A proposal for your consideration

Critical Care - At the Brant Community Healthcare System
**the BCHS:**

**A Worthy Investment**

Together, we are transforming healthcare in our community

The Brant Community Healthcare System (BCHS) Foundation relies on the generous support of our many donors to ensure we are able to meet the needs of our patients, both today and tomorrow.

The BCHS Foundation is committed to raising critical funds to support the top priority needs for The Brantford General and The Willett, Paris. Your support of the BCHS Foundation helps us purchase medical equipment that is not paid for by the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care, provide essential resources to maintain the exceptional level of compassionate patient care, and invest in new and innovative technology.

**A Pillar of Strength for our Community**

The Brant Community Healthcare System (BCHS) is committed to providing exemplary care to the citizens of our community.

The Brantford General is a 250+ bed, acute care facility, providing all of Brantford and Brant County’s specialty programs and services for our 120,000+ residents. The Willett, Paris is a multi-service healthcare centre with a daily Urgent Care Department as well as state-of-the-art Diagnostic Imaging Service.

The BCHS is a regional centre for Paediatrics, Mental Health, Obstetrics, Gynecology, Integrated Stroke Care, CT Scanning, Critical Care, Surgical Services, Ambulatory Care and Emergency Medicine. We are also the site of the Brant Community Cancer Clinic and the SC Johnson Dialysis Clinic for patients throughout Brant County and Haldimand-Norfolk.

We have more than 250 physicians and 13 dentists using our facilities. In addition, we employ 1402 highly trained staff and have more than 430 dedicated volunteers at our sites. BCHS has a strong culture of caring and now we are focusing on innovation, learning and technology to help us care for and serve you better now and in the future.
It is an exciting time at the Brant Community Healthcare System (BCHS) as we continue to be recognized as a leader in healthcare in Canada.

- For the sixth consecutive year the Brantford General is among the top hospitals in Canada with the lowest mortality rates. The achievement was announced by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) in Ottawa with the release of the national 2014/15 Hospital Standardized Mortality Ratio (HSMR), which measures the number of actual deaths compared to expected deaths in hospitals that meet a statistical threshold of 2,500 or more HSMR cases in each of the last three years.

- Brant Community Healthcare System (BCHS) is the lead agency for the Brant Six Nations Health Link. The Health Link encourages collaboration between existing agencies and healthcare providers for a better coordinated care system that will respond to the needs of patients who are identified as being frequent users of the healthcare system and who have complex care needs. www.bsnhealthlink.org

- The Brant Community Healthcare System (BCHS) has been awarded a Bronze Level 2015 Quality Healthcare Workplace Award from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ontario Hospital Association. The BCHS was presented with the award at the Ontario Hospital Association’s Health Achieve Conference in November 2015.

- The Grand Erie Six Nations Clinical Education Campus – Brantford Centre officially opened at the BCHS with a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 18, 2013. The centre was built with the help from a generous grant from the City of Brantford, and additional funding provided by McMaster University, the DeGroote School of Medicine and the BCHS Foundation. The centre includes classrooms, offices and ‘call rooms’ for medical residents on duty. Currently the program has 12 medical residents - the first group of medical residents graduated in the summer of 2015.

- The Brant Community Healthcare System has moved from a medium volume community hospital to a large volume community hospital with some of the highest numbers of patients and complexity in the Local Health Integrated Network (LHIN) and province. The BCHS is seeing increased results with improved patient flow.

- We continue to invest in technology to aid in faster diagnosis and improved patient outcomes. This past year the ultrasound department replaced the 5 ultrasound units in addition to a new Ultrasound unit for the Echo program. New technology such as Strain Imaging has resulted in decrease number of biopsy’s and improved evaluation for cardiac, breast and liver imaging.
Critical Care at the BCHS

The Critical Care Unit (CCU) at the Brant Community Healthcare System is a 15-bed specialized area which provides for the needs of patients from Brantford and our surrounding areas that require immediate and continuous monitoring and intervention of life-supporting treatment.

With a team of highly specialized medical professionals such as physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists and pharmacists, the BCHS provides a holistic (body, mind, spirit) approach to care.

The Critical Care Unit is now treating close to 1,200 patients annually. Congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, stroke and pneumonia are only some of the conditions treated on this unit.

“As a local physician, I recognize that many of our life-saving and life-sustaining equipment that Critical Care staff work with daily are available to patients because of donor dollars. Our approach is about putting patients first and we need access to state-of-the-art technology to identify, diagnose and treat individuals under our care.” - Dr. Tim Carlton.

The Brant Community Healthcare System Foundation is committed to raising funds to support the top priority needs for The Brantford General and The Willett, Paris. Your donation helps us purchase patient equipment not funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. The equipment supported by donor dollars isn’t all ‘nice to have’ — it is critical patient equipment required to perform daily diagnostics and care for our patients.
The Critical Care Unit is supporting our most critically ill patients with complex needs. To provide the best possible care to our patients we require new, up-to-date equipment. For the next three years the Foundation is looking to invest **over 1 million dollars** to purchase much needed vital patient equipment. We can not do this without the support of our donors - together we will be strengthening healthcare in our community.

The equipment below showcases some of the needs of this specialized unit not funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Prices illustrated are approximate.

**15 - Critical Care Beds - $35,000 each**

Critical care beds are designed for complex care situations. Beds can be set in multiple positions to accommodate the needs of the patient and perform diagnostic and/or therapeutic procedures. Equipped with many enhancements such as side rail alarms as well as radiolucent filter tops, these beds allow for increased safety for both the patient and the caregiver.

**4 - Ventilators - $60,000 each**

A ventilator is a machine designed to mechanically move breathable air into and out of the lungs. It provides the mechanism of breathing for a patient that is physically unable to breathe or breathing insufficiently. Ventilators are electronically controlled by a system that allows the pressure and flow characteristics to be altered based on a patient’s needs. Fine-tuned settings make ventilation more tolerable and comfortable for the patient.
1 - MOTOmed (Active Supine Exerciser) - $16,000

The MOTOmed letto2 helps to balance lack of movement in patients confined to bed. Patients can use this to train in a passive, motor-assisted, and active mode, from a hospital bed or a therapy chair. The MOTOmed letto2 provides a well-rounded therapy to patients in stationary care.

2 - External Pacemaker - $4,000

External pacemakers are intended for use with a cardiac pacing lead system for temporary single or dual chamber pacing in a clinical environment.

4 - Bi-Pap Machines - $30,000 each

A bi-pap (bi-level positive airway pressure) machine is a non-invasive ventilation resource that is used to assist patients with breathing difficulties. They help keep the upper airways of the lungs open by providing a flow of air delivered through a mask tightly applied to a patient’s face. Bi-pap machines are used for patients that have the ability to do some of the work of breathing on their own but require assistance.

1 - Peripheral Nerve Stimulation

Peripheral nerve simulation is used to treat chronic pain. It involves surgery that places a small electrical device next to the peripheral nerves. Electricity is delivered from the generator to the nerve or nerves using one or several electrodes. The patient is able to control stimulation by turning the device on and off and adjusting stimulation parameters as needed.
The BCHS is committed to providing a family friendly environment as part of our mission to provide compassionate patient-centred care. Changes to our traditional hospital environment and family friendly resources are important tools to make our patients, and their families, feel more at ease when coming to the BCHS.

**Family Lounge:**

Create a warm family waiting area designed with privacy in mind to offer families the opportunity to have private conversations with one another. Comfortable lounge chairs will offer a quiet place for families to rest or collect their thoughts. As many families spend a lot of hours on the CCU we would like to purchase a dining table next to the kitchenette to provide a place for families to have meals together. This much needed revitalization of the family waiting area will allow families a quiet space to stay while their loved ones receive care.

**Patient Rooms:**

To provide quality patient centered care each room will include a patient chair, sleeper chair, guest seating and over bed tables.

**Patient Chairs:** Providing comfortable supportive seating for patients. The chairs allow for increased mobility as patients can move from the bed to a proper sitting position. Metal finishes with a Microban anti-microbial coating, which inhibits the growth of germs, microbes and bacteria.

**Sleeper Chairs:** Are designed to allow families to stay overnight with their loved ones. The back cushions fold down and lay flat on the seating surface to create a comfortable sleeping environment. For ease of cleaning and infection control, the sleep surface is upholstered with a healthcare-rated gray vinyl and features a standard moisture barrier on the cushions surface and sides.

**Guest Seating:** Having extra seating in the patients room offers a space for family to be together and support one another.
Summary

This three year campaign will have a significant impact on the specialized, quality care the BCHS can provide to our patients on the Critical Care Unit. We rely on the generosity of donors, like you, to help make these important initiatives a reality for our patients, as they are not funded by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. Your generosity will allow us to purchase much needed patient equipment and furnishings to support families in our community. Please support our Critical Care Unit at the Brant Community Healthcare System Foundation.

The health of our patients depends on it.

Thank you for your support!