

FOUNDATION focus

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 BCHS Foundation

Working together to overcome the Coronavirus Pandemic

As we continue to adapt to our new reality in health care and life in general, the team at the Brant Community Healthcare System (BCHS) is here for you, providing safe, high-quality care.

BCHS leadership, frontline teams and support staff at both Brantford General Hospital and The Willett have been working non-stop to plan and be ready to manage the pandemic locally. Extensive planning at Brantford General has resulted in expanded capacity and clinicians are ready to deal with a potential surge in the number of patients diagnosed with COVID-19.

BCHS has also refurbished, repaired and re-tooled medical equipment and outfitted spaces to expand services and areas, with the construction of additional negative pressure rooms and more treatment spaces to safely treat highly infectious patients and many other patients.

Through this work, BCHS has identified a need for patient equipment to be purchased immediately – equipment that had been identified for purchase over the longer term but is now more urgent to help address an influx of possible COVID-19 cases. Equipment such as ventilators, pulse oximetry units, portable ventilators, code carts and patient monitors have all been identified by BCHS with a request that the Foundation assist with covering the costs for many of the items.

Community support is so important during these challenging times and the Foundation is relying on the continued support and generosity of our donors. We are ever grateful for your support which ultimately helps BCHS deliver exceptional care to all patients.

The Foundation's COVID-19 Fund is designed to attract donations to help BCHS respond quickly during the crisis by acquiring equipment and supplies for emerging needs. Every dollar raised through the fund will help provide health care staff with the right tools and necessary spaces needed to care for patients safely even as things change from day to day.

We at the Foundation are amazed by the many individuals and companies who have stepped up especially during the pandemic to provide an outpouring of support to BCHS staff, physicians and patients. Thanks to all for your incredible efforts, generosity and continued support. We couldn't do it without you!

Equipment Spotlight

Ventilator

The BCHS Foundation recently invested over \$100,000 to purchase two ventilators for our Critical Care Unit at the Brant Community Healthcare System. This vital piece of medical equipment is 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. In addition to the COVID-19 crisis, the need for ventilators has increased due to our aging population, more ill patients being cared for in the hospital for longer periods of time, with some patients remaining on a ventilator for many months.



Cough Assist

The cough assist machine is a non-invasive machine that helps to clear secretions from the lungs by simulating a natural deep cough. Positive air pressure is applied to obtain a large volume of air in the lungs. The device then quickly reverses the flow of air by shifting to negative pressure simulating a cough. This equipment is used by our Respiratory Therapists to optimize longer term patients with a tracheotomy both on and off ventilators. The BCHS Foundation recently invested over \$5,000 towards the purchase of this life saving piece of equipment.



SPRING 2020

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For more the most up to date information about COVID-19 at the BCHS [click here](#)

A message from Kari Wilson

Executive Director, Brant Community Healthcare System Foundation

Where do you turn when you or a loved one becomes ill or injured?

Most people in our community turn to the Brant Community Healthcare System because they know they'll receive exceptional care delivered by our dedicated, compassionate health care professionals.

The coronavirus pandemic has changed everything about life as we knew it and has shown us just how important a strong health care system is for our community. Everyone at BCBS continues to work hard to make sure they are treating patients safely and providing high quality care. The safety of patients and our health care workers is first and foremost at BCBS.

We know that even without a pandemic, there are essential needs in a hospital environment and exciting opportunities to make a positive difference in our local health care system. BCBS has made a number of investments high priority needs to help deal with COVID-19. Many thanks to the generosity of our donors.

We appreciate your ongoing support for these initiatives and thank you for your continued generosity. Please have a look at the enclosed newsletter - Foundation Focus - to read about our successes and information about our current fundraising initiatives.

Please consider making a donation that is meaningful to you, and will support a strong health care system for our community.

Please know the BCBS Foundation is grateful for your donations and continued support. You have an important role in allowing us to be ready for anything and to provide safe, high-quality care to the people we serve. We are in this together!

Sincerely,



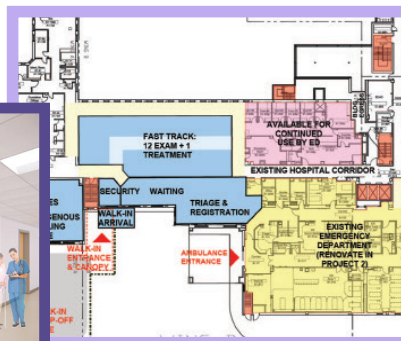
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BCBS FOUNDATION

Emergency Care at the Brantford General Hospital

Now more than ever before we understand and have a new appreciation about the importance of our health care system and the people who are working to keep us healthy and safe. The Emergency Department is an important asset within local health care used to treat serious illnesses and life-threatening injuries.

The provincial government has approved a plan to renovate and expand the Brantford General Hospital Emergency Department, which has moved BCBS to the next stage of the project. The province does not cover the entire cost of the project which means the BCBS Foundation must raise funds to cover the remaining costs for the renovation along with new or replacement hospital equipment to be used for patient care in the new space.

The Brant Community Healthcare System Foundation fundraising goal is more than \$7 million to support this exciting project which includes the purchase of a new CT scanner - one of the most often used pieces of technology at BCBS.



Did you know?

- Last year, BCBS saw over 58,000 Emergency Department (ED) visits.
- The Emergency Department is responsible for up to 69% of all patient admissions to the BCBS.

For more information about the Emergency Department Renovation [click here](#)

CT Technology

an ongoing need at the BCHS



The Brant Community Healthcare System (BCHS) currently has one CT unit that is nearing end of life. Excessive demand has increased wear and tear on the system resulting in increased downtime. The need to replace the existing CT unit as well as install a second unit has been identified as a top priority.

What is CT technology?

Computed Tomography - CT - scanning is a highly specialized x-ray imaging procedure used to obtain detailed images of every area in the body, providing information that no other imaging device can get. Modern CT scanners are a valuable tool that have revolutionized the diagnosis and treatment for trauma, cancer, stroke, infection and many other conditions.

Investing in CT is vital for BCHS to maintain a high level of quality health care to the community and support expanding clinical services.

Did you know?

- 56% of the volume on the CT unit results from patients being treated in the Emergency Department and within BCHS each day.
- Two biopsies are performed using the CT unit per day to support the Brant Community Cancer Clinic with advances in cancer care including increased follow up and staging exams.
- BCHS operates as the District Stroke Centre for the Brant Haldimand and Norfolk geographical region. The Integrated Stroke Unit (ISU) is a specialized unit with inter-professional teams of care providers who have advanced knowledge, training and expertise in stroke care. Multiple CT scans are performed each day to diagnose strokes and ensure critical access to care.

For more the more information about CT Technology at the BCHS [click here](#)

The BCHS

A New Strategic Plan

OUR VOICE. OUR VISION. THIS IS OUR BCHS.

The BCHS has launched its 2020-2025 Strategic Plan that will guide the organization in our work over the next five years.

Our Vision

Exceptional Care - Exceptional People

Our Mission

Working Together to build a healthier community

Our Values

Compassion Accountability Respect Equity



KEY GOAL 1 - Advance Quality & Safety

KEY GOAL 2 - Partner to Transform Care

KEY GOAL 3 - Support & Empower People

KEY GOAL 4 - Build Sustainability

KEY GOAL 5 - Champion Health Equity

To learn more about the BCHS Strategic Plan please visit www.ourbchs.ca.

Celebrating Community Support

Our Community Comes Together in a Time of Crisis

Over the past few months our lives and routines have forever changed and we continue to try to understand and adapt to COVID-19 and the profound impact it has made across the world.

We are so grateful to the hundreds of individuals, businesses, companies and schools that have offered such meaningful and uplifting support to hospital staff. Your heartfelt messages of thanks, supplies of treats and countless meals have meant so much to us.

Our community has risen to the challenge and responded with much kindness and philanthropic spirit to help us:

- Establish the COVID-19 Fund to respond to critical pandemic needs
- Provide supplies of hand sanitizer and face masks vital to our health care system, generously donated by local businesses
- Acquire two new ventilators for the Critical Care Unit at Brantford General Hospital
- Purchase a Cough Assist machine for the Critical Care Unit
- Purchase \$30,000 of personal protective equipment for front-line health care workers
- Purchase I-Pads to help patients stay connected with their loved ones during restricted visiting access

This exceptional response has been nothing short of amazing in an extraordinarily challenging time and we are so grateful to you for your support.

No one knows exactly what the future will hold but we do know the pandemic continues and the Brant Community Healthcare System Foundation must be in a position to respond to high priority needs as they arise at BCHS.

The need is real. The need is now. We need your help, please give today.

DONATE NOW



Thank you to ICNA Relief Canada (IRC), a generous partner of the Muslim Association of Brantford, Brantford Mosque, for making a \$50,000 donation to purchase a ventilator for the BCHS.



Thank you to Walters Group for providing delicious lunch for the staff at the BCHS, for five weeks, throughout the month of May.



Thank you to Amy Tomaz of the Rustic Soul for sharing your incredible talent and donation of \$1265 and counting. Amy is donating \$5 from every #heartsforhealthcare to support the BCHS Foundation.



Thank you to Toys 'R' Us Brantford for the donation of 10 baby monitors for use in the CCU isolation units. Using these allows staff to reduce the amount of PPE being used and be in constant contact with patients.

Guardian Angel Program

Recognize your Healthcare Hero



Every day, hundreds of people rely on their doctors, nurses and other staff at the Brant Community Healthcare System to provide the care they need, when they need it.

The Guardian Angel Program is an opportunity for you to show your appreciation by making a financial donation to recognize a staff member, physician or volunteer at the Brant Community Healthcare System. People often choose to do this to show how grateful they are for the care received, and you can also do this on behalf of someone to recognize them for their contributions to the community.

Upon receipt of your gift, the BCHS Foundation will send your Guardian Angel message and notice of your gift in their honour. To honour your privacy, gift amounts are not shared.

For more information about the Guardian Angel Program [click here](#)