



Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation

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Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation was established in 1981. Its chief purpose was to raise funds for the redevelopment of Sydney Eye Hospital, which was then situated at Woolloomooloo.

The Foundation's objectives are:

- to attract membership and donations to the foundation with a view to funding the purchase of specialised equipment not available from government sources
- to increase and expand the specialised facilities required to support the ongoing teaching and post-graduate training provided by Sydney Eye Hospital
- to consolidate the further development of the super specialist role of Sydney Eye Hospital
- to provide funds for critical research into the prevention of blindness

The Board Of Management

All Members of the Board of Management are financial members of the Foundation, having contributed at various levels of membership. Board members give freely of their time and assist in identifying potential donors to the Foundation. A number of Visiting Medical Officers (VMO's) are also on the Board.

The Rise And Rise Of Sydney Eye Hospital

Sydney Eye Hospital was established in 1882. The hospital was originally the ophthalmic department of the old Sydney 'Infirmery' (Sydney Hospital) which was founded with the settlement of the colony in 1788.

The Ophthalmic Department later transferred to a new site at Millers Point (The Rocks) which consisted of three historic residential houses (known as 'Moorcliff'). The department then became known as 'The Moorcliff Ophthalmic Branch of Sydney Hospital'.

In 1922, the Rocks site was required for other purposes, including the construction of the Harbour Bridge approaches and the Eye Department was subsequently moved to Woolloomooloo. It wasn't until 1960 that the 'Eye Department' became widely known in its own right as Sydney Eye Hospital.

Apart from a 1974 extension to the Woolloomooloo site, Sydney Eye Hospital remained unchanged for the most part of the twentieth century.

A Dream Come True

In 1995, with the help of the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation, Sydney Eye Hospital moved to a brand new Clinical Services building costing \$32 million within the grounds of Sydney Hospital. This move saw the reunification of the two hospitals, and a name change to 'Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital'.

Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation Involvement

The Foundation, as well as providing \$3 million to the cost of the new building, was very active in lobbying various governments in a changing period of health provision in the public hospital area.

Additionally the Foundation provided another \$2 million towards the purchase of specialised equipment, and funded a variety of research projects into the prevention of blindness.

Who Gives To The Foundation?

The Foundation has enjoyed wide support from corporate donors, membership, and grateful patients, including many pensioners who contribute on a regular basis. We also receive an increasing number of bequests to the Foundation.

Future Needs

While we have achieved very good results, there is a constant need for extra funding to upgrade equipment and fund research, thus enabling Sydney Eye Hospital to continue to provide first class medical care.

The Foundation Office

The offices of Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation are located on the ground floor of Central Block, next to Pharmacy and opposite the entrance to Sydney Hospital Emergency Department.

The Foundation is open from 9am - 5pm, Monday - Friday.

All enquiries are welcome and should be directed to the Chief Executive Officer, Kevin Gardner on 61 2 9382 7408 or fax 61 2 9382 7415.