

Neil Balnaves AO, Founder, The Balnaves Foundation and former Chancellor, Charles Darwin University

22 February 2022

Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies), its Board and staff, mourn the tragic loss of Neil Balnaves AO and extend condolences to his family and the staff at The Balnaves Foundation.

Neil Balnaves, through his time as Chancellor of the Charles Darwin University, understood the impact that disabling hearing loss was having on education outcomes for Indigenous children in the Northern Territory. He was determined to support practical initiatives, that would have measurable impact and contribute meaningfully to improving education, health, employment and wellbeing.

The Balnaves Foundation is the lead Philanthropic funder of the Menzies' Hearing for Learning Initiative (HfLI - <https://www.menzies.edu.au/HfLI>). As a result of generous support from the Foundation, Menzies was able to develop partnerships with the Northern Territory Government and the Federal Government to deliver this critical initiative.

Menzies thanks Neil Balnaves for his insight and generosity in supporting research that addresses a priority of First Nations children and their families, to have a full and enjoyable childhood and a productive adult life.

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