Season’s Greetings

from the Skip team

As the end of the year approaches, we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported our programs during the past twelve months.

2016 has been a year of growth for SKiP. We have successfully delivered five multidisciplinary Pain Programs, improving the lives of over 20 Queensland families living with the burden of chronic pain. Through our information sessions at St Vincent’s Hospital, we have educated over 200 GPs and health care providers on the assessment and management of chronic pain conditions to improve health care outcomes for Queensland children.

We have welcomed five new clinicians to our allied health team, including a Clinical Coordinator, Huong Nguyen, who will oversee and manage our programs. The Board also thanks David Landers and Jules Mead for their time on the Board as they move on to other roles, and welcomes Mandy Nielsen as Director.

We will continue our current offerings in 2017 and also expand our services to include an Outreach Program for children in remote areas. This initiative would not be possible without the generous support of the Women & Change giving circle, who recently awarded SKiP their annual $50,000 community grant. We are deeply humbled by their support and the generosity of all our sponsors. If you would like to give a gift that counts this Christmas, please consider donating to SKiP.

We wish all our supporters well for the festive season and look forward to another successful year.
It is with deep sadness that we acknowledge the death of our Patron, Professor Tess Cramond, who has passed away at the age of 89.

Professor Cramond was a pioneer for the advancement of women in medicine and is recognised internationally for her contribution to the field of anaesthesia and pain medicine.

Her lifetime of achievement included establishing and heading Royal Brisbane Hospital’s Multidisciplinary Pain Clinic in 1967. She was to serve as its Director until 2009.

In 2012, Professor Cramond noted that one of the Clinic’s major contributions was to have trained 35 pain specialists since 2000. We are proud to note Skip Medical Lead and Founder, Dr Kathleen Cooke, among these.

We are deeply saddened by Professor Cramond’s passing and gratefully acknowledge the impact of her inspirational work on SKiP’s current programs.

In Memoriam: Professor Tess Cramond
Thank you to the organisations who donated to SKiP in 2016. Despite our vital community role, SKiP currently receives no government funding for its programs and relies on the generosity of sponsors to fund its clinical offerings. We thank our sponsors for recognising the positive difference SKiP is making to paediatric persistent pain in QLD.

Skip awarded $50,000 Women & Change Grant

SKiP is the proud recipient of a $50,000 grant gifted by the 2016 Women & Change Giving Circle - a group of 50 Brisbane-based women helping people in need and supporting organisations delivering social change.

Each year, the Women & Change giving circle comes together to provide one grant of up to $50,000 to a registered Queensland charity. This year’s focus was on organisations that work to provide social welfare and/or education support to those most disadvantaged in the community.

SKiP will use the funds to establish an outreach program, to enable children with persistent pain living in regional areas to access a suitable level of care.

Our outreach service will build on our current program model, combining delivery of persistent pain management services with professional education workshops and advisory services for local practitioners.

Regions will include: the Gold and Sunshine Coasts, Toowoomba (Darling Downs and South-West QLD) and Townsville (Far North and Central QLD).

To support this service, we will run a series of telehealth clinics from Brisbane to reengage with children seen during outreach visits.

We are extremely grateful to the members of Women & Change for this incredible donation and encourage anyone interested in this inspirational organisation to visit the Women & Change website: http://www.womenandchange.com.au/
In September, the SKiP running team competed in the 2016 Bridge to Brisbane to raise over $900 for SKiP. The team, led by SKiP Founder Dr Kathleen Cooke and Clinical Coordinator Huong Nyguen, braved the early morning conditions to take part in the 10km track.

We are extremely grateful for their efforts and look forward to next year’s race.

To mark Pain Week 2016, SKiP partnered with local Brisbane schools to host a month of fundraising and awareness for paediatric chronic pain conditions.

We thank the staff and students at Mt Alvernia College in Kedron and St Rita’s College in Clayfield for their extraordinary fundraising achievements. All up, we raised over $1000.

Christmas Fundraising

Would you like to give a gift that counts this Christmas? Visit www.skip.org.au to see how you can set up your own fundraiser via the Everyday Heroes website and raise money for paediatric chronic pain.