



Muscular
Dystrophy
Queensland

We're stronger together

A gift in your will

to Muscular Dystrophy Queensland

means that people with muscular dystrophy and similar conditions can live the lives they choose, long into the future

Thank you

for considering leaving a gift in your will to Muscular Dystrophy Queensland



We would be honoured to continue your legacy by supporting people with muscular dystrophy. A gift in your will would mean that you can help us deliver our vision and mission of assisting people with muscular dystrophy and similar neuromuscular conditions to live the lives they choose, long into the future.

This booklet has been designed to assist you in making the decision to leave a gift in your will and we hope you find the information enclosed helpful. Leaving a gift in your will is a very personal decision and one that we encourage you to discuss with your loved ones so that they are aware of your intentions and philanthropic desires.

Of course, you are welcome to contact me or a member of our philanthropy team at any time for a confidential conversation about your gift. We would be delighted to speak with you.

Warmest regards



Helene Frayne, CEO



MDQ *Vision*

Life without limits for people with neuromuscular conditions.

MDQ *Mission*

Muscular Dystrophy Queensland empowers people living with muscular dystrophy and similar neuromuscular conditions to make the most of opportunities and fulfil their potential to live the lives they choose in addition to counselling and support services.

MDQ *History*

1978

A group of families whose children had muscular dystrophy joined forces to raise awareness and funds. The first executive board members of “The Muscular Dystrophy Family Support Association of Queensland” were appointed on 25 June 1978.

1991

MDQ’s first Executive Director, Mr Peter Denham is appointed. Mr Denham lead the organisation until 2007.

1992

The organisation became incorporated and known as ‘South East Queensland Muscular Dystrophy Assoc. Inc.’ The newly incorporated organisation also achieved charitable status as per the Collections Act.

Equipment loans including electric beds, ventilators and wheelchairs are provided to families with muscular dystrophy in addition to counselling and support services.

*We make a living by what we get.
We make a life by what we give.*

- Winston S. Churchill

1994

All Hallows School Year 11 students collect donations for MDQ on the streets of Brisbane for Red Bow Day. This annual tradition still continues more than 25 years on.

Andrew, Greg and James Bell from Ray White Surfers Paradise host an inaugural Ball raising funds for muscular dystrophy. The annual Ball has now raised millions of dollars over the past 25+ years.

1995

The Brisbane Harley Owners Group host their first charity ride, raising funds for people with muscular dystrophy. More than 20 years later, this annual ride is a highlight on the MDQ calendar.

1999

The organisation moves from premises at Rocklea Markets to inner city Wharf Street.

2017

MDQ becomes an Australian Public Company limited by guarantee in preparation for the introduction of the NDIS which will allow the organisation to provide chargeable services to clients who's supports will be funded through the new scheme. Charitable services continue for those not eligible for NDIS funding.

2018

MDQ celebrates its 40th birthday.

2019

NDIS rolls out across Queensland and MDQ employ specialised Allied Health therapists to provide services to clients.

HOW CAN MY *legacy gift* HELP?



When the group of families gathered back in 1978, they were seeking help for today and hope for tomorrow. A gift in your will allows MDQ to continue providing support to clients as and when they need it - and gives them hope and comfort knowing that we will be here to provide support as long as they need.

The generosity of our donors allows MDQ to provide a wide range of free services to complement user paid services. These free services include:

- **Helpline:** Our Helpline coordinator provides specialist advice and information, and made internal and external referrals for services.
- **Breathe Easy Cough Assist Loan Program:** People with MD often have weak breathing muscles and find it difficult to clear secretions, particularly when colds and flu set in. A cough assist machine simulates a natural cough and assists the person to clear secretions. MDQ provide these life-saving respiratory machines on loan for members of our community and in most cases the machines assist in reducing the severity of a respiratory infection, helping people to stay out of hospital or reducing their hospital stays.
- **Rest Well Bed Loan Program:** At its peak, MDQ owned and maintained more than 200 beds. With the NDIS, our beds have now been gifted to those with NDIS Plans. However, we continue to provide bed loans to clients in need who are not eligible for NDIS funding.
- **NDIS Ready workshops and individual planning sessions**



- **Regional Outreach Services:** Since MDQ was established back in 1978, the organisation has been committed to providing services to people with MD and similar conditions all around Queensland. Our goal is to ensure all Queenslanders with this condition have access to the specialised support they require. Our team regularly visit key rural and regional areas around the state providing allied health services, NDIS pre-planning and other general support, thanks to the generosity of our donors.
- **Extended Care Program:** This program meets urgent and significant needs for people who do not have access to funded services elsewhere. Examples of some of the services provided as part of this program include pro bono physiotherapy assessments and reporting for clients when NDIS eligibility is declined; counselling for parents of children living with neuromuscular conditions; case management for clients who face significant life changes due to a sudden change in living circumstances (i.e. death of a parent carer).
- **Advocacy:** Often, very much a 'behind the scenes' and unseen task, our advocacy work has been critical for many clients who have not received the funding they deserve from the NDIS. We maintain close relationships with senior executives of the NDIA and lobby government to ensure that the needs of those with MD and similar conditions are heard and acknowledged.

HOW CAN I *leave a gift* TO MDQ IN MY WILL?

There are three key steps to consider when you are thinking about leaving a gift in your will.

FIRSTLY, CONSIDER HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE YOUR ASSETS...

Undoubtedly you will consider the needs of your family and loved ones first and foremost when thinking about your will. When it comes to considering a gift to a charity in your will, it is important to share this intention with your family and for them to understand your motivations in doing so.

There are several ways you can leave a gift in your will. The following are the most common forms of gifts in wills:

A residuary bequest – you bequeath the portion of your estate that remains after you have provided for others in your will

A specific (pecuniary) bequest – you bequeath a set amount of money, or particular assets such as shares, jewellery, or property

A percentage amount – you can allocate a percentage of your Estate to us

We can provide you with specific wording to include in your will when you are ready.

Please call 1800 676 364 or email bequests@mdqld.org.au for more information.

SECONDLY, CONSULT WITH A TRUSTED LEGAL ADVISOR...

We highly recommend that you speak with a legal advisor about your intention to leave a gift to MDQ in your will – this might be a solicitor, trustee company or the Public Trustee. They can best advise you on the necessary legalities around leaving a gift in your will so that you can be assured your intentions will be managed and communicated as you desired.

FINALLY, LET US KNOW YOUR INTENTIONS...

We would be so grateful if you could advise us of your intention to leave a gift to MDQ in your will. By sharing your intentions with us, we can appropriately acknowledge your generosity and also keep you updated on developments within the organisation and advancements in care for people with MD and similar conditions.

By all means, you can choose not to advise us of your intentions. Please know that receiving an unexpected gift from a will is always an esteemed honour and that our gratitude to you knows no bounds.





MAUREEN'S *Gift*

You'll often find Maureen lunching with friends, heading out to see a show and generally enjoying retired life. She takes a pragmatic approach to philanthropy. *"If I'm being honest," she says, "I'd prefer to see it go to you than to the tax man and I certainly can't take it with me."*

People give to charity for a variety of reasons and we're often told we're not the only charity benefitting from an individual's generosity. That's certainly the case for Maureen, who tells us MDQ is amongst fifty charities she supports regularly.

Maureen likes to invest in research and supports local causes, helping improve lives for people and animals. She hadn't known a lot about muscular dystrophy until a close friend shared a story about the meaningful difference MD organisations in Australia were making for their people. In keeping with her preference to help her local community, it was an easy decision to include Muscular Dystrophy Queensland in her group of preferred charities.

Maureen has now been supporting people with muscular dystrophy for many, many years and we were honoured when she confirmed that she had included a gift to Muscular Dystrophy Queensland in her will.

GET IN TOUCH

Please complete and return this form in the enclosed, reply paid envelope.

Alternatively contact us on 07 3243 9700 or email **bequests@mdqld.org.au**

Name:

Address:

State:

Postcode:

Phone: (H)

(M)

Email:

Please select one or more of the following:

☐

Please contact me to discuss leaving a gift in my will to MDQ

☐

Please send me wording to leave a gift in my will

☐

I am considering leaving a gift to MDQ in my will

☐

I have left a gift in my will to MDQ

Other:

**Muscular Dystrophy
Queensland**
We're stronger together



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Postal address: Locked Bag 3000, Eagle Farm BC Q 4009

Call us: **(07) 3243 9700** | Freecall: **1800 676 364**
Fax: **(07) 3123 6606** | Email: bequest@mdqld.org.au | mdqld.org.au

A landscape photograph of a lavender field at sunset. The field is filled with rows of purple lavender plants. In the distance, there is a line of trees against a bright orange and yellow sky. A large, semi-transparent purple geometric shape, consisting of a triangle and a quadrilateral, is overlaid on the image, covering the top and left portions. The quote is written in a white, cursive script font in the lower-left area of the lavender field.

*Someone is sitting in the shade today
because someone planted a tree long ago*

WARREN BUFFETT, BUSINESSMAN AND PHILANTHROPIST