



# Little things make a big difference!

Dear Friend,

One of the greatest delights of spring is spotting the long-awaited signs of new life. We see buds on the trees that give promise of lush green leaves; robins appear and herald the reappearance of our favourite birds; bulbs begin to sprout out of the earth adding a dash of colour to the outdoors; and instead of snow, raindrops fall – the tiniest of drops, but from which spring forth the most wonderful things.

At the end of a long, cold winter, the little signs of spring can make a big difference in our state of mind. They bring smiles to our faces, encouraging us to take a deep breath of fresh air and power on.

As a physician, I think it's important to pay attention to the little things. Giving a patient the time to ask questions and listening to the little details when they discuss their symptoms makes a big difference as I form a diagnosis and plan treatments.

I've been a Hospitalist at the Ross Memorial Hospital for seven years, looking after inpatients who don't have a family physician to oversee their care. On a typical day, I'm caring for up to 30 patients, from young children to the elderly. In fact, my oldest patient to date was 108 years old.

What I like about the Hospitalist program is that I'm here all day so I can spend more time with these patients. Over time, I see some people with chronic problems who have to come back into the Hospital, and as I help treat them, I get to hear their fabulous stories. *Sometimes they hear a few of mine, too.*

It's these moments in my day that make me love my job. I never overlook the little things.

Likewise, I know that the smallest piece of medical equipment at the Hospital can make the biggest difference in a patient's care.

A cardiac monitor is such an item. The whole thing can fit in a tote bag, but when I need to know in a glance what's going on with one of my patients, this is the most important item in my arsenal. **It's an invaluable piece of equipment.**

A cardiac monitor provides a constant measure of a patient's vital signs, the pulse, blood pressure, oxygen levels, and the heart's rhythm. If a patient's heart rhythm becomes critically abnormal, we use electricity to bring the heart back to a normal rhythm, using a defibrillator.

It's useful in three ways: it's the most important item on a crash cart when we respond to a "code blue", which is the call that goes out when a patient is in cardiac arrest. The monitor is rushed to the patient's side and hooked up to help us see where the problem lies. When we're transferring a critical patient to the Intensive Care Unit, we rely on a cardiac monitor so we can tell immediately if his or her status is changing. It's also an essential item when a patient is being transferred to another hospital.

Please turn over ►



H08S



## YES, I WANT TO HELP SUPPORT THE PURCHASE OF NEW CARDIAC MONITORS AT THE ROSS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

Name .....  
Address .....  
City ..... Province.....  
Postal Code ..... Telephone .....

\$25  \$50  \$100  Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a cheque made payable to the ROSS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Place my donation on my credit card:



Account # .....

Expiry Date ..... / .....

Signature .....

Use the enclosed envelope or mail to:  
10 ANGELINE STREET NORTH  
LINDSAY, ONTARIO K9V 4M8  
TELEPHONE: 705-328-6146  
FAX: 705-328-6147  
www.rmh.org

Thank You!

Please see other side for information on making monthly donations. All donations are tax creditable. However, unless requested, tax receipts will not be issued for donations under \$10. Charitable Business Number 11912 4121 RR0001

Cardiac monitors are a critical piece of equipment at the Hospital. They may be small, but the importance of this equipment cannot be overstated – so many big things evolve from their availability: diagnosis, treatment, and hopefully, full recovery. *It's absolutely necessary to have them nearby.*

Right now, the Hospital needs to replace several of its aging monitors with new models, and we need your help. Please consider making a donation to help us purchase new monitors so this vital equipment is on hand and ready the next time a patient is in need. Each gift is greatly appreciated. **Every donation makes a difference at the Ross Memorial Hospital.**

Just as new monitors will make a big difference to our Hospital, all gifts that we gratefully receive will make a major impact in the life of a patient at the Ross.

I love being able to make a difference in the lives of my hospital patients; you can make a difference, too. *Make it your sign of spring* – your special thing that brings a smile to a patient's face, helps them to take a deep breath... and power on.

On behalf of the Ross Memorial Hospital family and our patients, thank you for taking an interest in our community's health care.

Have a wonderful and healthy spring,



**Dr. Les Summers**  
*Chief Hospitalist*  
Ross Memorial Hospital

P.S. For your convenience, the Ross Memorial Hospital Foundation now accepts online donations. Please visit our website [www.rmh.org](http://www.rmh.org) for details.

P.P.S. Should you receive another appeal delivered to your home in the near future, I would like to ask for your understanding. We are delivering unaddressed appeals in many areas so that we can give local residents the opportunity to show their support for Ross Memorial. Despite our best efforts, this process occasionally delivers more than one letter per household, however, we thank you for your patience.

## I'D LIKE TO SUPPORT ROSS MEMORIAL BY MAKING MONTHLY GIFTS

Making a monthly gift can make it *convenient and easy* for you to lend your support. Your monthly gift supports work done throughout the year and helps us meet a wide variety of patient needs.

**I WISH TO MAKE A MONTHLY GIFT OF:**

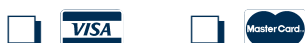
\$10  \$15  \$20 OR  \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month for \_\_\_\_\_ months.

**DEDUCT IT FROM MY BANK ACCOUNT:**

I've enclosed a cheque marked **VOID**. *Monthly gifts and bank deductions will be made on the 1st of each month.*

Signature .....

**CHARGE IT TO MY CREDIT CARD:**



Account # ..... Expiry Date ..... / .....

Signature .....

*Should you wish to change your donation or cancel it, you can do so at any time by contacting us.*

*The Ross Memorial Hospital Foundation respects your privacy. Please see our website [www.rmh.org](http://www.rmh.org) for our complete privacy statement.*

## MAKE A LASTING GIFT

Please send me information on how I can include Ross Memorial Hospital Foundation in my Will.

I have already included Ross Memorial Hospital Foundation in my Will.

Please send me information on planned gifts which can offer me tax advantages now, while providing for Ross Memorial Hospital in the future.