

## Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation

www.lwdhf.com



## ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



Donor funding is imperative to all aspects of patient care. The Ministry of Health funds staff salaries and day-to-day operational costs, but community support covers the rest. Thanks to donor support, we're transforming care close to home.

## LAKE OF THE WOODS DISTRICT HOSPITAL

SUPPORTING PATIENTS AND FAMILIES ALONG THEIR HEALTHCARE JOURNEY.

Lake of the Woods District Hospital (LWDH) is an acute care hospital located in Kenora, Ontario. We serve a catchment population of 32,000 people for primary care, 90,000 people for secondary specialists care, spread over a vast geography, including 10 First Nation communities and a large seasonal population. The LWDH Emergency Department provides 24-hour care for persons requiring urgent care. Beyond numerous outpatient services, LWDH supports a busy visiting specialist program and community Mental Health & Addictions programming.

**BY THE NUMBERS: 2023-2024** 



75 **Patient beds** 



2.504Operations performed





10.302 **Physiotherapy** attendances



Laboratory procedures



2.841Chemotherapy treatments/visits

## LWDH IS: Kenora's largest employer

A vital facility for 24-hour air ambulance & medical transport services provided by Ornge.

- 2 hours east of Winnipeg
- 5 hours west of Thunder Bay

340 Full-time staff 96 Part-time staff 194 Casual staff

### THE COLLECTIVE IMPACT OF DONOR SUPPORT IS TRANSFORMING CARE CLOSE TO HOME



The Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation (LWHDF) is dedicated to fundraising in partnership with our community to meet the medical equipment and facility needs of Lake of the Woods District Hospital (LWDH). Our goal is to inspire community giving at all levels to improve healthcare outcomes for the people of Kenora District and beyond.



## MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

### COMMUNITY DONATIONS FUND 90% OF NEW CAPITAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AT LWDH

The success of our community hospital is because of you! Critical acquisitions including capital medical equipment and technology are not covered by government funding. Funding for capital equipment and technology (IV pumps, ultrasounds, hospital beds cardiac monitors) relies on donations from the community.

### "

This past year has been a powerful testament to your support of outstanding healthcare for Kenora District. Because of the extraordinary generosity of our community, our team has been able to purchase the newest technology for Surgical Services and upgrades for the newly renovated Emergency Department. Donor support is making a tangible difference and helping to ensure we are equipped to provide better, faster diagnosis, close to home.

The generosity we've seen from 1,065 donors and 800 volunteer hours has been truly inspiring. Notable relationships and major gifts include a \$500,000 commitment from the FDC Foundation to invest in substantial laboratory upgrades and innovations, as well as two significant Legacy Gifts from Benny Oakley and Gordon Smith. Leaving a planned gift is a deeply personal decision that is an expression of a person's values, and we want to take a moment to recognize Benny and Gord for ensuring the hospital is equipped to care for our rapidly growing community for years to come.

Our supporters rallied in a way that always brings us back to the idea that healthcare isn't just about the best equipment and technology. Rural healthcare is people helping people; investing in equipping our team. In turn, our healthcare team works to improve the lives of those that come to LWDH.

Here are a few stories of how this equipment is helping to save lives, improve the patient experience, and advance both efficiency and safety.

## Because of your support, we are able to provide extraordinary care for all patients who call Lake of the Woods home.

In gratitude,

**Kimberly Mejia** Chair, Board of Directors LWDH Foundation

Mira Trebilcock Executive Director LWDH Foundation



## LEAVING A LEGACY

Sometimes called planned giving, this deeply meaningful way of giving enables donors to make a gift in the future, while planning what kind of legacy they want to leave to their loved ones and the causes closest to their hearts today. Benny Oakley and Gordon Smith chose to leave a Legacy Gift to the LWDH Foundation to create a healthier future for our community - while creating a legacy of care for generations to come.

### **BENNY OAKLEY**

For some people, acts of kindness, however small, are an everyday part of their lives. Kenora resident Benny Oakley was one of those people. Neighbour's described him as small in stature, but with "the biggest heart".

Originally from Rosedale Manitoba, Benny was born on May 23rd, 1918. Benny was a locomotive engineer for the Canadian Pacific Railway until his retirement. He lived until he was 103, passing away on July 3, 2020. A lifelong walker, he could often be seen at the Kenora waterfront and other outdoor venues. He was known for his easy willingness to help friends, family and those in need.

Benny's generosity extended to his legacy gift to the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation. In his final wishes, Benny continued to think of others. He bequeathed more than \$315,000 to the the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation (LWDHF). Benny wanted to improve the lives of others by supporting health care at home.

### **GORDON SMITH**

Born in Dryden, Gordon moved to Kenora early in life and worked at his family's store, Smith's Grocery, eventually taking it over. He was a well known businessman with a variety of side jobs, including delivering chips and candy. Giving back was always engrained in Gord's life; sponsoring sports teams over the years and even driving the school bus later on. His favorite pastime was carving and he was a proud member of the Lake of the Woods Carving Club.

Later in life, Gordon experienced a major health challenge when he was diagnosed with cancer. The health care professionals at LWDH provided excellent care while his family and friends were at his side. After recovering from cancer, Gordon unexpectedly had cardiac issues.

Gordon's legacy is one of a life fully lived and cherished time spent with family and friends. Gordon's final wish to enhance patient care at home will have a lasting impact on health care in our community for years to come. Half of Gord's bequest was directed to support current capital medical equipment needs during the 2023-24 year, and half are invested in support of critical upgrades in Diagnostic Imaging planned in coming years.



## PAR 3 CHARITY CHALLENGE DRIVEN BY THE DINGWALL GROUP

### A PAR-FECT DAY RAISES OVER \$200,000 FOR YOUR EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT



The 3rd Annual Par 3 Charity Challenge, driven by the Dingwall Group took place on July 13, 2023 and reached new heights! Thanks to the tremendous support of 144 golfers, 65 sponsors, nearly 90 volunteers, and 200 people who purchased balls for the Golf Ball Drop, the tournament raised an unprecedented \$200,514 to purchase 15 new stretchers in the Emergency Department at LWDH.

The day kicked off with Kenora's first ever Golf Ball Drop, where 500 pre-sold numbered golf balls were dropped from Jarnel Contracting's crane, hoisted 15ft above the 18th hole. The six Presenting Sponsors of this year's tournament; The Standard Insurance, Kenora Chiefs Advisory, Jarnel Contracting, Sierra Construction, Princecraft Boats, and Prairie Toyota Dealers, and 14 Platinum Sponsors, set the tone for the day. The collective effort of the event sponsors and volunteers – 45 of these volunteers being hospital staff - helped to make the day a resounding success! The tremendous involvement of our community and its' spirit of philanthropy was palpable throughout the day!

This cornerstone event plays a pivotal role in making great care possible, close to home and would not be possible without the passion and commitment of a dedicated group of volunteer organizers lead by Laci Dingwall and Shauna Aubin. To all those who were involved throughout the day - thank you!



## LIFESAVERS DINNER & AUCTION

### **NAUTICAL NIGHT TO REMEMBER**

Over its 18-year history, the Lifesavers Dinner & Auction has raised over \$3.5 million for the Lake of the Woods District Hospital (LWDH), making it the largest annual fundraiser and ensuring the support of topnotch medical care through the investment in equipment and technology.

The 2023 Lifesavers Dinner and Auction on August 12th, was no exception, raising an unprecedented \$429,804. We would not be able to achieve a fundraising feat of this magnitude without the incredible leadership of Lisa Paterson and Aynsley Cockshott, along with the Lifesavers Committee; Dr. Catherine Murray, Kate Paterson, Katie Hall Hursh, Marla Klassen and Nicki Douglas. This resounding success is namely due to the generous support of 30 Lighthouse Families, three Lifeboat table sponsors, a dozen Anchor donors, the attendees and the countless individuals and organizations who provided live and silent auction prizes including the "whistle raffle" prize of a Manta5 Hydro Foil Bike generously donated by WSL Sport & Leisure and Tall Pines Marina. Proceeds from the 2023 event funded the following medical equipment:



#### EQUIPMENT

- 10 Vital Signs Monitors 3E Medical/Surgical
- Stress Test Machine Diagnostic Imaging
- 2 x LifePak15 Defibrillators Emergency Dept.
- TruMonitor ECG Simulator Education
- 1 MediDispense Unit Maternity
- 1 MediDispense Unit Emergency Dept.



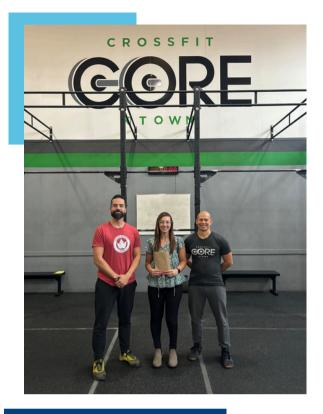
#### **TECHNOLOGY**

#### Wifi Enhancement:

39 new Wifi access points installed throughout the LWDH, ensure connectivity for all technologies, in every part of the building. These enhancements support care as well as, business and administration operations throughout LWDH.

#### **Major Core Server Infrastructure Update**

The pandemic forced the healthcare sector to accelerate its digital transformation. In order to support the mass shift to digital healthcare, updating the major core service infrastructure ensures more space and reliability. All areas of the hospital depend on these technologies for daily operations: Diagnostic Imaging, Rehabilitation, Pharmacy, the ER, Health Records and more. Ben Pawlowski, Director of Information Systems, showcases the new VxRail System server boxes running in a cooled, secure room.



## SMALL TOWN **BIG HEARTS** THAT'S CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION

A total of **\$32,715** was raised by the community through various community hosted events. Here are a few highlights:

### LIFT THEM UP

On October 7, 2023 CrossFit Core KTown hosted the 2nd annual *Lift Them Up* event. Over 35 members from our local fitness community gathered to throw some weight overhead in support of new patient beds & mattresses at LWDH.

### **FORE YOUR HOSPITAL**

The fairways were busy in summer 2023, leading to fundraising for the new equipment at LWDH! We want to extend a huge thanks to the hosts and participants of:

- The 2nd Annual Ladies Open Tournament in memory of Anchilla McDonald
- 4th Annual LOTW Family & Friends Golf Scramble, hosted by Paige Stevenson & Ava Decock
- The 22nd OPP Cst. Marv Forsythe Memorial Tournament, hosted by Dennis O'Sullivan & family





### WHEELHOUSE ON THE WATER

Wheelhouse Cycle Club Winnipeg brought the magic of the Vault to LOTW during August-long 2023. The unique pop-up event was sold out in just hours and riders had the opportunity to take in a ride on LOTW while supporting the wellbeing of our greater community! We owe a ton of gratitude to the Heimbecker's for hosting, the Motivator's for leading, and the community for the energized rides!

## GIFTS OF GRATITUDE





### PATIENTS SHARE THEIR THANKS FOR THE CARE AT LWDH

When newborn baby Rylee Haw was born three weeks early, she experienced respiratory distress. New parents, Jess Ricklefs and Nick Haw, were very concerned. Rylee seemed to get better, but after 12 hours, she was once again having difficulties breathing. That's when LWDH Respiratory Therapist, Chelsea Campbell stepped in. With her expertise and training, Chelsea quickly ensured Rylee had the necessary medications, resources and tests required.

Jess and Nick greatly appreciated Chelsea's support, knowledge and quick action. She explained treatment and medical terms in common language so they could understand what was happening. She had a calming presence and continuously checked and monitored Rylee's progress until she was transported to the NICU in Winnipeg Hospital.

"Chelsea came in like a Superhero...she was kind, caring, empathetic and professional. We will never forget her and we are so thankful to her. Thank you Chelsea!"

Jess shared that they were grateful for the new bassinettes and monitors in the Obstetrics Unit, all of which were funded by generous community donations. Jess added that even small donations are important to health care excellence: "You don't need it [healthcare equipment] until you do -- and then you will be thankful it's there!"

Jess reports that Rylee is a happy and healthy two-year-old now, thanks to the excellent care of LWDH staff like Chelsea. Chelsea Campbell received her Compass Lanyard pin from unit manager Paula Peacock. Congratulations and thank you Chelsea!



### **SAY "THANK YOU" BY INVESTING IN PATIENT CARE**

Patients and their families often want to express how thankful they are for the care they, or a loved one, received at LWDH. When words aren't enough, a Gift of Gratitude can provide a special "thank you". Any individual can make a donation in honour of a physician, nurse, staff member or volunteer. The honouree(s) will be notified of the special tribute gift and provided with the note of appreciation along with an exclusive Gifts of Gratitude compass lanyard pin as a physical reminder of the critical role they played in someone's healthcare journey. The amount of the gift will be kept confidential.

## COMFORT CLUB ENSURING A HEALING ENVIRONMENT

For some, being a hospital patient can be an overwhelming experience. The COVID 19 pandemic disrupted the strategic procurement of equipment at LWDH over the last three years. Annual replacement purchases like beds were put on hold to invest in the much-needed ventilators, negative pressure rooms and PPE. As such, LWDH found itself in a unique position in 2023, needing to replace 12 beds and mattresses (in addition to 15 stretchers in the ED) throughout the hospital that were beyond lifespan and unsafe to use. This area of great need led to an initiative called the Comfort Club Appeal. Thank you to all the donors who responded to the appeal and helped us meet our goal.

### **COMFORT CLUB DONORS**

Becky Hailstone Canadian Online Giving Foundation CrossFit Core KTown Delos & Ella Nyberg Elite Intellicare Staffing LTD Eric and Carol Johnson Fund The Estate of Gordon Smith Ferg & Kathy Devins Gary & Carolyn Bachman Family Fund Grant & Shannon Johnson James & Janice Tennant Kaye Balajadia & Peter Guanzen Mark Cudney Marlene & Robert Gordon Micaela McIsaac Michael & Cheryl O'Flaherty Brent & Penny Goodz Dalton Yeomans Novak MacDonald Fund Patricia MacPherson Talbot Family Foundation United Way of Thunder Bay Wynne DeGagne Zelda Romstedt

We are grateful to the individuals, organizations and foundations for giving comfort to those patients who need it most.

#### **UPGRADED TRANSPORT CHAIRS**



Thanks to the John Andrews Foundation LWDH was also able to invest in 6 new Patient Transport Chairs.

## PRIDE IN **PURCHASING**

Modern equipment is a key part of today's health care and your generous donations allow the hospital to acquire the advanced tools needed to improve care and save lives. Your donations significantly impacted the care that is provided at the Lake of the Woods District Hospital.







### **MORE EQUIPMENT THAT YOU HELPED FUND!**

Organized by department, the list below includes all the equipment purchases not previously mentioned, made possible through donations in 2023-2024. **Thank you!** 

#### Lab

- Ultracentrifuge
- Motorized Microtome
- Tissue Embedding Console
- Micro Automated Slide Stainer
- Teleview Smart Glasses
- Histology Tissue Processor & Reno
- PCR Analyzer
- 8 PCR GeneXpert Test Modules
- EPOC Readers, Hosts, Printers
- Torrent Automatic Extinguisher

#### 3E/ICU

- 18 Overbed Table & Bedside Tables Diagnostic Imaging
- CT Software Upgrade for Prime V.8

#### Education

High-Fidelity Simulation Manikins:

- SimJunior (Pediatric model)
- SimMom (Birthing mom & baby)
- MegaCode Kelly

#### **Emergency Department**

- Metro Lifeline crash Cart
- Mobile Suture Cart
- A-Cart Organizational System

#### Maternity

- Sleep Chairs with Padded Arms
- Avalon CL Transducer
- Gyne Stretcher
- 5 Bassinettes

#### Pharmacy

- Table Top Packager
- Medical Freezer

#### **Surgical Services**

- Accutome A-Scan Plus Connect
- Spine Fusion Power Console
- 4 Lead Aprons & Hangers
- Semi Rigid Uretero-Renoscope
- Single Chamber Warming Cabinet Urology Fluids

#### **Rehab/Patient Services**

Recumbent Bike

#### Laundry

- 90lb Washer
- 120lb Dryer

## LEARNING & INNOVATION

Innovation and problem solving are rooted in ongoing education and learning opportunities. Investing in our teams' education is an investment in their professional and personal growth, and has a positive outcome on patient experiences.

### **FOSTERING A CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE**

Rural hospitals are challenged to keep their practitioners' skills fresh and up-to-date, especially around the area of acute care. Regular practice of critical care skills also reduces adverse patient events due to errors. During simulation with high-fidelity simulation manikins, learners (physicians, health care professionals and students) can practice their skills in a realistic, safe and controlled setting — one that eliminates the risk to human life.

Throughout the past year, the LWDH Foundation was able to help LWDH invest in three new advanced high-fidelity manikins thanks to the generosity of two separate gifts.

Mike and Mona's \$100,000 donation in memory of Michael Dufresne funded two new advanced highfidelity patient simulators; an obstetric manikin and a pediatric manikin. Various features of the new manikins were tailored (skin tone and gender) to reflect the diversity of communities served in northwestern Ontario.

Additionally, RBC Foundation's generous \$20,000 gift supported the acquisition of a new MegaCode Kelly, an advanced life support manikin. "From advanced airway management to intricate IV therapy techniques, MegaCode Kelly has been instrumental in equipping our healthcare professionals with the skills they need to save lives effectively," said Jennifer Young, Clinical Educator at LWDH.

Dr. Sean Moore, Chief of Staff at LWDH explains, "The simulators give learners the opportunity to enhance and practice their skills prior to treating patients in high-stress situations. We teach ways of communicating more effectively, teamwork and situational awareness to mitigate human errors. We also need to acknowledge that medical learning environments have too long been fraught with bias and patriarchal undertones. NOSM Universitv has a foundation of social accountability and LWDH shares the approach of anti-racism and a commitment to close health gaps and help promote equitable care."

Each of these manikin's replaces 20-year old technology. The long-term impact on healthcare education, patient outcomes, and the overall healthcare system is an investment that will continue to give for years to come while, honouring the legacy of Michael Dufresne, an incredible teacher and developer of talent within our community.



## MONTHLY GIVING



## SMALL GIFTS. BIG IMPACT.

Our Monthly Giving Club is a growing group of compassionate individuals who are providing steady, ongoing funds to LWDH Foundation. These small monthly gifts help us prepare for the unexpected. Together, this community helps equip the hospital with the best tools to diagnose and treat patients. Monthly gifts allow us to plan and allocate resources where they are needed most while also allowing our donors to choose the level of support that works best for them. In 2023-24, monthly donations ranged from \$10 to over \$417. Our 68 monthly donors members raised \$17,578. Our goal is to continue building momentum with this group and to increase awareness around the benefits of providing consistent and reliable funding.



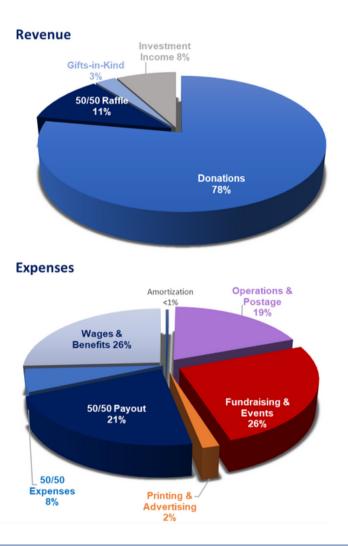
Employee Giving Club – Monthly gifts from staff help fund vital medical equipment and technology....for staff.

Our Employee Giving Club has grown to 134 compassionate LWDH employees who give by caring for our patients and by investing in their hospital. This group raised \$23,891 towards equipment purchases this past year. Thank you for helping transform care for our community!

"I was born in this hospital and our three sons were born in this hospital too. I've worked 2/3 of my life here. I have seen many changes and the need for advancements in our diagnostic equipment over the years. It is important as our only hospital in the community to have the most current equipment to give residents the best resources for great care that we all deserve." -Peggy Holland, RN - Maternity



## YOUR GIFTS MAKE CARE BETTER Financial Summary



## **\$1.5 million** generated for equipment & technology at LWDH

Thank you to the 1,063 donors who made 3,140 donations from April 1, 2023 through to March 31, 2024. Individuals, families, foundations, municipalities, and businesses all came together last year to raise nearly \$3M, of which \$1.5 million was invested in current medical equipment needs at LWDH. An additional \$600,000 is invested for major diagnostic imaging upgrades in coming years to continue transforming care, close to home.

The LWDH Foundation is committed to ensuring every gift received is stewarded with the utmost care and integrity. It is with this in mind that we are always looking to improve both the costs to raise a dollar and return on investment ratios, in keeping with industry benchmarks.

Please visit www.lwdhf.com/report to view our audited financial statements or contact the Foundation Office at 807-468-9861 x2469.

### 2023-2024 LWDH FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We thank the following individuals for their commitment to healthcare excellence at LWDH.

Kimberly Mejia Chair Melanie Buffett Vice-Chair Jackie Hailstone Secretary/Treasurer Anthony Sharp Past -Chair Directors Shauna Aubin Marc Bissonette Laci Dingwall Dr. Stephane Foidart Ashley Hendy Barry Marmus Colleen Neil



## ANNUAL DONOR LISTING

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## The Annual Donor List is based on generous gifts received between April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

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#### denotes deceased

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