

# Use your Will to help fight cancer

## Information Pack

**Regardless of your age or circumstances, it is essential to have an up to date Will. Your Will allows you to maintain control of your affairs and leaves no uncertainty about what will happen with your estate.**

**Your Will ensures:**

- **Your wishes are accurately carried out after your death**
- **Your assets are distributed to the causes and people you care about**
- **Your loved ones won't have to make difficult decisions about the distribution of your estate.**

**If you die without a Will, decisions will be made according to law, and some of the people you care about will not be included.**

**Five easy steps to making a Will:**

1. **Calculate the value of your estate** by totalling your assets (eg. Property, possessions and money)
2. **Decide who should benefit** from your Will (family, friends, charities, etc.) Seek solicitor's advise about whether you have adequately provided for people who are financially dependant on you.
3. **Select a practising solicitor or trust company** to act as your professional advisor. This ensures your Will is legally correct and your wishes will be accurately followed.
4. **Select an executor for your Will** They will ensure that your wishes are followed correctly. Solicitors, family or friends can act as executor.
5. **Keep your Will up to date** as your circumstances change. If major changes are required it is best to write a new Will. For minor changes, a codicil (amendment) can be added.

**How can I include the Cancer Council in my Will?**

After considering family & friends, you might consider leaving a bequest to fight cancer. Whether small or large, your bequest will help fund vital long- term cancer research, prevention and support programs.

It is vital to include our full name **The Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria (operating under the business name of the Cancer Council Victoria.** (If you simply leave your bequest to Cancer Research your gift may not reach us)

Consider leaving your bequest for general purposes, this will give us flexibility to direct funds to where they are most needed.

You can also specify how you would like your bequest to be used, for example research into a specific cancer type.

## How will my bequest be used?

Bequests are the Cancer Council's largest source of charitable income. It's the generosity of people like you that makes our life-saving research, prevention and support programs sustainable. Your bequest will help us to take the next step forward in the fight against cancer.

Most people allow their bequests to be allocated by our experts in research, prevention and support programs that have the most urgent need for funds. However you can choose for your bequest to be used for specific types of cancer research (eg. breast, lung, prostate cancer).

Bequests to the Cancer Council have enabled many important advances such as:

- A bequest left to us in 1945 enabled us to begin supporting the pioneering work of Professor Don Metcalf; his revolutionary discovery of Colony Stimulating Factors (regulates bone marrow growth) is now used in life saving cancer treatments around the world. More than 9 million people worldwide have benefited from Professor Metcalf's research
- The development of the Cancer Council Helpline (13 11 20) through which 27,000 Victorians facing cancer access confidential information and support each year.

## Wording for a Bequest to the Cancer Council Victoria

"I give to THE ANTI-CANCER COUNCIL OF VICTORIA (operating under the business name of Cancer Council Victoria)

\* \_\_\_\_\_ (a percentage or dollar amount) of the residue of my estate free of all duties and deductions to be used for its \*\*  
\_\_\_\_\_ (general purposes or research purposes). The receipt of an authorised officer of Cancer Council Victoria shall be deemed proof of payment."

## Types of Bequests

### Residue – Whole

After allocation specific bequests in your Will, the residue (remainder) of your estate will be left to us. The value of your bequest will not be eroded by inflation.

### Residue – Percentage

After you have made specific bequests, a percentage of the residue (remainder) of your estate will be left to us. The value of your gift will not be affected by inflation.

### A specific dollar amount

An exact amount of your estate you wish to contribute to the cancer fight. This amount can be impacted by inflation.

### Specific item

A specific gift for example property, shares or artwork

## **Your gift could help find groundbreaking advances and discoveries**

By leaving a gift in your Will to the Cancer Council you can help make breakthroughs and further our knowledge and understanding in how to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer.

Your gift could help make medical advances that we dream of today to come true tomorrow.

## **If I make a bequest, do I need to tell you?**

Please let us know, it will help us plan and commence long- term projects. Whether a bequest is large or small it will all help to make the next big breakthrough in the cancer fight. It will also give us the opportunity to sincerely thank you in your lifetime for making such a visionary choice.

Please feel you can contact us to talk in confidence, phone Glenis Capps on 03 9635 5604 or email [glenis.capps@cancervic.org.au](mailto:glenis.capps@cancervic.org.au) any time during business hours.

Our mailing address is:

Cancer Council Victoria

1 Rathdowne Street

Carlton Vic 3053

## **Our Bequestors Club**

We have created a Bequestors Club as a way of showing those who chose to leave us a bequest, during their lifetime, just how much we appreciate their generosity. Our Bequestors Club is made up of ordinary supporters of all ages who have decided that after taking care of their families, they want to remember the Cancer Council in their Will. As a member you would be invited to special events so that you can hear first hand about how the research, treatment and prevention of cancer is progressing.

We'd love to have you join our Bequestors Club. All you need to do is let us know that you have made a bequest to our organisation. We will then invite you to become a member - it's that easy. For further details please call (03) 9635 5604.

There is no obligation to join our Bequestors Club and Wills can be changed at any time.

**Glossary**

- Beneficiary:** A person who receives benefits under the terms of a Will
- Bequest:** A gift of personal property including cash, assets or investments
- Codicil:** An amendment to a Will, an added page, which alters the contents of your Will. Usually containing an addition, subtraction, clarification or variation to something in the Will
- Executor:** The person named by the writer of the Will to carry out the provisions and wishes detailed in the Will.
- Estate:** The property and personal belongings, which is passed on to other people following a person's death. The estate also includes any liabilities.
- Pecuniary:** A gift of a set dollar amount determined at the time you draw up your Will.
- Probate:** A court grants this when the Will of the deceased has been proven and registered in the court, and the administration granted to the executors.
- Residue:** After all debts, expenses, funeral costs, bequests and legacies have been paid the remainder of the estate is deemed as the residue.
- Testator:** The person who has written the Will providing for the distribution and administration of his/her estate after death.