-
	<b>3,394,238</b>	<b>3,749,272</b>

<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>2023 €</b>	<b>2022 €</b>
Raising funds	1,407,151	1,772,530
Charitable activities	2,452,882	3,322,629
Other trading activities	-	-
Other expenditure	374,259	334,970
	<b>4,234,292</b>	<b>5,430,129</b>

## Balance Sheet

<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>2023 €</b>	<b>2022 €</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Tangible fixed assets	29,720	22,050
Financial Assets	2,765	2,765
	<b>32,485</b>	<b>24,815</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors	136,956	202,891
Cash at bank and in hand	4,079,916	5,050,523
	<b>4,216,872</b>	<b>5,253,414</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Creditors	145,087	333,905
Net current assets	4,071,785	4,919,509
Net Assets	<b>4,104,270</b>	<b>4,944,324</b>



# Governance and Compliance

## **Our Commitment to our Supporters**

Our supporters drive everything we do at the Mater Hospital Foundation. Without your commitment, loyalty and trust, we would not be able to continue our support of the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital. Giving to the Foundation should always be a positive experience.

To achieve this, the Mater Hospital Foundation always commits to:

- Operating at the highest levels of governance, transparency and best practice
- Instilling a culture of excellence in everything we do
- Keeping our supporters informed and updated every step of the way so you know how your kind donations are being put to work.

# Principles of Fundraising

To actively demonstrate openness, transparency and integrity to our beneficiaries and supporters, the Foundation operates under these three principles:

## **Transparent reporting**

The Foundation prepares a trustee's annual report and financial statements in full compliance with the Charity SORP (Standard of Reporting Practice under FRS102) and makes them easily available to the public on our website.

## **Governance**

The board has formally adopted and is publicly signed up to the Charity Regulator's Charities Governance Code. The Foundation's performance against the Code is reviewed annually by the Board to ensure the Foundation holds itself accountable to the standards set and is in compliance with the Code.

## **Good Fundraising**

The Foundation implemented all the requirements for the Statement of Guiding Principles of Fundraising in 2011 and continually reviews its performance against these principles.

The members of the Board cannot, under the governing documents, receive remuneration for services to the Foundation and may only be reimbursed for incidental expenses claimed. There were no expenses paid to any Directors in the period.

The Board met five times during the year (the quorum for board meetings is three Directors with attendance and eligibility as follows):

<b>Directors/ Members</b>	<b>Board</b>	<b>Governance &amp; HR</b>	<b>Finance &amp; Audit</b>	<b>Projects Appraisal</b>
Mr Aidan O’Connell (Chairperson)	4(5)		5(5)	2(2)
Mr Neil Bannon	5(5)		5(5)	2(2)
Dr Brian Marsh	4(5)			1 (2)
Ms Clodagh O’Brien (Chair of Governance)	4(5)	5(5)		
Mr Harry McIntyre	3(3)	2(3)	3(3)	
Mr Paul Keane	5(5)			1 (2)
Ms Orlaith Fortune	2(2)			
Ms Siobhán Bradley	3(5)	2(2)		
Ms Karen Herbert	4(5)	3(5)		
Mr John Fogarty	4(5)	5(5)		
Mr Alan Sharp	4(5)			
Mr Dan Murphy (Chair of Finance)	2(2)		5(5)	



# Mater Hospital Foundation Legal Information

## Board of Directors

Mr Aidan O’Connell (Chairperson)

Mr Neil Bannon

Ms Clodagh O’Brien

Ms Karen Herbert

Mr John Fogarty

Mr Alan Sharp

Dr Brian Marsh

Mr Paul Keane

Ms Siobhán Bradley

Mr Dan Murphy (Appointed 17th May 2023)

Mr Harry McIntyre (Retired 12th July 2023)

Ms Orlaith Fortune (Retired 17th May 2023)

## Company Secretary

L&P Trustee Services Limited

## Foundation Information

Mater Hospital Foundation  
53-54 Eccles Street  
Dublin 7  
D07 KH4C  
Ireland

**Company Number:** 108518

**Charity Tax Number:** CHY9768

**Charity Registration Number:** 20024505

**Chief Executive Officer:** Ms Mary Moorhead

### Independent Auditors:

Deloitte Ireland LLP Chartered Accountants  
& Statutory Audit Firm  
Deloitte & Touche House  
Earlsfort Terrace  
Dublin 2

### Solicitors:

Mason Hayes & Curran  
South Bank House  
Barrow Street  
Dublin 4

### Bankers:

Bank of Ireland  
Permanent TSB

### Contact the Mater Hospital Foundation Team at:

**Tel:** (01) 830 3482

**Email:** [contact@materfoundation.ie](mailto:contact@materfoundation.ie)

**[www.materfoundation.ie](http://www.materfoundation.ie)**





THE   
**Mater  
Hospital**  
FOUNDATION

Mater Hospital Foundation  
53-54 Eccles Street,  
Dublin 7,  
D07 KH4C

RCN 20024505  
CRO 108515  
CHY 9768

**Tel:** (01) 830 3482  
**Email:** [contact@materfoundation.ie](mailto:contact@materfoundation.ie)

**X (Twitter):** @thematerfoundat

**Facebook:** @materfoundation

**LinkedIn:** The Mater Foundation

**Instagram:** @materfoundation

[www.materfoundation.ie](http://www.materfoundation.ie)

