

PUBLIC EVENT MC NOTES

World's Greatest Shave 2020

Every day another 41 Australians are diagnosed with a blood cancer. That's one Aussie every 36 minutes.

By taking part in the Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave, you can give families the support they need and fund vital research to help more people survive. That's an amazing feeling!

About

World's Greatest Shave is the Leukaemia Foundation's biggest fundraising event

- Every March, more than 20,000 extraordinary Aussies get sponsored to shave or colour their hair.
- This year the World's Greatest Shave is celebrating its 22nd anniversary.
- Over \$200 million has been raised through World's Greatest Shave to help Australians with blood cancer since the event began in 1998.
- The Leukaemia Foundation receives no on-going government funding and needs your help to raise \$16.5 million in 2020 to continue reducing the impact of blood cancer.
- The Leukaemia Foundation stands with every Australian to cure and conquer every type of blood cancer, with care.

The impact of blood cancer

- Leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma (my-el-oh-mah) are blood cancers.
- When combined, blood cancers are among the most frequently diagnosed cancers in the Australian community, and the most significant cause of non-preventable cancer death.
- Right now, more than 110,000 Australians are living with a blood cancer or related disorders.



- Blood cancer doesn't discriminate – it can develop in anyone, of any age, at any time.
- If the person lives in rural or regional areas, the impact can be greater. They may need to relocate for months or years of treatment – leaving everyone and everything behind.
- Each year we support World's Greatest Shave because Australian men, women and children are still being diagnosed with blood cancer, because the numbers are increasing, because we're not there yet.
- Research continues to make breakthroughs in blood cancer treatment, but we've still got a long way to go – some blood cancers have five-year survival rates of less than 25%.
- Although research has improved survival, sadly an Australian loses their life to blood cancer every two hours. That's why ongoing research is critical.
- Blood cancer pulls the rug out from underneath families. In many cases, treatment must start within 24 hours of diagnosis. If a family lives in rural or regional areas, the impact is even greater. They may need to relocate for months or years of treatment – leaving everyone and everything behind.

The impact of getting involved in World's Greatest Shave

- When you sign up and raise money for World's Greatest Shave, you can make sure families facing blood cancer have a place to call home during treatment, someone to turn to, and access to the best possible care and treatment.
- You will also help drive funding for Australia's best and brightest blood cancer researchers in their quest to deliver rapid advancements in diagnosis, treatment and ultimately a cure.
- Each year the Leukaemia Foundation helps more than 750 families from regional and rural Australia by providing **free accommodation**
- Each year the Leukaemia Foundation provide **free transport** to thousands of patients, taking them to and from hospital appointments and treatments
- Thanks to its supporters, the Leukaemia Foundation are also able to provide **counselling, comprehensive information, education and support programs and financial assistance**



Where the money goes

- **\$30 can give families a tailored information pack** to help them face their blood cancer challenge
- **\$53 means we can visit someone in hospital** to help them overcome their fears about treatment
- **\$64 can help someone learn about their cancer** and have a better quality life
- **\$80 can give a regional family a home for a night near hospital** to reduce the financial burden of city treatment
- **\$120 can support a blood cancer research project for a day** through a PhD scholarship grant
- **\$250 enables a family to attend a support program** specific to their blood cancer
- **\$1,200 provides two weeks of free transport** for people who are too ill to drive after chemotherapy treatment

We need your support to help beat blood cancer. Please make a donation in one of the tins or visit worldsgreatestshave.com

