

Foundation Monitor



Stand By Me



HPHA Healthcare Heroes

We have all felt the worry, isolation and stress the COVID-19 virus has brought, whether you're working from home ... or not working at all; whether your job helps ensure food reaches our tables ... or you work striving to keep people healthy.

Healthcare workers – doctors, nurses, and other hospital staff have been risking their own health, their own families, even their own lives. These healthcare heroes are putting it all on the line for you and me.

It's heartwarming to see the support our community is showing our healthcare workers. Hospital staff are tremendously moved by lawn signs, the drumming of pots and pans, parades of support, offerings of cut flowers and snacks.

But right now, our hospital and healthcare team need your support more than ever. Like troops on the front line, they need the tools and technology to battle the Corona virus. That's the reason the Hospital Foundation has established the Healthcare Heroes Fund – a fund that puts donated dollars to work purchasing those vital tools and resources they need to fight and win.

The HPHA Healthcare Heroes Fund, will be used for both short term essentials and longer-term strategic impact, in case the battle with COVID-19 lasts for months ... perhaps even years.

Also at the top of our list is a piece of microbiology molecular testing equipment called a "BD Max" which

can be used to detect and identify both the COVID-19 and influenza viruses – essential if the battle with Corona virus takes months or we see a resurgence in the fall as some have predicted.

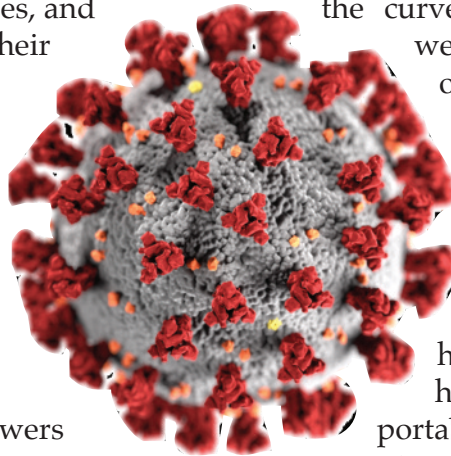
And while all indications are that we're "flattening the curve" in Ontario, it's entirely possible that we'll still see a surge in cases and an ongoing struggle until an effective treatment or vaccine is produced. We should hope for the best and prepare for the worst.

In addition to the BD Max, we've also identified equipment that can help turn your appreciation for our healthcare heroes into tangible tools to help win this fight. That includes a portable X-Ray machine dedicated solely to patients with COVID-19 and additional vital signs monitors.

No one can question the importance of putting these essential tools into the hands of our healthcare providers and the impact each could have, enhancing our ability to detect and fight COVID-19.

When it comes to purchasing lifesaving medical equipment, hospitals are still on their own. They rely on the generosity of people like you to fund these vital tools.

If you have the ability to donate, please don't wait. There's never been a more important time for us to rise up and stand shoulder to shoulder with our healthcare heroes.



Our Doctors Have a Tremendous **IMPACT**



Dr. Tyler Rouse

Donations save lives. That's as true for donors who support the Hospital Foundation's fundraising efforts as it is for donors who support organ and tissue donations for transplant.

And both kinds of donors have a special place in the heart of pathologist Dr. Tyler Rouse who has seen the impact that selflessly giving – and giving of self – can have on people's lives.

Originally from London, Dr. Rouse completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Western Ontario (UWO) and medical school at the University of Toronto before heading back to Western for his residency.

He came to Stratford some 13 years ago – a decision he's never regretted thanks to Stratford's unique character, a fulfilling career and colleagues and coworkers he treasures. It's also provided a wonderful place for Dr. Rouse and his wife to raise their three children.

As an anatomical pathologist, Dr. Rouse spends most of his time examining biopsies and excised tissue mainly in search of cancer. And with the information gleaned in the Lab, he works collaboratively with other physicians – particularly surgeons – to help determine what treatment plan can be most effective.

"They use to call pathologists the doctor's doctor because we work across the board with so many different physicians in a given day. It's not very glamorous and we work mainly behind the scenes," he explains. "But you know you're making a big impact even if people don't typically know that a pathologist is involved with their care."

Technology is also evolving rapidly along with a constantly increasing number of tests and specific markers to be aware of to help guide patients' treatment and care – especially when dealing with cancer. "I like to think we're at the dawn of the age of molecular medicine," says Dr. Rouse.

As the central hub of the 12 lab InterHospital Laboratory Partnership (IHLP), the lab at Stratford General handles samples from a huge swath of Southwestern Ontario. That holds many benefits, allowing Stratford to build the skills and specialize while giving outlying partners access to fast, accurate testing and technology unavailable in all locations.

Each year, the Stratford lab completes an astonishing volume of tests. But for Dr. Rouse, it's not just a numbers game. "Part of what drives me personally is knowing that

there's a person behind those tests that's waiting for their results; someone who deserves an answer. I think about that all the time," he says.

Serving such a large geographical area and addressing lab tests that are steadily growing in number and complexity has required significant investments of donor money in recent years, replacing old lab equipment and adding new "game changing" diagnostic technology. That includes the BD Max, advanced molecular technology used to diagnose both COVID-19 and influenza.

Right now plans are also underway to relocate the lab into new space as part of SGH Foundation's \$30 million "In Our Hands" Campaign. The current lab is in old space, scattered between floors, and "bursting at the seams."

"New space would be amazing. Even though we're behind the scenes, about 70 per cent of all patient interactions are directly dependant on the lab," explains Dr. Rouse. "Our hospital is a pillar of the community and we're so dependent on the Foundation's work and the support of donors. Without them we couldn't offer this kind of first class medical care that's so important to the well-being of the citizens of this town and the area."

Not content with the rigours of pathology, Dr. Rouse has recently taken on a new challenge as president of the Medical Advisory Committee and Chair of the Credentials and Physician Resource Committee. "I love being part of the administrative side too, ensuring physicians' needs are met and also getting to know the new physicians coming in," he says.

Dr. Rouse has also been instrumental in working with the Trillium Gift of Life Network to help kick start and promote a local program to recover organs and tissue that can help save the lives of people awaiting transplants.

"We created our own committee and built it from the ground up," says Dr. Rouse who was deeply concerned about the gap between the need for transplanted organs and their availability. "Now we have one of the highest rates in the province of people signed up to become organ donors. We know of a number of times when organs and tissues recovered here in Stratford were successfully transplanted and helped save lives."

In his spare time Dr. Rouse plays a lot of sports, mainly hockey with his fellow physicians, soccer and basketball. He's also found a creative outlet that embraces both his knowledge of medicine and his love of history, producing some 90 Legends of Surgery podcasts focusing on the people and events that make up surgery – from ancient China and India, all the way to modern times.

"It gives you an appreciation of what we can do now. Back then, their knowledge base was so poor and when you compare what we can do today in terms of diagnostics and surgeries, it's like night and day," explains Dr. Rouse. "In the lab there's no guess work anymore. We can tell you what's going on with great precision, and that can only benefit the patient."



Making A Real Impact . . . A Salute

Each donation is precious, and every donor is priceless ... individuals, groups, and organizations



Wightman Cares

A special thanks to Wightman for their generous pledge of \$25,000! The first payment helped purchase new portable dopplers used to listen to a baby's heart beat before their birth. **Hope Reidt, Marketing Manager, Wightman; Andrea Page ED SGH Foundation and Storee Scott, RN in the Maternal Child Unit pose with the new equipment.**

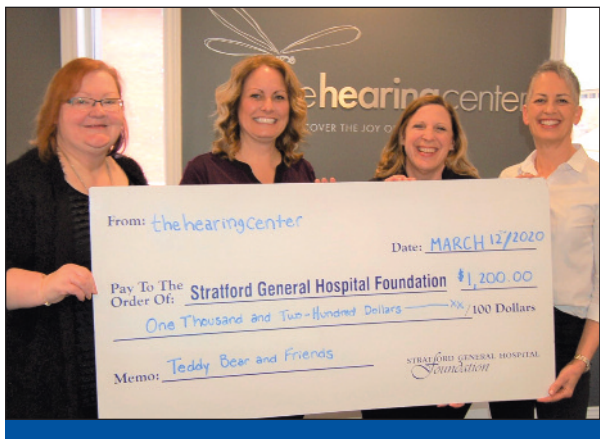


Priceless Gifts

New Infant warmers delivered just in time for Christmas! 1,222 babies were born at Stratford General Hospital last year, with 177 babies cared for in our Special Care Nursery. Eleven specialized infant warmers ranging from \$33,000 to \$40,000 each were purchased replacing warmers that were over 20 years old. So far \$108,130 has already been raised towards the \$371,000 needed for this critical equipment.

100 Women Who Care

It was an honour and a privilege to be able to present to the 100 Women Who Care Stratford and to gain their vote and support! What a dynamic group! We can never say thank you enough!! Proceeds are designated towards a new hospital bed at Stratford General Hospital site of the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance.



Teddy Bear Care

The Hearing Center's gift of \$1,200 supports the Special Care Nursery Teddy Bear & Friends Campaign! Thank you for making an impact on the care of our tiniest patients

L-R: SGHF ED Andrea Page, Shelly Gansevles Office Administrator at the Hearing Center, RN Loralee McNaughton and Owner of The Hearing Center Sheri Hazzard.



Giving Hearts

Did you know 1,222 babies were delivered at the HPHA Stratford General Hospital site last year? Thanks to our donors 20 Cardiac monitors totalling \$196,199 were purchased to keep our tiniest patients safe. SGH Foundation Board members had a chance to tour our Maternal Child Unit.

Rick Orr, Josef Frank and Dr. Keith Sparrow are pictured with Kerri Hannon, the unit's manager.



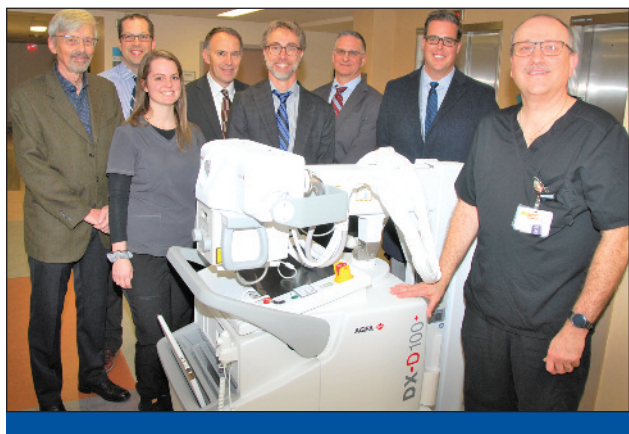
to Our Community's Generosity!

and businesses building a brighter future for healthcare throughout our region.



Game-changing New Technology

A time to thank all our volunteers and the community for supporting essential medical equipment. VSGH Council members pictured with the new game-changing lab Maldi-tof used in the battle against sepsis. The volunteers matched all gifts up to \$150,000 towards this \$300,000+ equipment with the community responding with \$150,000. We can never say thank you enough!!! Every piece of life saving equipment at our hospital is only here because someone cared. In Canada some 30,000 people yearly die from sepsis.



A Salute to our Donors

A special thank you to our community for their generosity over the holiday season, allowing for the purchase of two digital portable x-ray machines totalling \$228,000. This new technology is faster, produces clearer images and generates lower levels of radiation – all positive things for both our caregivers and the patients we serve. We hope to raise additional funds through our HPHA Healthcare Heroes fund to purchase one more to be dedicated to COVID-19 patients.



HPHA Healthcare Heroes Fund Has Impact

A total of 50 pulse oximeters which measure the blood oxygen level of patients have been purchased to allow greater

flexibility for HPHA in their battle against COVID-19. Ten of the oximeters are deployed in the Integrated Stroke and Telemetry Units.

STRATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL
Foundation

"People Caring for People"

Exceptional Healthcare built on a Strong Foundation--
You are invited to subscribe to our e-newsletter

Let's stay in touch!
Please send us an email with your:
First & Last Name
Mailing Address

Get added to the list: sgh.foundation@hpha.ca
We look forward to sending you updates, and celebrating successes together.

STRATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL
Foundation

"People Caring for People"

YES, I care!
I wish to support our Hospital.



Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Enclosed is my cheque to Stratford General Hospital Foundation. Email: _____

\$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 I prefer to give \$ _____

Card # _____ Expiry Date _____

I'd like to pledge my support of \$ _____ each year over the next _____ years.

Signature _____ Date _____

A receipt will be issued for tax purposes. Charitable Registration # BN 11920 0004 RR0001
Our donor records are confidential. We do not share our lists.

Thank you for caring!



Donations in Honour of and in Memory of ...

The Stratford General Hospital Foundation is grateful to the family members and friends who have made Honour and Memorial donations from October 21, 2019 to April 30, 2020.

In Honour of

Robert Bower
Grace Brown
Jay Carter
Chemo Unit
Pamela Davidson
Cade Eickmeyer
ER Staff
Muriel Gleason
Donna Hannon
Mary & Mathew
Holmes
ICU Staff
Shirley Jackson
Wayne Jarmuth
Myrtle Judge
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Beatrice Wagler
Doug Wood

Gordon Billo
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Roger Mueller
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Murray
Clare Melva Murray

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Mike Bastiaansen
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STRATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

46 General Hospital Drive, Stratford, ON N5A 2Y6

The SGH Foundation works with the community to help raise funds for equipment, upgrading of facilities and special projects of the Stratford General Hospital.



Readers will note a change to coated paper, which is the same cost and allows clearer pictures. Contains recycled fibre and is recyclable.

Charitable Reg. BN 11920 0004 RR0001



Stratford General Hospital Foundation
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