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### **Bobby Goldsmith Foundation honours Levinia Crooks**



It is with great sadness that we learn of the passing of Adjunct Associate Professor Levinia Crooks (AM).

Levinia was an extremely influential figure in the fight against HIV/AIDS and the commensurate medical and social challenges of the time. She was an outstanding leader in the sector and Bobby Goldsmith Foundation (BGF) was privileged to have her as its President between 1998 and 2000, and as Vice President until February 2005.

Prior to her Board roles, Levinia chaired two BGF sub-committees – the Client Services sub-committee and the Housing sub-committee, established in 1994. Importantly, as President of the BGF Supported Housing Project Inc. between 1995 and 1997, Levinia was instrumental in the conception and implementation of BG House where clients in critical stages of living with HIV were accommodated and supported by dedicated staff.

The House opened in 1997 and was just one example of her prescience. Eighteen years later when BG House closed, Levinia noted the positive impact that it had had on the lives of the many clients who had found a home there. Through her tireless work, Levinia personified so much of this progress.

Levinia's immeasurable contribution to BGF forms part of an incredible legacy that spans over 30 years' service to PLHIV. She served as President of the AIDS Council of NSW and was on the Board of the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations. For 18 years, she served as Chief Executive Officer of the Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine (ASHM).

As one of Australia's leading HIV advocates, Levinia's compassion towards improving the lives of people living with HIV was truly remarkable. She will be fondly remembered and greatly missed.

BGF extends our deepest sympathies to Levinia's family and loved ones, and to the Board and staff of ASHM.

Vale Levinia Crooks

Lorraine Hall – President

Nick Lawson – CEO

Bobby Goldsmith Foundation