



Bobby Goldsmith

Foundation

Immediate release
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Bobby Goldsmith Foundation bids fare well to Board President and Vice President

As we approach the end of the year, we bid farewell and express much appreciation to Mathew Paine and Linda Bracken, who will step down as President and Vice President of the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation Board at our December AGM.

Mathew joined the Board in December 2017 and Linda in November 2019 and they assumed their officer roles in June 2022. Mat and Linda have led us through a remarkable journey of growth, innovation and resilience. Their tenures as President and Vice President have led us through both challenging and successful moments, but throughout, their commitment to the HIV and LGBTQIA+ communities have left a lasting legacy.

Under Mathew and Linda's leadership in this past year alone, BGF has achieved significant milestones including celebrating our 40th anniversary, successfully registering for NDIS accreditation, preparing for MyAgedCare registration and championing the expansion of our services to include the broader LGBTQIA+ community, which has enabled us to extend our support to more people across more communities. Mathew and Linda presided when BGF was awarded the HIV Hero Award at the ACON Honour Awards and were influential in developing and implementing BGF's new strategy plan, Strategic Orientations 2024-2028. They have stewarded BGF's expansion into Western Sydney to better serve underserved and emerging communities of people living with HIV and have overseen the organisation achieving record levels of client service satisfaction.

Mathew and Linda have ensured BGF is not only stronger today but also well-positioned for the future.

We thank you both for your contribution and leadership. Your legacy inspires us as we carry forward BGF's mission of delivering inclusive and supportive care for those who need it.

Please join us in wishing Mathew and Linda the very best for their next chapters and for their service to the BGF community.



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Supporting people living with HIV has never been more important. Whilst transmission rates have dropped significantly, HIV is not over for the almost 30, 000 people living with HIV in Australia. Many of the people who BGF support are Long-Term Survivors, the first generation to age with HIV and have complex health and social needs. Now more than ever, they need our support.

ABOUT BGF:

Bobby Goldsmith was one of the first Australians to die from an AIDS-related illness in June 1984. His friends came together to find a way of giving him the care he needed to remain at home so they could make his last weeks as comfortable as possible. He died with dignity, at home, where he wanted to be.

His friends established the important precedent of providing support and services for people living with HIV. If direct support could be provided for one person, it could be done for many.

We are the legacy of that dedicated group of friends.

Bobby Goldsmith Foundation has been supporting people living with HIV for 40 years. Founded in 1984, we provide practical, emotional and financial support to people living with HIV in New South Wales and South Australia.

We are unique as the only not-for-profit in Australia providing frontline services and support to people living with HIV.

In 2024 however, we expanded our service offering to provide disability services to all people, especially those living with HIV, the broader LGBTQIA+ community and to all people seeking progressive, supportive care.

BGF is a registered not-for-profit with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission and has no political or religious affiliations, just a commitment to help and support people to live well on their own terms through practical, tailored care.

For interviews and further information:

Rhys Leppard
Head of Marketing, Communications and Branding
Email: rhys.leppard@bgf.org.au
Phone: 0434 726 519