



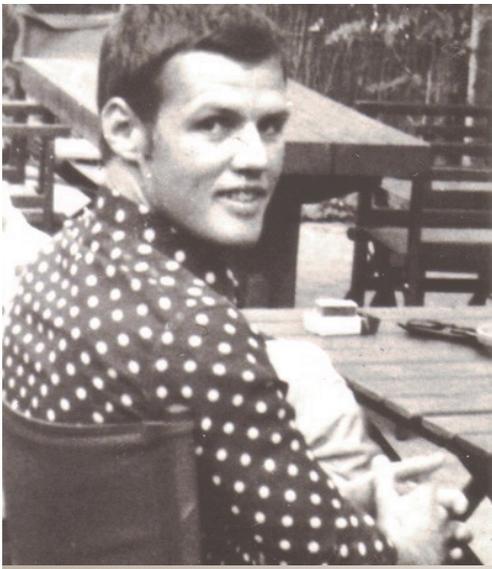
bobby goldsmith foundation
practical emotional financial support

OUR PURPOSE
TO EMPOWER AND
SUPPORT PEOPLE
LIVING WITH HIV
TO LIVE WELL



PRINCIPAL PROGRAM PARTNER

MAC AIDS FUND



Bobby Goldsmith (pictured) was one of the first Australians to die from an AIDS-related illness. That was in June 1984. Bobby was just 38 years old.

Bobby was first diagnosed with HIV in 1983. When Bobby became ill, his friends got together to find a way of giving him the love and care he needed at home, raising money and buying equipment to make his last weeks as comfortable as possible.

Bobby Goldsmith died with dignity, at home, where he wanted to be.

Bobby and his friends set the precedent of providing support and services for people living with HIV. After all, if direct support could be provided for one person, it could be provided for many more.

The Bobby Goldsmith Foundation is the legacy of that dedicated group of friends – a legacy born out of love, which has continued for over 30 years, and will continue into the future.

WHAT HIV DOES AND WHO WE HELP

HIV attacks the immune system and destroys the body's ability to fight disease and infections. Treatment for HIV, using antiretroviral drugs, controls the virus and limits the amount of damage it can do.

The Bobby Goldsmith Foundation (BGF) helps children, women and men living with HIV. Over 1200 people rely on BGF for support, and we welcome 200 new people every year. Our programs are designed to ignite the capacity of people living with HIV (PLWH) to improve their quality of life. A snapshot of our clients reveals:

- 20% of BGF clients are under 40 years of age.
- 3% of BGF clients are Indigenous.
- BGF supports a number of clients who are under 18, and our youngest is 3 years old.
- 17% of BGF clients are from backgrounds of Cultural and Linguistic Difference (CALD).
- 12% of BGF clients have lived with HIV for 25 years or more while 15% have lived with HIV for less than 5 years.
- Currently BGF sees about 35% of all NSW people living with who are 55 years of age or older. The numbers of PLWH over 55 will grow by between 35-40% in the next 5 years.

HIV INFECTIONS ON THE RISE

Figures released in July 2013 by NSW Health revealed **a 24% rise in HIV infections** over the 12 month period in NSW.

NSW Health data showed that while 81% of new diagnoses were acquired by homosexually active men, 14% were acquired by heterosexual men and women.

The highest number of HIV infections was seen among people in their thirties. Increases in notifications were also seen among people in their twenties and people in their fifties.

Source: NSW Health reminds public to 'get tested' following increase in HIV, NSW Health Media Release, 5 July 2013.

HOW WE HELP PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

BGF acts in place of family or friends for more than half our clients. We work at the leading edge of risk reduction, harm-minimisation and medication adherence by providing a range of programs to support physical and mental health, as well as self-management tools to ignite the capacity of PLWH to take charge of their lives and live well.



SELF-MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

Workshops to provide tools to empower PLWH as experts in the management of their better health and wellbeing. BGF is the first Australian organisation licensed to provide Positive Self-Management workshops by the Stanford University Patient Education Centre.



ACCESS TO HIV MEDICATION

HIV medication is costly for a person living with HIV on a low income, but not low enough to have a health card. BGF provides co-payment support so the most vulnerable people can access vital medication.



FINANCIAL COUNSELLING AND NO INTEREST LOANS

BGF's financial counsellor saved financially distressed clients over \$700,000 in unnecessary interest payments last year. Clients are also able to access the No Interest Loan Scheme™ for essential items.

YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED **NOW**

NSW Health funds BGF to deliver a range of programs based on the principle of treatment as prevention. Programs include outreach and case work support.

Other partners, such as the MAC AIDS Fund, businesses, and hundreds of private individuals generously donate the balance of the funding so essential for BGF to continue providing access to antiretroviral therapy to PLWH on low incomes, financial counselling and self-management programs.

The recent increase in HIV infections has led to a **15% increase in demand** for BGF's services. You can help bring stability back to the lives of the most disadvantaged people living with HIV. **Your support is needed more than ever.**



To see how you can help visit <http://www.bgf.org.au/donate/get-involved/> or scan the code above.



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