

YOUR LEGACY

A Gift for Future Generations

David Hendin
& Arlene King

When David Hendin and Arlene King decided to include a gift in their will to support local hospitals through the University Hospitals Kingston Foundation (UHKF), the decision came easily. For them, giving back to health care has always been important.

“We’ve always supported our local hospitals wherever we lived,” David says. “When we moved to Gananoque in 2018, giving to UHKF was simply a natural fit.”

David and Arlene’s lives have taken them from Toronto to the Thousand Islands, but their values have remained steady: compassion, community and care. David, who ran a successful food brokerage company for more than 35 years, says health care—especially pediatric care—has always held a special place in their hearts.

“We don’t have children of our own,” he shares, “but we can’t bear to see children in pain or suffering. They’re our future. We want to help make their future brighter.”

That deep sense of empathy inspired their decision to make a planned gift—a meaningful way to ensure their generosity continues to help others for generations to come. Their gift will support pediatric patients and their families from across southeastern Ontario, providing access to the best possible care, comfort and healing.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



What is the Evergreen Society?

The Evergreen Society celebrates donors who have confirmed Kingston Health Sciences Centre (KHSC) and/or Providence Care are included in their will or estate plans. You also have the option to remain anonymous in terms of public recognition.

UHKF often receives unexpected and meaningful bequests from the estates of grateful patients. Sadly, UHKF didn’t have the opportunity to thank these donors personally or to celebrate their generosity with them.

Let us know if you’ve included a gift in your will to UHKF so that we can thank you.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

For Arlene, the decision was about gratitude.

“Health care and medical research are such a vital part of our standard of living,” she says. “This is our way of giving back to society and to the next generation. Nothing comes for free—hospitals need our support.”

David’s connection to Kingston hospitals runs deep. Born and raised in Kingston, his childhood home on Johnson Street was directly across from Hotel Dieu Hospital (now part of Kingston Health Sciences Centre).

“The nuns who lived there watched over us like we

were their own—to the point where when I was a little kid playing outside, if I was doing something that maybe I shouldn’t be doing, the nuns would phone my mother,” he recalls. “They cared for us and looked after us. The hospital was more than a building—the nuns were like our neighbours.”

Now, through their planned gift, David and Arlene are giving back to the community that has shaped their lives. They hope their example will inspire others to do the same.

“We feel blessed that we can do this,” David says simply. “It’s a good feeling to know our support will help people—especially children—long after we’re gone.”



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Gift Inspires the Healing Power of Art

When Stella Corkey, who passed away in 2009 during her 90th year, made a planned gift through the University Hospitals Kingston Foundation (UHKF), she could not have imagined how her legacy would one day brighten lives and restore hope at Providence Care.

Through the Stella Corkey Endowment Fund, patients today are discovering the power of creativity to heal mind, body and spirit.

Thanks to Stella's foresight, her endowment supports art therapy and rehabilitation programs that do more than fill time—they transform lives. Medical research continues to show that creative expression reduces anxiety, improves physical coordination and enhances emotional well-being.

At Providence Care, art is part of the healing journey.

One of the most popular programs supported by

the fund is Art Hive, a welcoming community studio open to patients, clients and staff at both Providence Care Hospital and Providence Transitional Care Centre (PTCC). Here, people gather to paint, draw, sculpt and connect.

“Art Hive is about being expressive and creating something beautiful. For some, it's just about being able to leave their room and spend time in a new space,” says Stacy Jowett, Volunteer Services Director at Providence Care. “It's all about treating the whole person. Being artistic allows people to feel good about themselves and feed the soul.”

Another initiative made possible through the Stella Corkey Endowment Fund is art rehabilitation training (ART) led by Marta Scythes. A lifelong artist and educator, Marta created a specialized ART-based program for stroke survivors to help retrain their hand-eye coordination and rebuild confidence through structured drawing exercises.

“Everyone can draw,” Marta says. “They just think they can't. Through art, people gain confidence and rediscover their independence.”

For many participants, these sessions are a turning point—a bridge between clinical recovery and personal healing. Marta recalls several patients who, after weeks of training, left Providence Care not only stronger but proud of what they'd achieved in the ART program.

“It's been such a privilege to see people light up,” she says. “Art gives them something they can do, something that's theirs.”

The Stella Corkey Endowment Fund ensures that this kind of healing will continue for generations. It is proof that one person can leave a lasting legacy—one drawing, one brushstroke, one spark of hope, at a time.



Estate Gifts Bring Vital Vision-Saving Technology to KHSC Ophthalmology

Two generous estate gifts are transforming vision care at Kingston Health Sciences Centre (KHSC).

Thanks to the estates of Anne Rita Beltrami and Roy Henry Mahaffey, the Ophthalmology Department at the Hotel Dieu Hospital site will now be able to purchase five wireless indirect ophthalmoscopes—essential tools that will make a daily difference for patients across the region.

“These wireless indirect devices allow us to examine the peripheral retina, where retinal tears can occur and potentially lead to retinal detachment and permanent vision loss,” explains Dr. Stephanie Baxter, Ophthalmologist at KHSC. “Almost every patient we see has their peripheral retina assessed, and these scopes are used daily as part of that examination.”

For patients, this means faster diagnosis, better treatment and the chance to preserve one of life’s most vital senses—sight. The wireless

technology also gives doctors greater flexibility and precision, ultimately improving the quality of care patients receive.

Dr. Baxter stresses that donor generosity helps improve care and creates better patient outcomes.

“I can’t emphasize enough the need for donor support for ophthalmology and every clinical service at KHSC. It is with the support of donors that we are able to purchase the equipment necessary to provide not only the standard of care but also the innovative care our patients require. We are grateful for every donation that comes through UHKF.”

Planned gifts, like these two estates, hold a special meaning for Dr. Baxter and her team. They represent not only generosity but also the lasting impact of care delivered at KHSC.

“When someone has passed, and they’ve chosen to give money to our department, I reflect on what that means,” Dr. Baxter shares. “How were the doctors able to touch that person’s life in such a meaningful way that while those patients were alive, they made plans to give some of their estate to our department? It got me thinking how impactful that care must have been. It’s humbling and we receive these gifts with gratitude.”

Thanks to these meaningful estate gifts, KHSC ophthalmologists will continue to protect and restore vision—one patient, one sight-saving exam, at a time.

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