



Bobby Goldsmith  
Foundation

**Immediate release**  
**13 July 2026**

## **Bobby Goldsmith Foundation appoints Mike Searle as Chief Executive Officer.**

**Bobby Goldsmith Foundation (BGF) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mike Searle as Chief Executive Officer.**

Mike has served as Acting CEO since December 2025 while continuing to lead BGF's Client Services portfolio. Following a comprehensive recruitment process, the BGF Board has formally appointed him to the role.

Mike joined BGF in 2022 as Director Client Services and has played a key role in strengthening and expanding the organisation's HIV and disability services. During the past seven months, he has successfully led the organisation through a period of transition while maintaining oversight of service delivery across multiple programs.

BGF Board President, Professor Carla Treloar AM, welcomed the appointment.

*"The Board is delighted to appoint Mike as Chief Executive Officer of Bobby Goldsmith Foundation.*

*Throughout this period of transition, Mike has demonstrated exceptional leadership while balancing the responsibilities of both Acting CEO and Director Client Services. He has led with integrity, compassion and a clear commitment to BGF's mission.*

*Mike brings a deep understanding of our organisation, our clients and the communities we serve. His experience, values and strategic vision make him exceptionally well placed to lead BGF into its next chapter and we look forward to working alongside him, the Executive and broader BGF team as we continue to grow our impact."*

Mike brings more than 20 years of leadership experience spanning business development, learning and development, disability services and community care.

He holds an Associate Degree of Applied Social Science (Management), a Bachelor of Social Science (Behavioural Studies), and a Master of Human Services with a specialisation in Disability and Generalist Practice. He is currently undertaking a Diploma of Dementia through the University of Tasmania.

Mike said he was honoured to be entrusted with leading Australia's longest-running HIV charity.

*"It is a privilege to be appointed Chief Executive Officer of Bobby Goldsmith Foundation.*



Bobby Goldsmith  

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Foundation

*BGF has a remarkable legacy of supporting people living with HIV and building stronger, more inclusive communities. I am incredibly grateful to the Board, our team, volunteers, partners and supporters for their confidence in, and support of BGF.*

*I look forward to working alongside our dedicated team to build on our legacy, strengthen our services and continue delivering the compassionate, person-centred care that people have come to expect from BGF.*

*We have an exciting opportunity to shape the future of the organisation while remaining true to the values that have guided us for more than four decades.”*

Mike’s appointment comes as BGF continues to support hundreds of people across New South Wales and South Australia through a range of practical, social and wellbeing services.

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## Bobby Goldsmith Foundation

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### **About BGF:**

Bobby Goldsmith was one of the first Australians to die from an AIDS-related illness in 1984. In his final weeks, his friends came together to ensure he could remain at home, surrounded by love and treated with dignity. He died at home, just as he wished – cared for with compassion by the people who loved him.

From that act of love, Bobby Goldsmith Foundation was formed. His friends set a powerful precedent – if support could be provided for one person, it could be done for many.

We are the legacy of that dedicated group of friends.

For more than 40 years, BGF has been a lifeline for people living with HIV, providing practical, emotional and financial support to help them live well and independently. We remain the only community-based organisation in Australia solely focused on delivering frontline services to people living with HIV.

BGF has since expanded its services to include disability support – particularly for the LGBTQIA+ community and others seeking inclusive, progressive, person-centred care. We are a registered NDIS provider, accredited under the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)

BGF is a registered not-for-profit with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission. We have no political or religious affiliation – just a commitment to helping people live with dignity, on their own terms.

### **For interviews and further information:**

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