

## Helping to fight TB and respiratory illness

**Please send a gift to contribute to our 2016 Christmas Appeal.** This year, through our Christmas Appeal we aim to raise \$100,000 to fund research, projects and develop resources that focus on the prevention, treatment and cure of TB and other respiratory diseases.

### People continue to suffer and die unnecessarily from TB

While we continue to work within Australia, the global burden of TB and respiratory illness is significant. The World Health Organisation recently reported that in 2015, 10.4 million people were estimated to have fallen ill from TB with 1.85 million people dying from the disease. Alarming, last year a million children were affected by TB with 170,000 children reported to have died from the disease. TB remains a serious health challenge. Importantly, around a quarter of the people affected by the disease live within the Asia Pacific Region.

ARC with your help is working to decrease the burden of TB and respiratory illness.

Last year's donor gifts allowed ARC to fund the following activities in 2016.

### Supporting vital research in Australia related to TB and respiratory illness



- Dr Graeme Zosky's research project "Iron laden particulate matter enhances bacterial growth in the lung" is working towards providing evidence to set appropriate air quality guidelines and to identify communities that are most at risk from exposure to airborne iron laden particles.



- Laureate Professor Paul Foster's project "Understanding the role of the newly discovered CD4 T helper (Th)-22 cell subset in models of respiratory infection and inflammation" aims to provide new insights into therapeutic approaches to treatment of respiratory illness, and



- Professor Ian Yang's research project on "Using the lung microbiome to predict response to continuous antibiotics in COPD" is working towards describing organisms within the lung, and the benefits from long term use of antibiotics to prevent exacerbations of COPD.





## Supporting sustainable projects to ensure long term impact against TB and respiratory illness

- Establishing an education framework for Australian specialist TB Nurses
  - Building Health System Research in Vietnam by supporting Professor Guy Marks, from the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research, to conduct and expand the MECOR program. This program builds research capacity for health care workers in TB and respiratory public health in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos
- Supporting TB Programs in the Pacific Island Countries and Territories in their work towards TB prevention and control through education and clinical support for nurses and community workers within these programs
- Contributing to training activities by developing educational resources. The ARC Nurse Consultant team have designed and developed resources that are used to train health care workers in many countries
- Contributing to the development of patient and community education materials and resources. These resources are used to promote respiratory health, TB prevention and care.

**If you share our vision of a future free from respiratory disease, please make a donation today**

As you are aware, we do not receive any government funding, we rely solely on the generosity of supporters like you. **Please help make this possible by sending a gift to help us reach our target of \$100,000.** Your support at this time is vital in ensuring we can continue to fund research and project activities that make a difference to the burden of TB and respiratory illness.

If you have any questions about our work, or the impact your gift, please do not hesitate to contact me on 02 9223 3166 or send an email to [amandachristensen@thearc.org.au](mailto:amandachristensen@thearc.org.au). I would be delighted to hear from you.

On behalf of the Directors and Staff I take this opportunity to wish you all the best for Christmas and the year ahead.

Yours sincerely

*Amanda Christensen*

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Executive Director