

INTRODUCING THE ROYAL FREE CHARITY

Our vision

Our vision is for everyone served by the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust (RFL) to have access to world-leading healthcare, delivered by a thriving workforce and driven by medical research that has a global impact.

We support the 10,000 staff of the RFL and their 1.6 million patients across Barnet, Chase Farm and Royal Free hospitals and more than 30 NHS services.

What we do



Through the services we provide, and the programmes and equipment **we fund, we make a profound and immediate difference to patients' experiences of care.** Our volunteering, support hub, and complementary therapy teams enhance the hospital journey for all patients – whether they live locally, or come from further away to access the trust's specialist services.



Our support of the RFL workforce enables staff to perform at their very best. Spanning individual professional development and training through to organisation-wide interventions, our initiatives bolster employee resilience and mental health so staff can achieve the best outcomes for patients.



We fund ground-breaking research with the potential to change people's lives, whether it's through our small grants programme or delivering major capital funding appeals.

Our approach

We are a solution-focused strategic partner to the RFL, helping our hospitals to go further and faster than the NHS could do alone.

We believe funding decisions should be made based on strategic priority and impact, with a strong focus on co-production.

Everything we do makes a difference to:

- Patients and their families, whether those who live locally to the hospitals or those who come from further away for the trust's specialist services. We enhance the experience of patients throughout their hospital journey, through the services we provide directly and the programmes and equipment we fund on the wards.
- RFL staff so they can deliver the best possible care.
- The researchers working in our hospitals and partner institutions, enabling the Royal Free research community to have both a local impact and the potential of national and global reach.

FURTHER, FASTER, FOR ALL.

Our story

In 1828 a young surgeon, William Marsden, found a penniless girl dying on the steps of a church and couldn't find a hospital which would admit her. He was determined to establish a hospital that would be open to all who were sick and living in poverty, gathering a group of philanthropists to set up what became the Royal Free Hospital.

Now, as then, charitable donations and legacies make a profound difference to the experience and outcomes of patients.

The scale of our work

- We invest over £6m each year to support RFL to go further, faster, for all.
- We award between 40-60 grants to the RFL each year under four themed areas: patient experience, staff experience, research and development, and clinical services.
- We have historically invested £2.5m a year in research programmes, and we are further developing our investment and involvement in supporting high-quality research.
- Our inspirational, professionally-accredited network of 900 volunteers provide a myriad of services - including meet-and-greet, companionship, art and music, and dog therapy - across six hospital sites in north London.
- Our complementary services team deliver 20,000 clinical massage treatments a year to patients and staff.

Keep in touch

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Our people

Board of Trustees:

Judy Dewinter (chair)

President of Myeloma UK

Akta Raja (vice chair)

Business founder and investor;
RFL non-executive director

Russell Brooks

Associate director, London School of Economics and Political Science

Caroline Clarke

RFL group chief executive

Nicola Grinstead

Director of West London Children's Healthcare at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust and Chelsea and Westminster NHS Foundation Trust

Michael Luck

Senior commercial specialist in the global retail sector

Katie Morrison

Director of communications, campaigns and UK programmes with a global children's charity

Nina Robinson

Chartered accountant, system and risk consultant

Melanie Sherwood

Company director and philanthropist

Chris Streather

RFL deputy chief executive and chief medical director

Alistair Summers

Entrepreneur and chartered accountant

Senior Leadership Team:

Jon Spiers

Chief executive

Sharron Grant

Director of people

Alison Kira

Director of grants and services

Robin Meltzer

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Paul Stein

Executive director of income generation

Yusuf Firat

Director of finance, property and operations