

# ***Better work participation for people with cancer***

*15<sup>th</sup> February 2023*



# The stats

## The cohort of people working with cancer is growing

- 70,000 women, 80,000 men were diagnosed with cancer in 2021
- ~ 40% are of working age (25–64 years)
- Breast cancer is 2nd most commonly diagnosed cancer in Australia <sup>1</sup>
  - 20,000 women; 200 men diagnosed every in 2021
  - 63% of women diagnosed younger than 65 <sup>3</sup>
- 5-year survival rates have improved (76% in 1994 to 92% <sup>1</sup>)
- We are working longer



Workforce participation is **NOT** a good story <sup>1</sup>

More women are NOT working: 2004 - 21.5%; 2007 - 48.2%; 2010 - 56.3%



# Inspired to improve support for people working with cancer



*Improving cancer support in workplaces*

*Support people through the work-cancer journey*

*Advocate for better workplace outcomes for people with cancer*

- Support groups
- Navigating and coaching
- Networking and referrals
- Advocate (internal/external)

- Awareness and training
- Buddying and mentoring
- Functional support
- Coaching and referrals



# Benefits – patient/survivor and your business

## *Better support for will*

- Avoid 'burn-out'
- Renew self-confidence in 'new self'
- Promote career aspiration and potential
- Provide financial security
- Improve sense of wellbeing
- Regain a sense of control
- Integrate confidently into work at the right, best time

## *.... and benefit your business*

- Retain experience & corporate knowledge
- Grow employee loyalty
- Protect your investment in employees
- Attract talent as an employee of choice
- Build organisational wellness
- Improve employee satisfaction and morale
- Grow leadership capability

# A cancer-friendly workplace

Follow guidelines from Cancer Council

## Be informed

- Connect with organisations to understand the facts
- Learn / Learn from lived experience
- Make information available to colleagues and leaders
- Refine based on lived experience

## Start the conversation

- Build network group(s)
- Encourage 'speak / hands-up' culture
- Discuss pressure/stress related to return to work and work performance
- Promote open discussions about financial support



# What are work colleagues are saying?

... as a result of your session, our Team is picking up the feedback to see how ... can better support its people experiencing cancer and serious illnesses. . the impact of your session will be felt at ... well into the future

... there is a huge gap

... I had no idea of the long and difficult journey awaiting her, and the lack of awareness may have contributed to the challenging conversations ahead  
... I welcomed the opportunities to talk, but was always concerned to see and hear how difficult and drawn out the whole experience was for her

... It's a topic that is not talked about and it is refreshing that the conversation has started

... expanded my knowledge of the different treatment types for breast cancer. Importantly I got an insight into what it's like for a breast cancer survivor to negotiate leave and contact with the workplace during diagnosis and treatment



# What's coming up

- ❑ **Work-Cancer support group**                      **next Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 12noon - 1.30pm**

*Bringing together people working with cancer, to share, learn and discuss common experiences*

**FREE via Zoom**

- ❑ **Coaching / mentoring sessions**                      **anytime**

*Experienced coach assisting people with cancer to navigate the impact of their diagnosis, treatment and side-effects have on their work, professional development and career*

**3 FREE 45-minute sessions (\$95 for additional sessions) via Zoom**

- ❑ **Information and networking forum**                      **12<sup>th</sup> April, 12 noon – 1.30 pm**

*Facilitated networking & information forum led by qualified leaders, including those with lived-cancer experience*

**\$100/session or 5 for \$400. Participate in person (Sydney CBD) or via Zoom**



**Register at [LiveWorkCancer.com](http://LiveWorkCancer.com)**





Live  
Work  
Cancer

