



Remembering Western Health in your Will

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



Western Health
FOUNDATION

A message from our Chief Executive

It is largely thanks to public funding that a hospital was built in Williamstown in 1894. Half a century later, the people of Melbourne's west came together again to fundraise for the Footscray Hospital, which opened in 1953.

From these community beginnings, Western Health has grown into an exemplary healthcare service that employs over 9,000 professionals, caring for a community of more than one million residents.

Right from the start, we embraced our responsibility to care for the people who live in the west.

Despite our incredible growth since then, one thing hasn't changed. We always put our patients first.

It's no secret that healthcare in our community is getting more complex. We need solutions that take us beyond the current challenges and place us in the best possible position to respond to the challenges of the future.

One way you might like to help, if you're in a position to do so, is by choosing to remember Western Health in your Will. You don't have to be wealthy to leave a gift in your Will. Every gift – large or small - makes a difference, and would be greatly appreciated.

By including Western Health in your Will, you'll be creating a legacy of exceptional healthcare for future generations, transforming the health and wellbeing of Melbourne's west.



A/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 health services across the community of Melbourne's west.



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 – even a gift of 5% of your estate can make a significant impact.

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 best use of this 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) 8345 7660 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:

Jane Connolly
Senior Manager – Donor Relations
T: 03 8345 7661
E: foundation@wh.org.au

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,
160 Gordon St,
Footscray VIC 3011

Locked Bag 1200,
Sunshine VIC 3020

www.whfoundation.org.au
T: 03 8345 7660



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 in 2019. This generous gift has employed counselling staff to run support programs for patients and families during some of the hardest times in their lives.



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

Jane Connolly

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