



2023

# DONOR REPORT





## A Message from Reginald Swamy, Board Chair & President, and Pearl F. Veenema, FAHP, Chief Executive Officer

2023 will be remembered as a year of impact, transitions and gratitude. There is no denying the health care system continues to face serious challenges. However, the meaningful support of our generous donors is transforming lives and empowering communities through outstanding care and cutting-edge research. Your donation is enabling exceptional patient-centred care by the dedicated Hamilton Health Sciences clinicians, staff and volunteers who are there for our community's health during these tough times.

Thanks to our donors, Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation (HHSF) raised \$47.9 million in 2023 and disbursed grants of more than \$17.1 million to support priorities across Hamilton Health Sciences. As you read this report on the life-changing impact of your gifts, we invite you to celebrate our shared commitment to *It's Vital to Care*.

### Acknowledging Volunteerism

We extend our gratitude to the Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation Board of Directors for its unwavering dedication and diligent governance and fundraising work. Special thanks to long-standing Board member Ralph Olivieri for all of his contributions to our mission. During the year, we welcomed two new dynamic HHSF Board members Doug Murray and Maria Artuso and look forward to their engagement to benefit our vision. We are also deeply grateful for the many community leaders who give generously of their time and expertise on our many committees, and in support of our fundraising initiatives.

We graciously acknowledge the Hamilton Health Sciences Board for its continuing commitment to provide the best care for all. We thank their leadership for their valuable engagement on our Board through HHS Board Chair Dave Lazzarato (until June) and Board member Amit Kapur. The Hamilton Health Sciences Volunteer Association Board (HHSVA) also continued to excel in its

mission to enhance patient care. Thank you to the HHSVA Vice Chair, Paul Demarco, who completed his term on the Board, representing a very valuable partnership.

### Transitions

The year was shaped by transitions, including preparing to welcome new leadership for The Board and The Foundation.

The Board will welcome Holly Simmons as Chair at the Annual Meeting in March 2024. Holly has been an instrumental volunteer leader with The Foundation since 2018. We're looking forward to serving with her to build upon the solid foundation laid over the years.

Through a comprehensive search process, The Board confirmed Anissa Hilborn to serve as CEO beginning early February 2024. Her significant leadership and fundraising experience will continue our success into the future.



Left to right HHSF Leadership: Holly Simmons, Board Vice Chair, Pearl F. Veenema, FAHP, Chief Executive Officer and Reginald Swamy, Board Chair & President

## Gratitude

Throughout this time of transition, some things will never change, including our commitment to raise funds and champion exceptional health care that enhances patient care, research and training of health care providers at Hamilton Health Sciences. We are grateful for the collective impact of our donors whose countless contributions touch many lives across the family of hospital sites that we serve at Hamilton Health Sciences.

We hope you take great pride in what we have achieved together. The impact of your support and trust in us inspires us to achieve our mission and vision.

## Thank You

The year concludes on a bittersweet note as Pearl has retired after 16 years as CEO. Pearl's talent, wisdom and heart have been the guiding light behind our success and growth. Her dedication to nurturing relationships, empowering donors and improving health care has left an immeasurable impact that will resonate for years to come.

*Reg Swamy*

## A Legacy of Caring and Sharing: Honouring Margaret Juravinski (1932-2023)

A proud lifelong Hamiltonian and well-known philanthropist, Margaret Juravinski was beloved by the community. A tireless advocate for our health care system, she was deeply committed to improving the lives of patients. Known for her common sense attitude and enjoyment of lively conversations, Margaret will be deeply missed by all those who had the privilege of knowing her. Together with her husband, Charles Juravinski (2022), they created a transformational philanthropic legacy with their remarkable generosity over more than 20 years. For Margaret, "sharing is caring" was a mantra she invoked each and every day. It didn't matter the amount or where the gift was directed, it was the act of giving and the impact it would make that was paramount.

Our Foundation has appreciated the significant investments made over the years for vital equipment and the education and training of health care practitioners. We are especially proud to honour Charles and Margaret's generosity through the naming of the Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre. One of Margaret's recent acts of generosity was her lead gift in 2022 to enable the hybrid CT scanner highlighted on page 4. Together, Margaret and Charles Juravinski have contributed more than \$35 million to Hamilton Health Sciences



Foundation to date, allowing our clinical teams to aspire for greater to benefit community health.

Margaret and Charles spent more than two decades making gifts to several Hamilton organizations and many are equally proud to bear their names. Today, the Juravinski name is also synonymous with world-class, personalized health care and health research in Hamilton through the Juravinski Research Institute (a partnership between Hamilton Health Sciences, McMaster University and St. Joseph Healthcare Hamilton).

Margaret's legacy will serve as a lasting inspiration.

## Farewell and Thank You From Pearl

It has been an extraordinary honour to serve as our Foundation's Chief Executive Officer for the past 16 years. Throughout the years, the true privilege has been working with countless staff, volunteers and community individuals and organizations excited to build strong relationships in support of our region's health and well-being.

I began my career as a registered nurse in 1976, wanting to be "at the bedside" for patients. I now end my career with gratitude and humility for the many amazing opportunities I've had to partner with generous and compassionate donors who want to make a meaningful impact for patient care at Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS).

Donors are at the heart of our mission, and I have enjoyed every moment I got to connect, listen, engage and collaborate to enable philanthropy for impactful purposes. I am grateful for a donor community of thoughtful individuals, foundations, corporations and our partners at the HHS Volunteer

Association, each inspired by the difference their gifts make for patient care, education and research.

I marvel at the dedication and creativity used to fundraise - from a child's lemonade stand to a diverse range of community and corporate events - each individual effort grounded in appreciation and understanding of the true value of giving back to support health care.

One of my favourite quotes is by Douglas Lawson, "Philanthropy is the mystical mingling of a joyous giver, an artful asker and a grateful recipient." For me, this exemplifies the kindness of people, who work together to make a difference. I have been privileged to witness this "mystical mingling" over and over in my position, and it continues to fill me with great hope. I leave knowing the true strength that comes from the valued support of donors.

With heartfelt gratitude and wishes for the best of health to all of you!



Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation staff



## Greetings From Our New CEO, Anissa Hilborn

On February 5, 2024, it was my honour to officially start my new role as the CEO at Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation. The opportunity to lead an extraordinary organization committed to supporting world-renowned hospitals is equally as important as it is inspiring.

I believe health care is an essential element to a vibrant and strong community. I want to have an impact, and one of the best ways I can see to do that is through supporting health care here, in my own community – for all our families, friends and neighbours.

I am grateful for the incredible staff, volunteers, stakeholders, community champions and donors that continue to share their dedication to our mission. I look forward to getting to know you better. Our combined enthusiasm and sense of optimism of what we can achieve together is powerful. Continuing The Foundation's legacy of success, I am excited to work collaboratively in support of exceptional health care for our community.

Over the past 30 years, it has been my privilege to work in the not-for-profit sector, and serve as a senior leader within health care charitable



organizations in particular. In every instance, I have been inspired by the ability to achieve aspirational goals working with like-minded and committed people. Our collective efforts make a lasting impact on our communities and the organizations we serve.

A community leader I worked with once said “Our behaviour today will be our history tomorrow – make sure it is well written”. This message still resonates with me today. Although our next chapter is still unwritten, I am excited and motivated by our shared commitment to ensuring that the best health care is available for our community, creating a better future for us all.

## Building Blocks of Care

While it is a time of transition at Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation, it is with immense gratitude that we recognize our generous donors and the impact of community engagement. Building on our solid foundation, we feel privileged to continue supporting innovative and compassionate care at Hamilton Health Sciences. Celebrate with us as we highlight the themes of grateful patients, generational giving, legacy and partnerships.

We invite you to read the wonderful stories in this Annual Donor Report. It shares how our grateful patients, exceptional health care providers, volunteers and donors, along with dedicated Foundation staff and Board members, make great things happen.



**Grateful  
Patients**



**Generational  
Giving**



**Legacy**



**Partnerships**



Dr. Nair (far right) and some members of the interventional radiology team



Partnerships

## Advancing Patient Care: A Leap Forward in Interventional Radiology

In the coming years, a significant investment will be made towards elevating patient care at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre, thanks to the tremendous support of donors. During her lifetime, Margaret Juravinski was inspired by the meaningful impact and made a generous lead gift towards the \$3.4 million investment aimed at constructing a hybrid interventional radiology (IR) suite incorporating a cutting-edge CT scanner. Through Margaret's philanthropy and additional community support, this transformative initiative is poised to revolutionize the way IR therapy is approached, allowing for more precision, personalization and overall effectiveness in patient treatment.

"We thank The Foundation for this investment," says Leslie Gauthier, Vice-President, Clinical Support Services and Surgery. "We have an extremely talented interventional radiology team, who are so dedicated to their patients. They deserve the best equipment, and this will help them to provide the full scope of interventional radiology care."

One advancement facilitated by the new scanner is the introduction of selective internal radiation therapy (SIRT), a minimally invasive technique for patients diagnosed with liver cancer when surgery or transplantation is not a viable option.

Through the precise guidance of the CT, doctors

performing SIRT inject microspheres containing a radioactive substance into the blood vessels supplying the tumor. This targeted therapy delivers treatment directly to cancer cells while sparing healthy liver tissue, allowing for tumor downstaging and increasing eligibility for transplant or surgery. Additionally, SIRT is effective in controlling the disease and preventing its spread.

Gauthier says the new machine will also benefit 400 to 500 patients a year by shortening wait times for diagnostic CT. Currently, without a dedicated hybrid IR CT, when the team needs to use the CT, this bumps someone on the diagnostic CT list.

Dr. Nair, Interventional Radiologist, is excited about the possibilities this advanced technology opens up for patients. Beyond the immediate impact on patient care, Dr. Nair notes that having this advanced technology will also help attract skilled radiology technologists, nurses and physicians to Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre.

"Medical technology is very expensive, which means financing equipment can be a challenge. That is why we are extremely grateful for the investment in this technology," Dr. Nair says.

"Interventional radiology cuts through almost every cancer patient's journey. So it will help a lot of patients to have a more advanced department with all of the specialist tools."



## Wheels of Wellness: Trillium Mutual Drives Mobile Cancer Screening

Trillium Mutual Insurance Company has granted \$9,090 from its Trillium ROOTS Community Support Fund for the renovation of Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre's Mobile Cancer Screening Coach.

The Screening Coach plays a vital role in providing health advice and cancer screening services to individuals who may otherwise face barriers to accessing this health care. The renovation allows for on-board, temperature-controlled storage for smoking cessation supplies, specifically nicotine replacement therapy, improving convenience for patients and reducing referrals to local public health units. The project also includes accessibility improvements for patients who use wheelchairs and other mobility aids, ensuring that care is inclusive and responsive to individual needs. Trillium Mutual's support significantly improves health care delivery across south-central Ontario and contributes to overall better health outcomes in the communities it serves.



Partnerships

## Dedication of Service: Supporting Veterans' Health Care

Every year, Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation is grateful to partner with Royal Canadian Legions across south-central Ontario to support initiatives and priorities that benefit veterans and their families. More than 20 Royal Canadian Legion branches provide support for veterans and their families across our hospital sites. Branch 613 (pictured), for example, has been a dedicated supporter since 2013.

Legion funds come from a number of sources, including individual branch lottery funds, general fundraising and of course, the iconic *Remembrance Day Poppy* campaigns.

"We are committed to honouring the dedication and sacrifice of veterans across Ontario," says Marg Emery, Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command Foundation and Ladies Auxiliaries Charitable Foundation President. "Partnering with Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation allows us to impact veterans and their families in direct and tangible ways and make a difference in the communities they call home."

We are so grateful for the many ways Royal Canadian Legion branches and members continue to build upon their inspiring legacy of service by enhancing health care across their communities.



Partnerships

# JURAVINSKI HOSPITAL AND CANCER CENTRE FOUNDATION



## Partnerships

### Sip and Support: Beer Store Taps into Community Generosity

Motivated by a personal connection to a cancer patient, Beer Store union steward Adam Rogers initiated regional bottle drives at his store to raise funds for Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre Foundation. Across the city, Barton Street Store Manager Rob Mullan was motivated to further champion this fundraising mission after his wife's cancer diagnosis and successful treatment at the hospital. The month-long local campaign Mullan initiated harnesses the passion and enthusiasm of Beer Store staff to inspire donations at checkout as well as accepting empties as donations. Over the past few years, these initiatives have only grown.

This year, the Beer Store campaigns raised more than \$30,000 to purchase an electrocardiogram (ECG) machine for the Hematology Department.

An ECG machine records and monitors heart activity, allowing doctors to detect and supervise heart conditions like arrhythmias, heart attacks and heart failures. In the Hematology Department, the machine will safeguard patients' hearts throughout their cancer treatment.

To date, the Beer Store has raised more than \$330,000 for Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre Foundation.



## Partnerships

### Home Sales to Health Care: Heritage Realty's Commitment to Giving

Founded in 1999, Heritage Realty Brokerage, led by Marcel Leclerc, has become a local success story in real estate services across Ontario.

Through a unique initiative, Heritage Realty contributes a portion of its commissions from home sales to Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation. Thanks to its loyal and generous clients, since 2015, the agents and brokers of Heritage Realty have directed approximately \$200,000 in support of the Ron and Nancy Clark Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapies Unit at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre.

The company's donations directly contribute to life-saving treatments for adult patients in south-central Ontario, helping the Unit's growth and efficiency. This commitment reflects an admirable alignment of mission and community service, showcasing Heritage Realty's dedication to making a meaningful and sustainable impact, and we couldn't be more grateful.





## Goodyear's Gift of Hope

Reflecting on his recent experience with testicular cancer, Christian has a word of advice for anyone who finds themselves in an overwhelming situation: "If there's ever something scaring you, don't be afraid to ask someone for help."

For moral support, love and comfort, Christian turned to his parents. For cancer treatment, he was referred to Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre.

Chemotherapy took a toll, but through it all, Christian remembers the kindness of staff and the small comforts of the Juravinski Cancer Centre. Whether it was nurses bringing him a blanket to warm up, a pillow to take a nap or just keeping him company during the long hours it took to administer chemotherapy, the expert, compassionate care he received was unforgettable.

Christian's father, Paul, also remembered the life-saving care his son received, and when it came time for his employer to decide where to direct some of its charitable giving, Paul was eager to advocate for Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre Foundation. Over the past two years, Goodyear has gifted \$20,000 to ensure patients like Christian receive the high-quality, compassionate care they need to heal and hope.



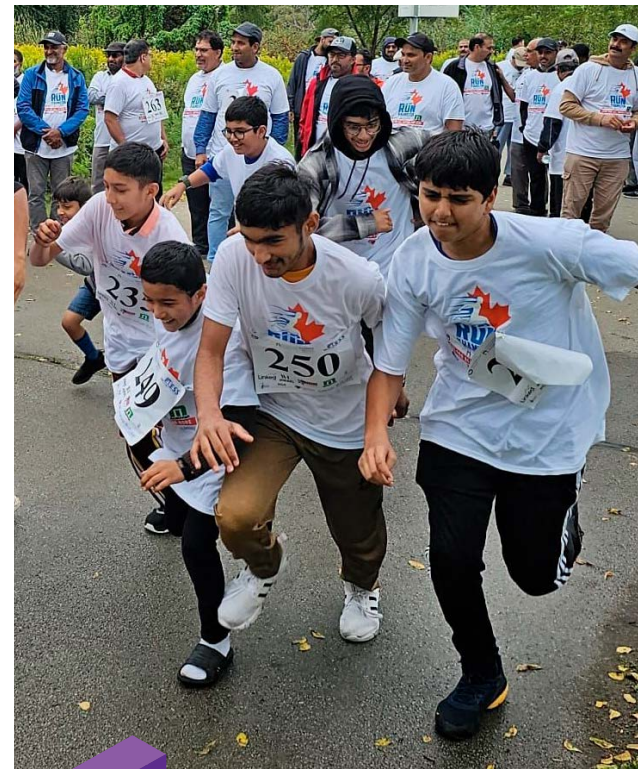
Grateful  
Patients

## Community in Motion: Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's Run for Hamilton

*Run for Hamilton*, a volunteer-driven charitable event by the Ahmadiyya Muslim community, is part of a nationwide *Run for Canada* initiative. Organized by the local Youth and Elders Associations, the event embodies the community's motto, "Love for All, Hatred for None," as well as its central teaching to give back to the community and improve the lives of others.

*Run for Hamilton* supports various causes in the Hamilton community, including raising funds for Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre Foundation. The annual event takes place every September and includes a 5-km run, a 1-km walk and a family fun fair for everyone to enjoy.

Since 2018, this initiative has contributed more than \$65,000 to enhance patient care amenities and purchase advanced hospital equipment for Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre.



Generational  
Giving

# MCMASTER CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION



(Left to right) Executive Director of Autism Alliance of Canada Jonathan Lai, HHS CEO Rob MacIsaac, The Joyce Family Foundation Executive Director Maureen O'Neill, HHSF CEO Pearl Veenema, HHSF Board Vice Chair Holly Simmons and inaugural holder of the McMaster Children's Hospital Chair in Autism and Neurodevelopment Dr. Stelios Georgiades



Partnerships

## Collaboration for a Bright Future in Autism Research, Care and Policy

Our heartfelt gratitude for The Joyce Family Foundation's Board of Director's exceptional pledge of \$5 million in support of the National Centre for Autism Collaboration (NCAC). This incredible gift is being further leveraged to inspire matching funds and partnerships.

In Canada, one in 50 Canadian children are diagnosed with autism and the challenges they face are immense. Delayed diagnoses, long waitlists for services and a lack of evidence-based interventions create significant hurdles to these children thriving and reaching their full potential.

The NCAC will pioneer a uniquely comprehensive and collaborative approach to advancing knowledge and improving care and outcomes for children and youth living with autism.

Co-led by Dr. Stelios Georgiades, inaugural holder of the McMaster Children's Hospital Chair in Autism and Neurodevelopment and an expert in autism research, advocacy and policy, and the Autism Alliance of Canada, the NCAC will be

a driving force for positive change in Canada's autism landscape.

It is particularly meaningful that the physical facilities and virtual infrastructure for the NCAC will be at the Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre, part of Hamilton Health Sciences. It will focus on four pillars: data, knowledge, policy and training and will link researchers, clinicians, caregivers/families, decision makers and service providers in an era of advanced cooperation. This will help children and youth living with autism in communities from across our nation to gain access to better care, better options and brighter futures.

As we look towards the future, the creation of the NCAC and The Joyce Family Foundation's investment mark a significant step forward in the pursuit of excellence in national collaboration and the enhancement of autism research, care, training and policy across Canada.





## Miracle on Level 2: Joshua's Journey from NICU to Home

Following a traumatic delivery, newborn baby Joshua and his mother, Sarah, were rushed to McMaster Children's Hospital where Sarah was taken to the Women's Intensive Care Unit and Joshua to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

For 45 days, Joshua remained in the NICU relying on vital signs monitors, ventilators, incubators, feeding pumps, probes and other donor-funded equipment to keep him safe, warm, nourished and growing. When Joshua was able to breathe on his own, he was moved to the NICU's Level 2 Special Care Nursery. There, the dedicated staff and doctors continued to carefully monitor and care for Joshua until finally, 77 days after he was born, he was able to go home with his family.

Today, Joshua is two years old and flourishing. In gratitude for the exceptional care Joshua received, his family launched a fundraiser that purchased a new incubator for the NICU, ensuring that future newborns like Joshua have access to the vital and life-saving equipment they need to survive and thrive.



**Grateful Patients**

## New Standards of Excellence in Women's & Newborn Health

The Hamilton Health Sciences Women's & Newborn Health program offers compassionate care for birthing parents, newborns and their families while they are in hospital and beyond. Providing a variety of specialty services in reproductive health, this highly specialized clinical team provides expertise and exceptional care in the fields of general obstetrics and gynecology, high-risk maternal fetal medicine, prenatal diagnosis and uro-gynecology. Sharing the site with McMaster Children's Hospital means that families also have access to one of the top pediatric hospitals in Canada and the largest Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in the country, all under one roof.

In 2023, extraordinary pledges of \$250,000 from McDonald's of Hamilton and the Steeves Family combined with \$500,000 from Old Republic Canada made significant enhancements to the program's equipment and amenities. These transformative contributions further solidify the Women's & Newborn Health program as a leader in its category, setting new standards for excellence in Canada.

This generous funding has enabled the beautification of the labour and delivery waiting room and hallways, as well as the renovation of two kitchenettes. Additionally, these gifts moved priority equipment purchases forward, including 22 infant bassinets, two doptones, two portable suction machines, two ultrasound probes and eight infant warmer conversions to T-piece resuscitation equipment. These donations will also support a refresh of the Prenatal Diagnosis Clinic.

We are deeply grateful to these benefactors for elevating the program in ways that set new standards of excellence in reproductive health, obstetrics and gynecology, while directly benefitting the health and hospital experiences of newborns and their families.



**Partnerships**



# MCMASTER CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION



## Advancing Pediatric Care: SiROC Thrives with LCBO's Generosity

In a significant stride in enhancing physician training and fostering equity in health care, McMaster Children's Hospital proudly opened its Simulation, Resuscitation and Outreach Centre (SiROC) last spring.

LCBO employees collected more than \$1.25 million in donations from customers through the LCBO holiday campaign. Over \$530,000 facilitated significant renovations and provided cutting-edge instructional technology, expanding both the offerings and capacity of SiROC's programming, and equipping health care professionals across the region with life-saving training, knowledge and skills.

This funding also purchased innovative teaching equipment, expanding the scope of simulation-based learning. The introduction of a dark-skinned child manikin is particularly noteworthy, as it is one of the first in Ontario children's hospitals, and used to empower staff to recognize signs of distress on dark skin, ensuring quality care for all patients.

Through high-quality equipment, increased course offerings and collaborative initiatives, the LCBO's support will enhance the knowledge, abilities and confidence of medical professionals and have a lasting impact on pediatric health care across our region.

SiROC program lead gives resuscitation training using new, donor-funded equipment

## Innovative Safety Solutions: RBC Race for the Kids Supports Pilot Initiative

McMaster Children's Hospital is among the first in Canada to implement a new Safety Pod™ pilot initiative in its Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) Inpatient Unit, thanks to outstanding support from *RBC Race for the Kids* event fundraising.

The CYMH clinical team cares for patients experiencing acute mental health crises. At times, these patients are at imminent risk of harming themselves or others, and as such, require interventions. While interventions are always non-violent, patients must sometimes be physically restrained or secluded for their own safety.

Safety Pods™ are designed to enhance the safety of such physical interventions and reduce the need for restraints. They are ergonomically designed, medically endorsed, and clinically approved.

"It's been amazing to see patients using the pods proactively as a sensory strategy when they are distressed," says Holly Augerman, Director, Child & Youth Mental Health and Autism Services. "Patients have also said that having the pods integrated into the group lounges makes them feel less anxious and more engaged in their skills development."

Thank you to everyone who raced and fundraised for *RBC Race for the Kids* in 2023 and enabled this important pilot safety initiative.



Partnerships





## Motion Lab Upgrade Promises Great Strides for Sloane

Thanks to a generous \$85,000 grant from the community leaders at Hamilton District Society for Disabled Children, Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre's Motion Lab has been upgraded with 10 new vantage cameras and cutting-edge hardware.

One of only three motion labs in Ontario, the clinical team uses computerized gait analysis for accurate and detailed information on a child's movement and how it changes over time due to growth or treatment.

Sloane, a spirited five-year-old, is one of many children who will benefit from the upgraded vantage cameras. Sloane was born with orthopedic issues affecting her legs and has received extensive care at Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre.

The Motion Lab's upgraded system will provide Sloane's clinical team detailed insights into her muscle and joint movements, helping them to make personalized, data-driven decisions regarding her care.

Sloane's fierce determination, coupled with the Motion Lab's technologies, have enabled her to surpass expectations. Through dedicated physiotherapy and occupational therapy, informed by the Motion Lab's insights, Sloane not only conquered the challenges of walking but is now taking dance classes.

The Hamilton District Society for Disabled Children has been a long-standing and valued supporter of The Foundation, enabling clinical teams to dream bigger to benefit children like Sloane who rely on the specialist care provided at Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre.



**Grateful Patients**

## Ever Hopeful Fund: A Fairy Godmother's Gift

Affectionately known as the "fairy godmother" to clinical teams at McMaster Children's Hospital, an anonymous donor has been quietly supporting a variety of important equipment and initiatives.

This fairy godmother's belief in being "ever hopeful" is leaving an indelible mark on children's health.

Over the past few years, the Ever Hopeful Fund has purchased a cortical stimulator unit for the Neurology clinical team, created the Ever Hopeful Kid Zone within the Pediatric Oncology Clinic and purchased iPads for MacKids to use when in hospital. It has also supported the Music Therapy program and purchased three picture archiving and communications systems for the Pediatric Cardiology program.

The clinical teams express profound gratitude for their beloved fairy godmother's generosity and the safe and emotionally supportive environment her big heart nurtures. This is just one instance of the incredible kindness and philanthropic spirit that defines our community.



**Partnerships**



## CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK

Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Canada is a dynamic coalition of children's hospitals across Canada dedicated to transforming pediatric health care through philanthropy. CMN collaborates with corporate partners to drive impactful fundraising initiatives. We are so grateful for all the CMN partners who came together in 2023 to raise awareness and funds for the highest priority needs at McMaster Children's Hospital.



### Meet Cash

Born 11 weeks premature and weighing just 2.5 lbs, Cash spent the first three months of his life in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit fighting for his life. Today, Cash is an active 11-year-old who loves playing the drums and practising karate.

In 2023, Cash took on the vital role of CMN Champion, generously sharing his time, charisma and inspirational story to rally support for McMaster Children's Hospital Foundation.

His impact was far-reaching as he participated in events, including the grand re-opening celebrations of two newly renovated Walmarts in Brantford and Niagara Falls. Cash's presence at various gatherings played a crucial role in encouraging support and raising awareness for pediatric health care in our region, leaving an enduring mark on the community's commitment to children's well-being.



## Partner Highlights

### Costco

We would like to recognize CMN partner, Costco Canada, for its remarkable support in 2023. Celebrating their most successful annual campaign to date, Costco Canada contributed more than \$500,000 to McMaster Children's Hospital Foundation. What's more, thanks to the inspiring efforts of its incredible staff, Costco Business Centre in St. Catharines saw a 40 per cent increase in donations at its warehouse during the spring campaign.



### The Brick

Through its national partnership with CMN, The Brick not only fundraises year-round but also holds an annual employee fundraising event. Zafar Saeed, the Store Manager of The Brick Burlington, contacted his friend Waqqas Syed, the President of the Islamic Society of Ajax, to ask for support and they generously agreed to donate \$10,000 to McMaster Children's Hospital Foundation. Thanks to this donation, along with many other generous gifts secured by the committed team at The Brick Burlington, the store raised \$23,000 and was a top fundraising store in the country.





## CANADA'S CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATIONS

Canada's Children's Hospital Foundations (CCHF) plays a pivotal role in supporting excellence in pediatric health care. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to CCHF partners for empowering McMaster Children's Hospital to make a lasting impact on the well-being of young lives.

### Meet Kaden

Kaden was not even in middle school when a heavy and inexplicable sadness started to settle over them. Insomnia and hallucinations followed and Kaden, who had always been bubbly and outgoing, started to turn inwards. A visit to the family doctor alerted their parents to the true depths of Kaden's inner distress and began a journey of healing and hard work.

Today, Kaden and their family are hopeful. While Kaden, who is now 17, still deals with mental health challenges, the Child and Youth Mental Health program at McMaster Children's Hospital have helped them and their family feel safe and supported, and has empowered them with healthy coping strategies to manage symptoms and respond to crises.

Last year, Kaden generously shared their story as part of Sobeys' *Family of Support* campaign. The campaign raises funds for innovative child and youth mental health programs including the *I am SAFE* program, a six-week intervention designed to help children like Kaden and their families during mental health crises.



### Partner Highlight Peoples Jewellers

In the 2022-23 fiscal year, our 11 Peoples Jewellers partner stores raised more than \$57,000 for McMaster Children's Hospital Foundation. Through at-cash donations and the sale of a custom stuffed animal, they channeled the generosity and compassion of their customers to support the highest priority needs at McMaster Children's Hospital. These donations enable advancements in specialized pediatric care and serve as a lifeline for crucial initiatives that make a lasting impact on the lives of young patients.



**Thank you to all Children's Miracle Network and Canada's Children's Hospital Foundations partners for their support of McMaster Children's Hospital Foundation.**

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The Brick  
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Dairy Queen Canada Inc. Ontario Franchisees  
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GLENTEL Inc. WIRELESSWAVE/  
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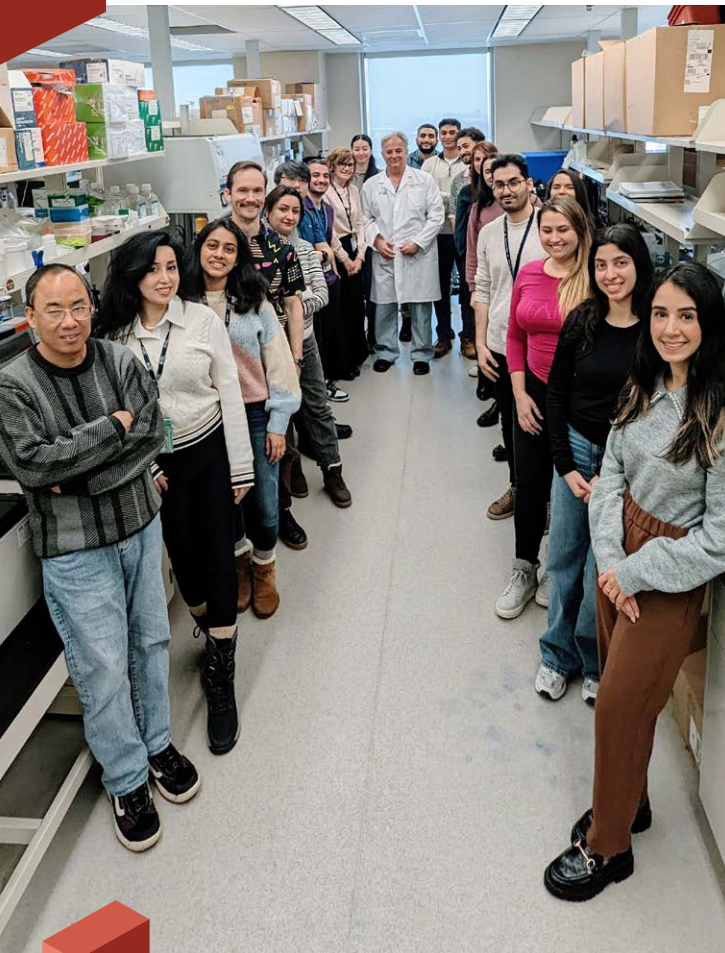


**Children's  
Miracle Network**

**CANADA'S  
CHILDREN'S  
HOSPITAL  
FOUNDATIONS**



# HAMILTON GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION



## Partnerships

### Transformative Burn Research Finds a New Home in Hamilton

A world-renowned burn research team recently moved to Hamilton Health Sciences with support from a \$1.5-million investment from the Juravinski Research Institute (a partnership of Hamilton Health Sciences, McMaster University and St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton).

Dr. Marc Jeschke, Director of the Burn Program at Hamilton General Hospital and a surgeon scientist, is a world-leading expert in burn research. The funding investment enabled his entire research team, including 15 research associates, postdoctoral fellows, research assistants and students, as well as lab equipment, to move to Hamilton Health Sciences from Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto.

Thanks to the funding, the globally-recognized team was able to continue its work without major delay, researching the impact of burns on patient quality of life and mental health and developing treatments to improve the care of burn patients.

Major areas of the lab's work involve the alleviation of adverse stress and inflammatory responses that are associated with increased metabolic demands. These detrimental responses, which can last for years, not only worsen patients' outcomes acutely but also long term.

The lab is also studying why older adult patients have poor outcomes. By identifying the cause of these poor outcomes, the goal is to enable older patients to survive the burn injury.

The lab is also studying regenerative medicine and 3D bioprinting. The team developed and patented a 3D handheld device that deposits even layers of skin tissue to cover and heal deep wounds, which is a significant improvement over previous printers. The device works by depositing a thin layer of gel containing the patient's skin cells on top of the wound, forming new tissue. This will help wounds heal faster, reduce scarring and mean patients will experience less pain.

The lab is highly productive and has published more than 450 publications and is considered one of the leading laboratories in burn care globally. Research work is supported in part by prestigious funding agencies, such as the National Institutes of Health, Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Stem Cell Network, Ontario Institute for Regenerative Medicine and Canada Foundation for Innovation.





## Generations of Gratitude: The Bill and Sara Laidlaw Endowment Fund

Bill and Sara Laidlaw's enduring ties to Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) span generations.

Bill's father, George, was born in a home on Lorne Avenue, which is now St. Peter's Hospital property, while his grandmother, Muriel Baird, dedicated a decade to volunteering at the Henderson Gift Shop. On Sara's side, her grandfather founded the iconic Parke and Parke drug store chain in 1876, catering to many Hamilton hospital patients. Sara's mother Betty Parke served as a volunteer driver for cancer patients, and Sara herself contributed to funding the Mark Preece House through the Junior League of Hamilton.

"All of our many aunts, uncles and grandparents used the Hamilton hospitals: being born there, being attended to and dying there," Bill adds.

Recently, Bill, who is also a longstanding HHS board member, experienced exceptional cardiac care at Hamilton General Hospital.

Motivated by their profound family history and Bill's personal understanding of HHS's impactful work, the Laidlaws decided to take their support up a notch. In 2023, they collaborated with The Foundation to establish an endowment fund for cardiac research. This fund includes a substantial bequest gift from the couple as part of their legacy plans.

Bill attributes his philanthropic values to his parents. "They instilled the importance of helping people in need at all levels," Bill says. "The importance of giving back to your community in personal time and money. I have certainly followed that advice."



**Generational Giving**

## Advancing Patient Care with the Sonosite LX Ultrasound

In emergency medicine, ultrasound capability is the standard of care and we are ensuring patients have access to purpose built ultrasound technology. Thanks to an anonymous donor's interest in supporting patients and the Hamilton General's Emergency department, a critical tool, Sonosite LX ultrasound is playing a pivotal role ensuring patient safety, procedural accuracy and system efficiency.

"The value of the technology can be seen in almost every acute condition in the emergency department - from pinpointing bleeding sources in trauma patients to determining breathing problems in cardiac patients to ensuring that bedside surgical procedures are done accurately. Just a few years ago, physicians did these same tasks relying only on their knowledge of anatomy and their sense of touch and hearing," says Dr. Paul Miller, Medical Director at the Centre for Paramedic Education and Research.

This state-of-the-art portable device enhances the capabilities of emergency physicians and trauma teams and is ideal for the demanding clinical environments at The General.



**Partnerships**

## HAMILTON GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

### Firefighters Answer the Call: A New Tilt Wheelchair Enhances Burn Unit Patient Care



Earlier this summer, Ellen Begin, Clinical Manager of Hamilton General Hospital's Burn Unit, identified a critical need for a tilt wheelchair.

The unit urgently required this mobility aid to enhance patient care after recently increasing its capacity to admit patients with burns covering a greater percentage of their bodies than were previously accommodated. Embracing the call for support, Hamilton Professional Firefighters Association rallied behind the cause, donating nearly \$6,000 to make the tilt wheelchair a reality for the Burn Unit.

Thanks to this generous gift, Burn Unit patients now have greater access to mobility support, which extends the time they spend out of bed, facilitates therapy sessions and aids both their physical recovery and overall mental well-being.



Partnerships



### Jordan Poultry Services Limited Paves the Way for Future Success Stories

In the fall of 2017, life took an unexpected turn for Robert Rowe when he needed a life-saving cardiac intervention. At Hamilton General Hospital, he received an aortic valve replacement. The hands that worked tirelessly, the technology that operated seamlessly and the expertise that navigated the delicate dance of healing shaped Robert's journey back to health and inspired him and his wife Mary Nestorovich to invest in care for future patients.

As an expression of their gratitude, their company, Jordan Poultry Services Limited, made a generous donation of \$20,000 to bolster the arsenal of neurosciences and cardiac equipment at Hamilton General Hospital.

This significant donation isn't just a number; it's the promise of more success stories, more lives touched and more families finding solace and success in the expert care that Hamilton General Hospital provides.



Grateful Patients



## ST PETER'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION



New mural at St. Peter's Hospital by Hannah Sampson and Meaghan McMurrich of Studio Ninety5



Legacy

### Celebrating Spaces: Revitalization of the Garwood-Jones Auditorium

Among the many unique spaces for patients and staff at St. Peter's Hospital to gather is the Garwood-Jones Auditorium. Named for the late Trevor Garwood-Jones, committed donor, proud Hamiltonian and the architect who designed St. Peter's Hospital, this big and bright space is well used year-round. It serves as a place for therapeutic recreation activities for inpatients, hosts large staff trainings and is used for celebrations and events of all kinds.

Given its many years of use, the well-loved auditorium was in need of a refresh to ensure it would continue to be a functional and welcoming space for all. Thanks to donor support, that's exactly what it got in 2023.

The flooring was replaced and, most strikingly, local Hamilton artists created a mural, which was added to rejuvenate the space. The mural, inspired by the patients and caregivers of St. Peter's Hospital, is a nod to the people who make St. Peter's Hospital a place of both healing and community.

### Neighbours Who Care: Talka Credit Union's Decade of Support

Nestled in the heart of the Blakely neighbourhood in lower Hamilton, St. Peter's Hospital is uniquely situated within a longstanding residential community.

Talka Credit Union has called that same area home since 1971 and is also woven into the fabric of this tight-knit community. For the past 10 years, Talka Credit Union has provided generous financial support to ensure health care teams at St. Peter's Hospital are equipped with critical equipment to ensure patients get the highly specialized care they need.

"It's our honour to support both the dedicated health care teams and patients they treat at St. Peter's Hospital. As members of the same community, we're proud to play a role in helping provide state-of-the-art care. It's all part of being a good neighbour!" says Ron Smith, CEO of Talka Credit Union.

We're fortunate to partner with such a dedicated member of the Hamilton community, and want to thank our close neighbours at Talka Credit Union.



Partnerships



# HAMILTON HEALTH SCIENCES FOUNDATION



Members of Hamilton Health Sciences, Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation and Hamilton and District Senior Citizens' Home RAMBYNAS Inc. gathered in December to tour St. Peter's Hospital.



**Partnerships**

## Empowering Recovery: Revolutionizing Patient Care

An exceptional gift of \$1.65 million from Hamilton and District Senior Citizens' Home RAMBYNAS Inc. is transforming community health for patients who rely on the specialist care offered at both the Regional Rehabilitation Centre and St. Peter's Hospital.

After the sale of a west Hamilton seniors' apartment complex, originally built for the local Lithuanian community and named after a Lithuanian landmark, their Board of Directors sought a meaningful way to benefit seniors across the Hamilton region and extend the organization's legacy of leadership and compassion.

This incredible donation enabled the clinical teams to dream bigger. It has facilitated the purchase of a state-of-the-art 3D printer for the implementation of digital manufacturing within the Prosthetics and Orthotics Department at Hamilton Health Sciences. This leading edge technology offers significant advantages including greater design freedom, superior accuracy, cost efficiency, reduced fabrication time and the ability to create unique functional elements.

Among the first in Canada to offer these unique patient resources, this support also funded a robotic exoskeleton and zero gait system, aiding patients recovering from stroke, spinal cord, amputations and acquired brain injuries to relearn how to walk.

"We are profoundly thankful for this transformative gift," says Deb Bedini, Vice President and Executive Site Lead for Hamilton General Hospital. "The acquisition of this cutting-edge technology positions us at the forefront of health care innovation. This investment will allow us to offer patients improved therapeutic opportunities and enhance the quality of care we can provide."

St. Peter's Hospital also significantly benefited from this generosity with the acquisition of seven specialty patient beds on the Palliative Care Unit, as well as an electrocardiogram machine and a digital monitoring system that will assist patients on the Restorative Care and Medically Complex Units.

"This incredible gift ensures that patients in complex care receive the utmost comfort and targeted clinical support during their journey," says Leslie Gillies, Vice President of Nursing, Practice and Education and Community Health at Hamilton Health Sciences.

"We are proud to contribute to the well-being of our community through this donation and are thrilled to see the lasting benefits our investment will bring to patients receiving critical care," adds Ray Sakalas, Board Chair of Hamilton and District Senior Citizens' Home RAMBYNAS Inc.



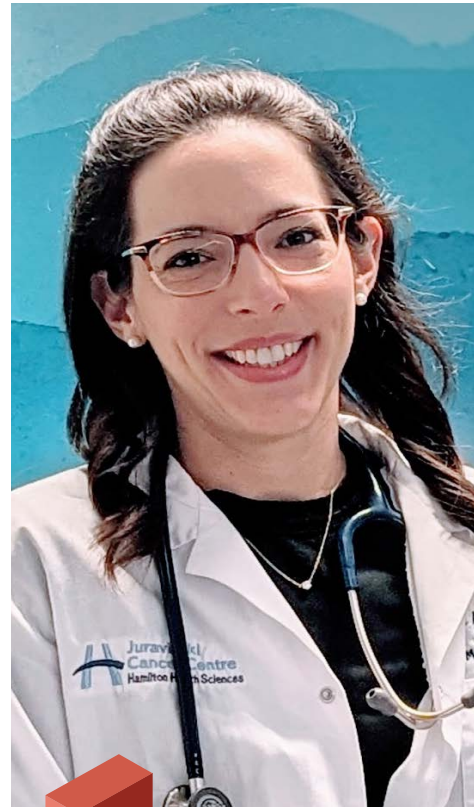
## LEARNING AND DISCOVERY

### Trailblazing Research Into Life-Saving Cancer Treatment

CAR T-cell therapy is a novel form of life-saving immunotherapy for patients with blood cancers, such as leukemia, multiple myeloma and lymphoma. CAR T-cell therapy involves genetically modifying a patient's own T-cells in a way that enables them to recognize and target specific cancer cells, leading to a potent and targeted immune response against the cancer.

Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre was one of two sites nationwide to participate in early studies of CAR T-cell therapy and is currently one of only three adult centres in Ontario offering the therapy.

Thanks to a donor-funded grant, a research team undertook a feasibility study in 2023 aimed at measuring and assessing patient-reported outcomes from the therapy. Led by Dr. Amaris Balitsky, a malignant hematologist at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre, the study looked at patients' perspectives of their health-related quality of life (including physical, social, emotional and functional well-being) throughout their treatment. This study was an important first step in understanding patients' experiences with, and improving their holistic outcomes from, this new, highly-effective therapy. Building on the success of this study, Dr. Balitsky and her team are currently investigating the feasibility of a large scale study of the long-term cognitive impacts of the CAR T-cell therapy, with the goal of improving supportive interventions that accompany the therapy.



Partnerships

### The Life-Saving Role of Clinical Trials

The Juravinski Cancer Centre Clinical Trials Department provides leading-edge care while giving hope to future patients by advancing knowledge about cancer and its treatment.

"Clinical trials research in the Juravinski Cancer Centre is an integral part of our mission," says Neil Johnson, Vice-President of Oncology and Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre Site Executive. "Not only do we advance new ways of treating cancer, which benefits patients worldwide, our clinical research also affords patients in Hamilton access to new leading-edge treatments not available in many centres.

"For many cancers, cure has not yet been attained, so enabling access to new treatments and advancing our research mission brings us one step closer to cures."

Thanks to donors who participated in Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre Foundation's signature fundraising event, *Illuminight*, along with event sponsors, an investment of \$237,000 will support the important work of the Clinical Trials Department.

With the vital help of donors, the Clinical Trials Department is able to find safe, more effective treatments to help patients with cancer live better and longer lives.

Dr. Rosalyn Juergens, Head of the Department of Clinical Trials at the Juravinski Cancer Centre, says, "Donor support of clinical trials brings not only access to novel treatment and technology but with that, hope for our regional patients."



Partnerships

## LEARNING AND DISCOVERY



### Partnerships

Members of the McMaster Pediatric Surgery Research Collaborative

### \$150,000 Grant Fuels Ongoing Breakthroughs in Pediatric Surgery

The McMaster Pediatric Surgery Research Collaborative (MPSRC) was formed in October 2008 by a group of surgeons dedicated to advancing evidence-based surgical care for pediatric patients through research. The MPSRC has obtained more than \$1 million in research funding since its creation.

The collaborative continues to succeed in this mission, furthering research and sharing information that benefits the pediatric surgery community. The MPSRC consistently produces high-quality research and participates in international clinical trials. The group has published more than 500 peer-reviewed research articles and delivered more than 300 presentations at conferences. More than 100 students have participated in the collaborative through its internship program, which gives students the opportunity to be involved in the research process from start to finish.

A donor-funded grant of \$150,000 over the next three years will enable the MPSRC to continue its vital research, collaboration, and information sharing.

## Research Chairs - A Vital Link to Patient Care

In addition to conducting vital medical research, Research Chairs mentor other researchers and develop new areas of research and clinical excellence. We are proud to support 12 Research Chairs through managed endowed funds.

**ArcelorMittal Dofasco Chair in Cancer Therapeutics Research**  
recruitment underway

**Beamish Family Chair in Peripheral Vascular Surgery**  
held by Dr. Jacques Tittley

**BRIGHT Run Breast Cancer Learning Health System Chair**  
held by Dr. Ashirbani Saha

**David R. (Dan) Offord Chair in Child Studies**  
held by Dr. Kathy Georgiades

**Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation / Jack Sinclair Chair in Neonatology**  
held by Dr. Salhab el Helou

**John G. Kelton Chair in Translational Research**  
held by Dr. Donald Arnold

**Marta and Owen Boris Chair in Stroke Research and Care**  
held by Dr. Ashkan Shoamanesh

**McMaster Children's Hospital Chair in Autism and Neurodevelopment**  
held by Dr. Stelios Georgiades

**McMaster Children's Hospital / Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation Chair in Neuromuscular Disorders**  
held by Dr. Mark Tarnopolsky

**McMaster Children's Hospital / Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation Chair in Pediatric Thrombosis and Hemostasis**  
held by Dr. Anthony Chan

**Scotiabank Chair in Child Health Research**  
Dr. Brian Timmons

**St. Peter's/McMaster Chair in Aging**  
held by Dr. Joye St. Onge



# INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

## Grants and Bursaries for Continuing Education

With the support of our donors, we are honoured to award individuals across Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) with a range of bursaries and awards to enable the pursuit of ongoing education, professional development and research initiatives.

### Bursary Winners

We are honoured to support many individuals across Hamilton Health Sciences with a range of bursaries and awards, many of which enable the pursuit of ongoing education and professional development. We thank the donors who support all bursaries and look forward to the continued promotion and advancement of all available bursaries.

#### **Cameron Family Award**

Hannah Bauer

#### **Early Career Awards**

Flavia Borges

Joyce Obeid

Elena Parvez

#### **Grant I. Budden and Ruth E. Piercy Award**

Kristina Clark

Jody Hagen

#### **The Gopalani Family Pediatric Oncology-Hematology Educational Award**

Stephanie Menzies

#### **Health Professionals Bursaries**

*Aileen McPhail Bursary*

Stephanie Russell

*Paul Robson Bursary*

Kirandeep Phull

*Susan D. Smith Bursary*

Jessica Sylvester

*Health Professional Foundation Bursary*

Carole Moss

#### **Occupational Therapy Practice Award**

Colleen O'Neill

#### **Physiotherapy Practice Award**

Michael Finlay

Rachael McKellar

#### **Respiratory Therapy Bedside Teaching Award**

Edgar Dela Cruz

#### **Respiratory Therapy Excellence Award**

Michele English

#### **Respiratory Therapy Retreat Passport Prize**

Nasra Gohar

Barrow Charlize

#### **The Richard and Mary Pelling Bursary in Psychiatry**

Hira Aslam

Samra Zafar

#### **The Richard and Mary Pelling Scholarship in Psychiatry**

Sydney Parkinson

#### **Spacelabs Healthcare Education Award**

Courtney Baadsvik

Kelly Bradbury

Jasmine Cantillano

Kaithlynn Covacha

Nadia Culibrk

Kris Anne Huybens

Kristina Muren

Golda Vallester

Junshu Yang

#### **Dr. Stephen Buttrum Memorial Bursary in Clinical Psychology**

Lindsay Bryant

Catalina Sarmiento

#### **Woods Family Nurse Practitioner Bursary**

Emily Skoutarou

#### **Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre Foundation**

*Carpenter Family Award*

Amaris Balitsky

*Dianne Lee Memorial Bursary*

Tracey Clarke

Kirsten Forster

*Douglas E. St. John Award*

Tracey Clarke

*Hadley H. Chamberlain Award*

Lorin Dodbiba

*John Rogerson Jackson and*

*Dorothea Marguerite Jackson Award*

Courtney Coschi

Rosalyn Juergens

*Kuhn Award*

Joanne Britto

Gwynivere Davies

Hira Mian

*Robert and Murray Burns Award*

Melanie Carrigan

Kirsten Forster

Janny Proba

*General Education Grant*

Anne-Marie Bergeron

Stephanie Carlin

Eden Gauthier

Julie Nguyen

*General Research Grant*

Anne-Marie Bergeron

Andra Nica

*Virginia Hardy Education and Training Award*

Sonja Bilic

#### **Additional Bursaries Available:**

*Child Life Recognition Award*

*Jessica Cruse Rehab Nursing Award*

*New Investigator Fund*

*Shirley Johnson Award*

*Shirley Krochuk Award*

*Steve Hopkins Bursary for Hematology Care*

*Stuart J. Cohen Memorial Awards*

### Cameron Family Award Recipient: Hannah Bauer

Hannah Bauer, an Occupational Therapist working in the Pediatric Ambulatory Plastic Surgery and Burns Clinic at McMaster Children's Hospital, was the 2023 recipient of the Cameron Family Award. She is the first Occupational Therapist to receive this award. The funds will support Hannah's attendance at the Canadian Burn Conference and her educational pursuit of becoming a Certified Hand Therapist.





Participants in the Infant-Parent Program

### Transforming Infant-Parent Programming

Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation is grateful for Ron and Gina Fraser's incredible philanthropic spirit, compassion and extraordinary kindness – throughout their lifetime and through an estate gift. Predeceased by her loving husband (2003), Gina continued their vision to help children who needed a chance in life until her passing in 2021 at the age of 92. Her generous legacy gift, recently realized from a bequest in her will, is set to transform the lives of infants and mothers at McMaster Children's Hospital, including Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre.

Gina will always be fondly remembered as a deeply caring community leader. A donor since 1983, she supported vital education and clinical priorities across Hamilton Health Sciences. In 2003, Gina wanted to make a meaningful impact for the Infant-Parent Program, enabling high risk parents to have transportation assistance to attend the specialized parenting workshops, toys and books for their young children, as well as nutritional snacks and other resources.

This transformational legacy gift will provide immediate funding for a pilot that will enhance programming and capacity building for infants and parents at-risk as well as create the Gina Fraser Endowment Fund, which will provide ongoing annual funding support to benefit Infant-Parent Program priorities. A year one (2024) grant has already been approved to support an integrated Infant-Parent Program and Neonatal Nursery Services pilot initiative, paving the way for ground-breaking support strategies.

Aiming to address evolving complexities, this gift will enable direct links between the Neonatal Follow-Up Clinic and families in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). The proposed integrated service offerings include biweekly counselling and education sessions for families in the NICU, counseling, education for Neonatal Nursery staff and seamless transitions from hospital to home.

Gina Fraser's enduring legacy exemplifies a profound commitment to transforming the lives of at-risk infants and their families. Her visionary generosity will have a positive impact on the community for years to come.





## A Lasting Heartbeat: The Wenisch Legacy in Cardiac Care

In the 1950s, Joseph and Elizabeth Wenisch immigrated to Canada, leaving behind the hardships of post-war Europe.

Over the years, like most families in Hamilton, the Wenischs required care at Hamilton Health Sciences. Joe received care at Hamilton General Hospital and developed a long-term relationship with their cardiologist, Dr. Omid Salehian.

Recounting Joe's care at The General, a family friend says that Joe "was so appreciative of the care and professionalism of the doctor and grateful for giving him his health and life back."

To demonstrate their gratitude for the care they received, and to honour their son Ralph, who passed in 2017 from a heart attack, the Wenischs updated their estate plans to include a significant gift to the Cardiology Department in honor of Dr. Salehian.

Following Elizabeth and Joe's passing in 2022, their legacy gift was realized and used to purchase an echocardiography system. This specialized equipment, which uses sound waves to capture detailed pictures of the heart's structure and function, supports Dr. Salehian and his team in diagnosing and monitoring heart conditions.



**Grateful Patients**

## Building a Future of Hope: Ken Porteous and the Power of Legacy Gifts

When Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation Board Member Jessica Durka mentioned to her longtime friend Ken Porteous that she was chairing The Board's Gift Planning Services Committee, Ken was curious about her new volunteer role. Jessica explained that she and other volunteers would be acting as community ambassadors to educate people about how they can leave a charitable gift in their estate plans to The Foundation.

The idea of leaving a legacy of care for future generations intrigued and excited Ken. Personal connections with cancer patients and survivors, as well as a tour of the Ron and Nancy Clark Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapies Unit at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre, cemented his desire to support cancer care through his estate.

Shortly after his visit, Ken confirmed a generous legacy gift to The Foundation. His decision to leave a legacy of care will live on through the vital work at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre for generations to come.



**Legacy**

Jessica Durka and Ken Porteous with hospital leadership.



## CELEBRATING OUR LEGACY CIRCLE

The Legacy Circle honours people who share a commitment to the future of health care. As such, these generous individuals have notified Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation of a designated gift through their estate plans. Respectfully, many donors wish to remain anonymous. Those who granted permission to be recognized are listed below.

Eileen Akershoek	Mrs. Zilla Elliott Myers	Gerry MacCarthy	Mr. and Mrs. Michael Scime
Ms. Denise Alesi	Ingeborg Evans	Mr. Robert and Mrs. Antoinette Madden	Heather J. Scott and Glen Gahagan
William and Ruth Almas	Mr. and Mrs. Zenon Fednik	Mrs. Pat Mandy	Mr. and Mrs. Donald Scruton
Claire Andoff	Mrs. Mona R. Fell	Mr. Emil J. Martyniuk	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sheeler
Robert and Loraine Annandale	Ms. Marie E. Fennell-Shutler	Mr. Rick Matwichuk and Ms. Tanya Chypchar	Bob and Donna Shurge
Helen Antikian	Brian Ferguson and Gwen Spencer	Mr. and Mrs. John Mayberry	T. Gail Sicard
Callie Archer	Robert Fichtner	Ms. Jackie McChesney	Mr. Drew Simon Sweezey
Mr. and Mrs. Irfan Ashraf	Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Forget	Mrs. Joan McCrea	Ms. Nancy Smith
Bill and Helen Ayre	Mr. and Mrs. William Robert Freestone	Robert and Jane McDowall	Ofelia Spycher
Robert Baboth and Mary Beth Toth	Virginia and George Gaguega	Mrs. and Mr. McLean	Mr. Doug Steedman
Mrs. Vickie Baird	Miss Sharon Gal	Mrs. Philomena McMullan	Grace Stevens
Mr. Lewis J. Balogh	Ms. Kelly Anne German	Mr. Stephen and Mrs. Patricia McNab	Mrs. Audrey Stewart
Mr. James M. Barr	Helma Geyer	Mrs. Jean McNeil	Steven Strba and Cathy Yantsis
In Honour of Matthew Bazoian	Ronald J. Gillespie	Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Nancy Melnyk	Mr. Douglas Sturch
Mary Beamer	Bob Graves	In loving memory of Audrey Moffett	Rita Tartaglia
James and Catherine Bell	Tim and Lisa Gonnering	Ms. Lucy Moretti	Mrs. Mary Taylor
Mrs. Jody Bellehumeur	Mr. Carl Gustaw	Mr. Bruce Morgante	In honour of my mother, Florence Tebbutt
Mr. Bill Belgin	Clifford and Joan Gwilym	Dr. Sami Najm and Mrs. Shirley Najm	Mrs. Dorothea Thomas
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Bradnam	Everard Hambro	Endowment Fund	Kathy Thomas
In loving memory of Sian and Ken Bradwell	Bruce and June Hamilton	Mr. Minh Nguyen	Joan Thompson
Marnie and Bill Brehm	Mr. Robert J. Harrison	Mr. Cyril Noble	Mrs. Judy Tratechaud
Jean Brookings	Pat and Orland Harrison	Ms. Lois Norris	Mr. and Mrs. David and Linda Underhill
Mrs. Anne Brown	Patricia Hart	Bill and Jean North	Mrs. Joan Van Stroe
Deborah M. Brown	Saige Hart	Alan and Sheila O'Brien	Mrs. Wilma Vander Mey
Miss Sarah Brydges	Mr. George Heffernan	Ms. Wendy Olds	Mrs. Mary Vanderende
Ann K. Bucke	Dr. Ayman Hendy	Steve Osborne - Victoria Osborne	Mrs. Leah VanTil
Alicia Butson	Mrs. Betty A. Hill	Endowment	Pearl F. Veenema
Caldarelli Family	Dr. Hal W. Hirte	Mr. Daniel Page	Mrs. Pearl Volkov
Ms. Liz Callahan-Osadek	Ms. Fern Hogan	Mrs. Simone Palmer	Ms. Isa Wachter
Ms. Winifred Cameron	Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hougham	Ms. Raffaella Paolini	Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wagner
Miss Daniela Capretta	Ms. Sharon Howard	Tawnya Parent	Mr. James Walker
Jacqueline Carey	Ms. Dagny Ingolfsrud	Mrs. Joyce Parkin	Mr. and Mrs. Jay Waters
Deborah Chamberlain In Loving memory of	Gord and Dianne Jamieson	Mr. Robert Peak and Ms. Connie L. Unrau	Ms. Joanne Watson
Hadley H. Chamberlain	Mrs. Patricia Jaye	Marg Peppler in memory of David A.	Mr. Larry Webber
Dr. Gerry and Dr. May Cohen in memory of	Mr. James Jenson	Crysdale	Mrs. C. Weise
Stuart J. Cohen	Marvin Jones	Paget Perrault	Teena Wheeler
Jane Colling - Everett Colling Memorial	Mr. Rowland Jones	Ralph and Rita Piedigrossi	Ms. Shelley White
Endowment	Mr. Eric Kardash	Mrs. Anne Pizzacalla	Mrs. Doreen A. Whittaker
Mrs. June Davis	L. and K. Kearsey-Carter	Mr. Antony Placidi	Donald and Lenise Willard
Helen DeBoer-Daggett	Mrs. M. Johann Keays	Mr. Brian and Mrs. Dawn Playfair	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wills
Mr. Daniel Defries	Linda Kirk-Boyer	Mrs. Mary Pocius	The Wilsons, Landane House
Mr. Mike Del Gobbo and Ms. Lucy	Don and Cathy Klein	Mr. Don Pollock	Mrs. Ivy Wilson
Malvestuto	Mr. and Mrs. William Koornstra	Mrs. Victoria Poloniato	Mr. Stephen Woeller
Mr. Paul Devilliers	Ron and Brenda Kropf In memory of son	Kenneth and Lois Porteous	In memory of Alvin Robert Woods M.D.
Joseph and Louise Di Tursi	Matthew Kropf	Mrs. Rita Preece	Mr. John A. Worsell
Charles and Nan Dickson	Ms. Joan Kruger	Mrs. Anna Maria Principato	Mr. Wright
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Dinga	Melissa Kuz	Melvina Purdy	John and Jan Yaffe
Steve Dobrus	Bill and Sara Laidlaw	Ms. Ivanka Rada	Mr. Bill and Mrs. Mary Young
Rhonda and Darren Drury	Claude Laprieur	Randy and Barbara Raphael	Mr. Jerry Young
Brian and Donna Duncombe	Betty Laron	Ms. Hella Raufaisen	Lucienne and Allan Young
Mr. Darren and Ms. Kathryn Dunnett	Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Lee	Mr. Don Retzer	Ms. Mary Young
Jessica and James Durka	Mr. Ronald Leroy	Ms. Lisa Rizzo	Mrs. Laura Yuzark
Paul E. Durnan	Mr. Donald A. Leslie	Mrs. Rode	Ronald J. Zabrok
Dennis A. Durrant in memory of Margaret	David and Kathy Lincoln	Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Rosloski	
Durrant	Ms. Janet Long	Mrs. Elizabeth Sarachman	
Mr. and Mrs. Allister Eecklor	Ms. Teresa Lorentz	Mrs. Loretta Schneider	
Mr. John Ekkebus	Roy and Janet Lyons	Schopf Loach Family	

We are grateful to the individuals listed who designated a legacy gift to Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation as part of their estate. Through their careful planning and forward consideration we received these gifts, either in part or in whole in 2023. We are honoured to acknowledge their generosity and its lasting impact.

Lucien Backers	Eileen D. Connor	Rory Haygarth	Irene Mavis Morley	Suzanne Elizabeth Snook
Om Prakash Bhargava	Diane Linda Curno	Lawrence Ronald Hibbard	Annette Anita Murray	Sandra Lea Szoke
Helen Bogicevic	Lena Clara Dimitrenko	James Hiscott	Grace V. Nuxoll	Enrico Visentini
David W. Burrows	Dennis Dureault	Denis Stewart Hughes	Robert Frank Picard	In Memory of
Marlene Elizabeth Cameron	Janet Van Egmond	Wanda Jess	Ronald Harvey Pogue	Joseph, Elizabeth and
Eugene Campbell	Hazel Elena Faris	Jane Kappale	Loretta Purser - In Memory	Ralph Wenisch
Leslie and Anna Carpenter	Ron and Gina Fraser	In Memory of	of Rose Purser	Paul James Wilcockson
Lilian Chekosky	Leno Richard Gos	Lois and Dick McIntosh	Dr. John W. Ridge	Robert Wilson
Sheryl Anne Cobban	Rosita Hamame	Patricia Mae McTaggart	John Alexander Robson	Andja Zimonja
Jane Collins				



## THE HEARTBEAT OF SUPPORT

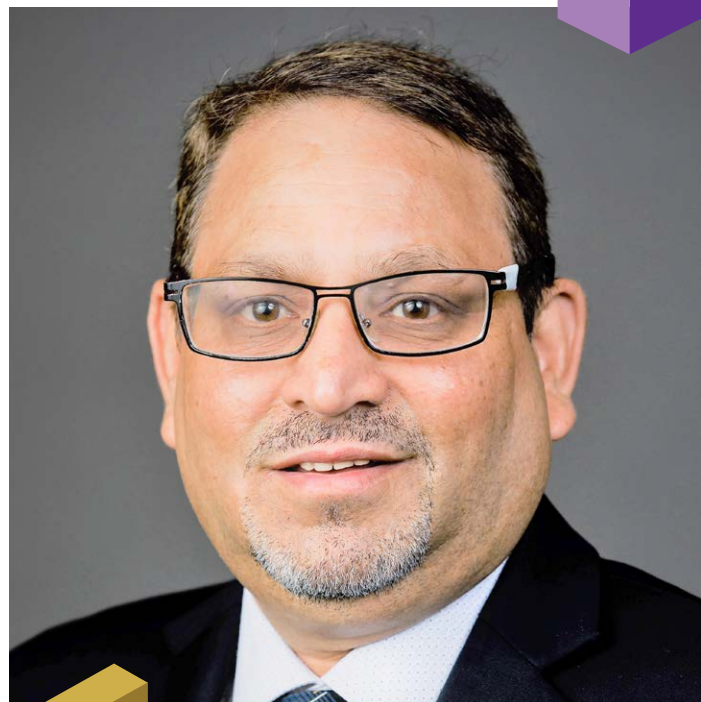
### Heartfelt Healing: Pradeep's Monthly Pledge to Sustain Life-Saving Care

In May 2022, Pradeep's life took an unexpected turn when he experienced a major aneurysm. He was initially taken to his local Emergency Department in Kitchener, but was quickly transferred to Hamilton General Hospital for the specialized care that was needed to save his life.

The skilled surgeons at Hamilton General Hospital performed a coiling procedure, inserting metal coils, via arteries that run from the groin to the brain, into the aneurysm to promote blood clotting and decrease the risk of further rupture. The intricate, but minimally invasive procedure, coupled with the compassionate care provided by the hospital staff, left an indelible mark on Pradeep's heart.

His health care team's expert care during his nearly month-long hospital stay became the cornerstone of his recovery. Grateful for the second chance at life, Pradeep knew he wanted to give back and make a meaningful impact. He chose to do so by becoming a monthly donor to The Foundation.

This commitment to ongoing support reflects not just financial generosity but a personal investment in the ongoing success of The General and the well-being of patients. Monthly donors like Pradeep play a pivotal role in ensuring that Hamilton Health Sciences can maintain the highest standards of patient care.



Grateful Patients

### Empowering Impact: 50/50 Inspiration Lottery and Staff Lottery

In 2023, the 50/50 Inspiration Lottery and Staff Lottery once again proved to be powerful tools in advancing The Foundation's mission, creating a positive ripple effect within the community.

The 50/50 Inspiration Lottery has become synonymous with hope and transformation, offering participants the chance to win substantial cash prizes while contributing to a cause that directly impacts health care. Complementing the 50/50 Inspiration Lottery is the Staff Lottery, which showcases the commitment and compassion of Hamilton Health Sciences' own employees.

The lotteries provide an opportunity for individuals to win big and also contributed \$810,000 towards critical advancements in medical research and patient care, and the acquisition of cutting-edge medical equipment.



Partnerships



## COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS: THANK YOU FUNDRAISERS!

We are so grateful to everyone who kindly gave their time and talent to fundraise in support of Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation. Thank you for championing our mission with your network. We celebrate each BBQ, fashion show, retail at cash ask, employee giving campaign, lemonade stand, golf tournament and the countless other creative endeavours that raised a collective \$3.7 million in 2023.





## Bennett the Brave Education Fund: A Legacy of Learning

Eleven days before his sixth birthday, Bennett was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma, a rare bone cancer. Today, thanks to the comprehensive care he received at McMaster Children's Hospital, Bennett is cancer free.

The Bennett the Brave Education Fund – enabled by Bennett and his family's fundraising campaign – supports education and professional development of nurses and allied health care professionals working in pediatric oncology and hematology at McMaster Children's Hospital. These funds were made available by the *Bennett the Brave Fundraiser* in support of McMaster Children's Hospital Foundation.

Thanks to this fund, in 2023, 11 staff attended the Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario (POGO) Symposium on Childhood Cancer, and one staff member attended the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association Conference and two staff members attended the Canadian Children's Grief Symposium.



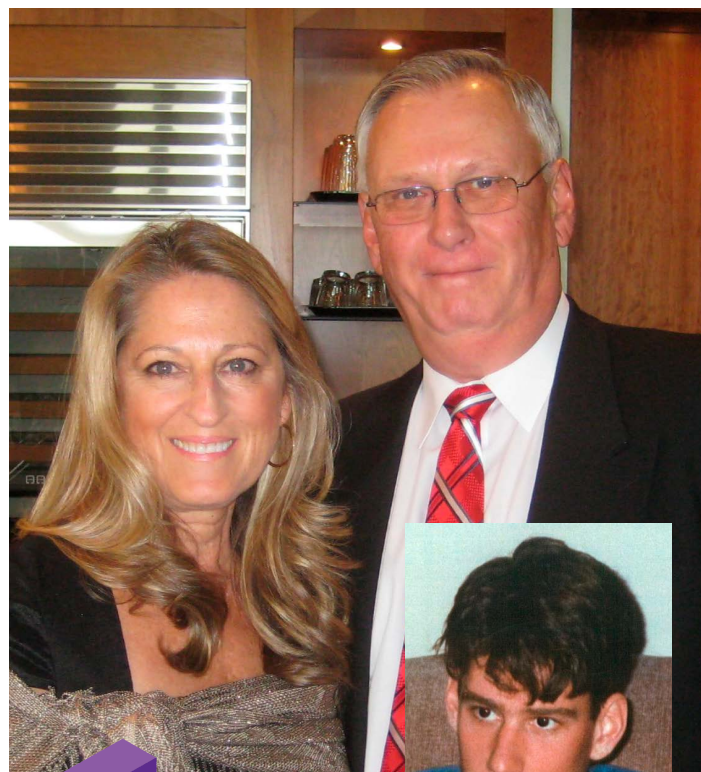
Grateful  
Patients

## Jay Kuhn Memorial Research Fund

Jay Kuhn, beloved son of Brad and Lynn and brother to Heather, is remembered by all those who knew him as a young man of extraordinary character and compassion. Standing 6-8 tall, Jay played many sports, including volleyball, basketball, soccer and hockey with excellent skill and good sportsmanship. His professors admired his work ethic, as Jay excelled in academics at McMaster University while also holding down two jobs. Jay was driven with positivity, energy, integrity and kindness, always greeting everyone with a warm smile.

When Jay was diagnosed with cancer, he maintained a brave and positive outlook despite the intense physical and mental toll of treatment. Towards the end of his life, Jay told his father that he wanted his memory to live on and legacy to be supporting others facing similar diagnoses.

Since his passing in 2000, Jay's family, friends and community have repeatedly come together to raise money for the Jay Kuhn Memorial Research Fund to support research on Hodgkin's disease and non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma at Juravinski Cancer Centre. Today, a patient room in the Stem Cell Unit is named in his honour.



Generational  
Giving



## SIGNATURE EVENTS 2023

Every year, our signature events bring together thousands of people who are all committed to advancing and enhancing health care for their community. These events are a powerful reminder of the change that is possible when friends, families and neighbours come together for a common cause. They are an opportunity to share and celebrate, to reminisce and recommit.

Here are some of the unforgettable moments that brought us together in 2023.

### *Turn The Beat Around Research Gala*



In April, the resplendent LiUNA Station set the stage for our annual Research Gala, an extraordinary evening that seamlessly blended music, art and design. Inspired by '70s glamour, the event was a feast for the senses and a source of crucial support for leading-edge innovation at Hamilton Health Sciences.

### *MackKids Walk & Wheel*



In June, the scenic Bayfront Park played host to *MackKids Walk & Wheel*, a heartwarming event that raised \$270,000 for McMaster Children's Hospital, including Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre. More than 900 participants – including grateful patients, families, volunteers, community supporters and three remarkable patient ambassadors – came together for a day of fun, impact and connection.





## *Illuminight*



In October, we lit up the night with the return of *Illuminight* for the first time in person since 2019. This uplifting autumnal celebration brought together more than 600 people – all of whose lives have been touched in some way by cancer – and raised \$204,000 to support clinical trials at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre. Patient ambassadors Alex, Carol and Peggy added a personal touch to the event, embodying the resilience and hope that defines the fight against cancer.

## *Donor Appreciation Event*



The Foundation's *Donor Appreciation Event* at St. Peter's Hospital also took place in June. This momentous occasion returned for the first time since 2019, due to the impacts of COVID-19. The event provided a unique opportunity to connect with our donors and share our profound gratitude for the difference they make in the lives of patients, their families and health care workers. An inspiring video featuring two patients, Ida and Chandler, further allowed us to highlight the transformative impact of donor support.

# OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

## Our Mission

Our mission is to raise funds and manage donor gifts for the purpose of supporting outstanding clinical care and research for the communities served by Hamilton Health Sciences.

## Our Vision

To see a community of inspired and committed donors who embrace *It's Vital to Care*.

## Our Creed

### *It's Vital to Care*

Each dawn brings into our world a new mosaic of people, patients, staff and critical needs. Needs for funding to support patient care, medical equipment, specialized programs, education and research. It is a unique blend of needs that inspires us to do our very best.

While we are a mosaic, each one of us unique in our skills and talents, we unite in our desire to make a difference as we bring our own passion and commitment to our roles. We inspire those we encounter on our daily journey to join with us, as we raise funds to support our region's health and well-being.

We seek to inspire by telling the stories of patients and staff. They are the friends, families and loved ones of people who rely on the care we support. It is their stories that have the power to influence why *It's Vital to Care*.

## Our Values

The Foundation believes that relationships and partnership are the basis of excellence in fundraising. Therefore we will:

- Treat all donors, the Hospital and others with integrity, respect and appreciation
- Be accountable to our donors and the community
- Encourage creativity and innovation in our activities

Gifts come in many forms, each with its own unique value and role in supporting our Foundation. We remain focused building the community's confidence as their charity of choice. A charity that welcomes contributions great and small, providing for the needs of our hospitals. A contribution that enables each hospital in our family to have the equipment and environment that enables caring and compassionate health care.

An environment, where through funding for world-leading research, the next treatment, cause or cure can be found. Each day we remain focused on those who can help us to impact a life. The life of today's patient or tomorrow's.

Together, we are committed to inspiring donors to understand why *It's Vital to Care*.

## Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Our commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion within Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation reflects a belief that we will make the greatest impact to our mission when everyone can genuinely and fully participate without barriers or exclusion.





## A Message from Hamilton Health Sciences Board Chair, Keith Monrose and President and CEO, Rob MacIsaac

It has been another unprecedented year for Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS). Despite the unrelenting pressures on our health system, including record-high patient volumes and persistent staffing constraints, our teams have persisted in providing high quality, exceptional care. These efforts are assisted by the generosity of you, our loyal donors.

In 2023, millions of dollars in donor funds went straight to our hospitals in the form of vital medical equipment, new and improved patient care areas, research grants and employee education and bursary programs. The impact of donor support cannot be overstated; it enables advancements that keep our patients safe and help our teams do their best work.

Looking ahead, your support will be more vital than ever as we continue to transform care at HHS. This includes redeveloping some of our aging facilities, the advancement of research and innovation programs and the implementation of bold strategies to attract and retain top-notch health care professionals.

Thank you for joining us on our journey to provide the *best care for all*. We can't do it without you.



**Rob MacIsaac**  
President & CEO

**Keith Monrose**  
Board Chair



## 2023 MANAGEMENT TEAM

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Director, Donor and  
Information Services

Milaina Wright  
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## 2023 CONSOLIDATED FINANCIALS

In 2023, Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation was pleased to disburse \$17.1 million to enhance patient care at Hamilton Health Sciences.

Each year, the balance between our four core pillars shifts based on single and multi-year commitments and the highest-priority needs at Hamilton Health Sciences.

We are tremendously grateful for the support of our donors, who once again stepped up and helped to ensure health care excellence for patients and families throughout the region.

## \$17.1 Million Disbursed

### EDUCATION & BURSARIES

**\$0.5 Million**

### REDEVELOPMENT

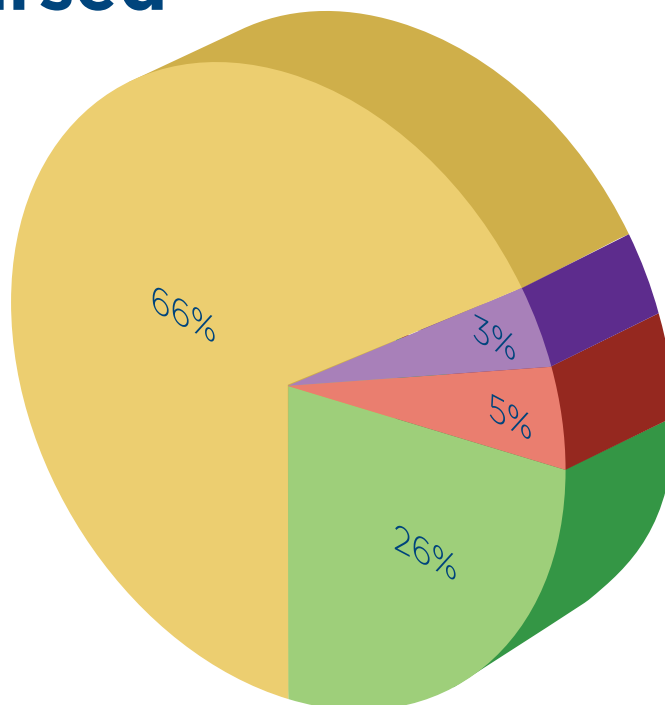
**\$0.9 Million**

### RESEARCH & FELLOWSHIPS

**\$4.5 Million**

### EQUIPMENT & PATIENT AMENITIES

**\$11.2 Million**



## 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- A generous gift of \$388,454 in honour of Judith (Judy) Yankoff supported two priority initiatives: the Family and Youth Advisory pilot program and the PICU Level 2 Stepdown Unit at MCH.
- Emmestrong Charity Golf Tournament held its inaugural event and raised \$15,000 in honour of care received by their daughter, Emme, at MCH.
- A wonderful pledge of \$30,000 from Starward Community Care Foundation launched a new endowment in support of the Midwifery-Led Unit at McMaster University Medical Centre.
- AGF Group Foundation made a \$75,000 gift to purchase an incubator for the NICU, in celebration of their 75th anniversary.
- Amelia Bakogiannis, a Fern Hill School student, held a lemonade stand fundraiser this summer at the Burlington Butter Tart Race and raised over \$3,000 to support the NICU.
- Generous partners, including SC Johnson and the D. Keith MacDonald Foundation, contributed more than \$200,000 to support the Breast Assessment Centre at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre to renovate the change room into a dedicated ultrasound suite.
- Davis Charity Golf Tournament championed medical equipment needs at JHCC, raising \$12,000 at this year's event.
- Working with the Foundation, Dr. Aly-Khan Lalani raised more than \$140,000 to support the launch of a new Genitourinary Medical Oncology Fellowship.
- Nelson Cooper, a long term patient at St. Peter's Hospital, made a donation of \$7,000 to support the Medically Complex Unit at St. Peter's Hospital.
- Mary and Rick Brenzil donated \$40,000 to fund the purchase of four new bedside monitors for the Acute Care Units on 8 West at Hamilton General Hospital.
- The Doug Lamon Foundation donated \$75,000 in support of a new point-of-care ultrasound machine for Hamilton General Hospital.
- Frank Merrolli, owner of Weld-Tech Products Inc., made a \$15,000 gift in support of the Hospital 2 Home program.



## 2023-24 BOARD OF DIRECTORS\*



(Left to right) Dr. Stephen Puchalski, Jon Jurus, Rob MacIsaac, Jane Percival, Jessica Durka, Amit Kapur, Reginald Swamy, Maria Artuso, Holly Simmons, Pearl F. Veenema, Doug Murray, Dr. Sébastien J. Hotte, Jim Wilson, Dr. Paul Miller, John McKenzie, John Lewis and David Vander Ploeg.

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Naoka Feth

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**Accredited**  
**IMAGINE CANADA**

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