

Operation Rainbow successfully completed another surgical mission in Cebu in the Philippines. In June, our dedicated team returned to VisayasMed Hospital for the second consecutive year, demonstrating our ongoing commitment to improving healthcare outcomes in the Philippines.

This mission, we welcomed over 130 patients and their families from across the region to clinic day. During our 6 days at VisayasMed, our team performed 89 procedures on 84 patients, significantly enhancing their quality of life.

The mission's success was largely due to the collaboration and expertise of our diverse team members, including a majority of members from St. John of God Hospital as well as Perth Children's Hospital and Cambridge Day Surgery Hospital.

We greatly value the essential support provided by our local partners and nurses in the Philippines.

### Operation Rainbow team

Tim Hewitt - Plastic Surgeon  
 Ranjit Kunchir - Plastic Surgeon  
 Chris Gibson - Anaesthetist  
 Phil Russel - Anaesthetist  
 Hannah Morgan - Anaesthetic Technician  
 Angela Butterworth - Theatre Nurse  
 Meegan Mirco - Theatre nurse  
 Rosie Ramos - Theatre Nurse  
 Jaime Bowler - PACU/Ward Nurse  
 Claudia Sader - Photographer/Support staff  
 Sureka Rajendran - Photographer/Support Staff  
 Karla Downey - Support Staff  
 Junas Arnel E.Tburan - PACU/Ward nurse  
 Yza De Gracia - Theatre/PACU Nurse  
 Erika Echavez Tejano - Theatre nurse



*Operation Rainbow team*



*Operating Theatre*

### Special thanks to:

- Our Filipino Operation Rainbow team members, Junas, Yza, and Erika, whose invaluable assistance and support were critical to the mission's success.
- The Kiwanis Group, for their unwavering support in sourcing patients, organising the clinic day, managing equipment storage, assisting with registrations, and facilitating communication with hospital and local organisations.
- Abounding in Love, a local Filipino organisation, which has supported Operation Rainbow for the second consecutive year. Their dedication included sourcing patients and providing financial and emotional assistance to patients and families throughout the surgical process.



*Operation Rainbow team and ward staff*



*Jaime, Rosie, Sureka, Claudia and Junas*



*Hannah and Angela*

On May 18, 2024, Karla Downey, daughter of Flo Cue, organised a remarkable event – “A Long Table Lunch to Honour Flo’s Mission,” held at Steve’s Hotel in Nedlands. This event aimed to raise funds for Operation Rainbow, a cause deeply cherished by Flo Cue.

Karla Downey expressed her heartfelt gratitude, stating:



*I am truly overwhelmed and humbled by your love and support in honouring my mother, Flo Cue, and the mission she was so passionate about – Operation Rainbow Australia.*



*In memory of Flo*



*Operation Rainbow and the Kiwanis*



*Tim presenting at the long table lunch*

Thanks to Karla’s tremendous effort and the generosity of those who attended, the event has provided funds to cover an entire mission for Operation Rainbow in 2025. We eagerly anticipate next year’s Operation Rainbow fundraiser luncheon and extend our deepest thanks to Karla for her dedication and support!

By Jaime Bowler



*Karla and Miles*

**A blast from the past...**



*Operation Rainbow team in September 2017, Dumaguete, Phillipines*



**Board members**

- Tim Hewitt - Treasurer and Medical Director
- Adriana Prokop - Secretary
- Jaime Bowler
- Maree Alido
- Chris Gibson
- Martyn Lethbridge