

The Pulse

For the Health of Our Community

Spring 2009



Because of You...

Thanks to the generous support from friends like you, Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital can invest in the state-of-the-art equipment that enables our doctors and nurses to provide patients with the best care possible.

Every year our Medical Services Advisory Committee identifies priority medical equipment that is urgently needed at OTMH. The most up-to-date equipment is needed:

- To make procedures more comfortable for patients,
- To reduce recovery times, and
- To free up more beds so more people can be treated sooner

Sometimes that means replacing obsolete or worn out equipment. And sometimes that means adding more pieces to cope with increasing demand from our growing and aging population.

Thanks to your support last year, you helped ensure that you and your neighbours have access to one of the most technologically advanced community hospitals in Ontario, and some of the brightest, most dedicated and compassionate medical professionals anywhere.

While we do receive limited government funding for our healthcare services, our tradition of excellence in healthcare depends on the generosity of our donors.

Because of you, we were able to provide OTMH with \$2.5 million in funds to purchase more than 170 pieces of essential medical equipment, including:

Cardio Respiratory – Cardiac Echo Machine x 2; \$172,378/\$344,756

Echocardiograms record the electrical activity of the heart using waveforms; and, produce a picture of the heart through ultrasonic waves. Both tests provide valuable and timely information to the physician regarding activity of the heart, so that you can receive immediate care when needed.

Emergency/Ambulatory Care – Biphasic Defibrillator; \$25,093

The biphasic defibrillators use electric shock to bring a heart that is not beating or not beating normally back into rhythm. It uses less electric current than older models to shock the heart and therefore, lessens the long-term damage on a patient's heart when performing this procedure.

Medical Program – Portable Ultrasound Machine; \$60,005

The portable ultrasound machine is a

lightweight hand-held machine for point of care visualization of internal organs, vessels, etc. It is especially useful for assisting the physician with less invasive central line placement. Additionally, this machine provides our expert physicians with the tools to assess, diagnose, monitor and plan for medical management, without delay.

Surgical Program – Flexible Scopes x 4; \$7,500/\$30,000

The flexible scopes allow physicians to perform less invasive examinations of a patient's bladder. The scopes provide a much more comfortable experience for patients as they are less exposed during the procedure which also increases privacy and warmth.

Because of you, our doctors, nurses and staff have access to the most innovative medical equipment.

Because of you, we have access to top quality healthcare services, close to home.

Because of you, we have access to one of the best community hospitals in Ontario.

We are grateful...because of you.



This issue:

- The impact that the Oak Leaf Society has on the health of our community
- Celebrity Chefs delivering fine dining at its best at the Candlelight Ball
- Community Partners; Making a difference in our community
- New Oakville Hospital. For Life. For Growth. For Oakville



New Rooms for Newborns

This past December, our hospital received wonderful news – the vital renovation of OTMH's Maternal Child Unit has received final approval. At a time when our community is growing at such a rapid rate, this was a welcome announcement.

In light of plans for a New Oakville Hospital, the original project scope has been carefully reviewed and revised. While the original capital expenditure plan has been reduced, our high priority goals will still be addressed, such as improved privacy, infection prevention and control, and providing a space conducive to today's standard of care.

Cindy MacDonald, Maternal Child Program Leader, is thrilled about the project advancement. "We have the privilege of being at the birth of 2,300 babies a year. If you multiply that by the five years it's going to take to design and build the new hospital, that's a lot of new lives we will be providing care for while still on this site."

The cornerstone of the work to be completed is the Special Care Nursery (SCN), which provides neonatal care for premature babies



Before and after photos of the post partum rooms – updates include wood laminate floors and paneled headboard, updated washroom tiles and fixtures, and new curtains and privacy blinds.

from 32 weeks on. Other plans include updates to the patient rooms and waiting areas in the Maternal Child program and the addition of a new Labour & Delivery Room. Best of all, each infant's care area will double in size, which will facilitate full implementation of the Family Centred Care Model so patients and their families can be better accommodated.

While the project is funded in large part through government contributions, the balance of funds were generously donated to the *Critical*

Support Campaign. We are grateful for the generosity of our campaign donors, including the Auxiliary to OTMH and AIC Limited, who provided a leadership gift for the development of the SCN, which will be named in honour of Dr. Terry Riley.

On behalf of our OTMH staff, patients and their families, thank you for your investment in the health of our community.

The Oak Leaf Society: A Meaningful Impact

Do you have a monthly tradition? Perhaps it's a monthly dinner with family. Or a regular outing to the zoo or to the movies. Or maybe it's something as simple as a scheduled call with a friend overseas.

The members of the Oak Leaf Society have a monthly tradition – and it's changing the face of healthcare in Oakville.

The Oakville Hospital Foundation's Oak Leaf Society is a group of dedicated donors who make contributions to the Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial Hospital on a monthly basis. It's a family of our most loyal friends who help purchase leading-edge equipment for OTMH, so we can better address complex medical cases, close to home.

Currently, there are 900 members in the Oak

Leaf Society and together, these members gave \$172,826 in 2008! In doing so, we replaced old and obsolete equipment with newer and better technology, helping save and improve lives throughout our community.

Oak Leaf Society members make a tangible impact with each dollar they give, helping us to increase the efficiency of our ongoing fundraising efforts.

The Oak Leaf Society is saving lives in Oakville. Their ongoing generosity gives our Hospital the resources required to deliver essential healthcare services, all year long.

That's a tradition worth starting!



For the Health of Our Community



Looks Who's Coming to Dinner...



THE OTMH CANDLELIGHT BALL

The OTMH Candlelight Ball, presented by *Barrington's of Oakville* and *Murron's Cabintree*, has long been one of Oakville's most popular social occasions. Since 1992, the Candlelight Ball has raised more than \$3.3 million, providing OTMH with state of the art, life saving, medical equipment!

In 2009, we expect to reach new heights, as we partner with not one, but TWO renowned Canadian Chef's to deliver an evening of mingling, dancing and FINE dining!

Famed Food Network hosts, **Michael Bonacini** and **Mark McEwan** will team up to design a

Canadian-themed menu, making the 2009 OTMH Candlelight Ball the most anticipated yet. Best of all, Chef's Bonacini and McEwan will be on-site to help deliver a culinary experience that cannot be missed.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 7, 2009 and watch out for more information this summer about how to secure your tables.

The OTMH Candlelight Ball.

Mmmmmaking a difference to health of our community.

The Community at Work

Working Together to improve the health of our community

In 2008 Community Partners raised more than \$370,000...an all time high for this program. There were more than 30 community partnered events in Oakville that helped raise funds to purchase priority medical equipment for OTMH.

Community Partners benefit by:

- Expanding their profile in Oakville;
- Fostering a 'community-first' reputation;
- Networking opportunities with Oakville residents;
- Making a positive difference to the *Health of Our Community*;
- Demonstrate a charitable commitment to members, supporters, and business partners/suppliers; and, gain valuable experiences and genuine satisfaction.

Who can get involved?

Any group of committed community residents, raising money in support of OTMH.

What can I do?

Host a fundraising activity, a special event and/or allocate funds via an annual program budget.

When should I run my event?

Anytime you'd like!

Why should I raise money for our community hospital?

So OTMH can continue to provide high quality healthcare, close to home.

How do I start?

It's easy, contact the Oakville Hospital Foundation at 905-338-4642 and ask for Trevor Nash, Community Giving Coordinator. He would be more than happy to speak with you about your event.

The OTMH Community Partner Program is designed to **honour** and **support** those who volunteer their efforts towards improving the *Health of Our Community*.

Save the date!

Bank Bed Challenge Sunday, May 3, 2009

Six Banks. Six Beds. One Great Cause.
www.bankbedchallenge.com

OTMH Classic Run/Walk Sunday, June 21, 2009

This Fathers Day, join more than 1,000 participants as they run/walk in the 13th Annual Classic! www.otmhclassic.com

OTMH Regatta Saturday, July 27, 2009

The 4th Annual Regatta hopes to raise more than \$30,000 in support of the Hospital's priority equipment needs.
www.otmhregatta.com

OTMH Charity Golf Tournament Wednesday, August 19, 2009

Join 144 golfers for a fun day full of on-course contests, great food and fabulous prizes.
www.otmhgolf.com

OTMH Candlelight Ball Saturday, November 7, 2009

The Candlelight Ball has quickly become the Foundation's premier fundraising and social event. www.otmh Candlelightball.com

