



 **Hamilton
Health Sciences
Foundation**

2024

DONOR REPORT

From Gratitude to Giving: How One Couple's Cancer Journey is Fueling
Research at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre

(story page 7)

Reflections of care

“The progress I've made with my hand is the result of the care I've received at [Hamilton General Hospital's] Hand Clinic. It is what has allowed me to resume making music.”

- Matthew, grateful patient

“I never thought I'd still be here. The expert care and treatment at the Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre have given me time for which I am forever grateful.”

- Kitty, grateful patient

“We owe the team at McMaster Children's Hospital everything. They saved Zoey's life.”

- MacKid dad

“She was very much at risk for developmental delays, but because of the care she got early she's able to do all activities that other kids could do right through till now. Every donation to go towards the care for the kids like [my daughter] Claire is worth it. They all deserve that level of care and that support is so important.”

- MacKid mom

“Surgeons need access to cutting edge technologies to safely perform complex and rare surgeries. Donor support is essential in making that happen.”

- Dr. Pahuta, spinal surgeon

“I'm in a life-long relationship with the team at the Cancer Centre. They're keeping me alive and will always be part of my life and that's beautiful.”

- Heaton, grateful patient

“Working with children in crisis is both challenging and deeply rewarding. It's more than just treatment – it's about helping them rediscover their sense of safety, hope, and strength. Knowing that donors support us makes it possible to provide exceptional care and foster hope for the future.”

- Curtis Dubreuil, child and youth worker, McMaster Children's Hospital



Message from the Board Chair & CEO

Holly Simmons (left)
with Anissa Hilborn (right)

Looking back on 2024, it's clear that this has been a year of transformation, growth and laying the groundwork for an exciting future at Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation. Change isn't always easy, but it's often the spark for progress, and this year was all about embracing possibilities and positioning ourselves to do even more for the community and the people we serve.

Our focus this year has been about more than meeting today's needs; it's been about preparing for the future. We've worked hard to position the Foundation to grow and evolve so we can support the vision of Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) even more effectively. Together, we've taken steps to ensure sustainability, foster innovation and scale our impact to better address the growing and diverse needs of our region.

As you read through this year's donor report, you will see the profound impact of your generosity reflected in the stories of hope, healing and innovation. Your support has touched countless lives, helping patients and their families through some of their most challenging times. Thanks to your contributions, spaces have been brightened, patient experiences improved and groundbreaking research advanced.

Because of you, children facing cancer have found comfort in environments designed with care and compassion. Families navigating health crises have benefited from cutting-edge treatments and advanced care. And patients in long-term care have experienced moments of joy and connection, reminding them that they are never alone.

Each story in this report is a testament to the change you make possible. On behalf of everyone at Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation, and the lives transformed by your kindness, thank you.

As we look to the future, we're filled with optimism. There's so much potential ahead to expand what we can achieve together. By growing our Foundation, empowering innovation, and strengthening our partnerships, we're ready to support Hamilton Health Sciences as it continues to lead the way in health care. Together, we'll ensure a healthier tomorrow for everyone.

Thank you for an incredible year. Your belief in our mission inspires us every day, and we're so proud to have you with us as we continue this exciting path of growth and progress.

Holly Simmons, Board Chair
Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation

Anissa Hilborn, CEO
Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation

Impact highlights

Every donation makes a difference. Our generous community is funding critical equipment, research, education, and redevelopment projects that enhance patient care across HHS. Here's how donor support is changing lives.



| Dr. Karen Zhang

Empowering cancer care teams through education

Cancer care is always evolving, and ongoing education guarantees that patients receive the most advanced, compassionate care possible. Thanks to donations totaling more than \$20,000, health care providers at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre have new opportunities to enhance their skills.

One of the beneficiaries, psychologist Dr. Karen Zhang, attended the Canadian Association of Psychosocial Oncology Conference with Foundation funding. There, she gained advanced knowledge in holistic, patient-centred cancer care. Her patients now benefit from the conference's insights every day.

"I was able to learn about new evidence-based programs and ways to support patients and families during the cancer journey. The opportunity has allowed me to bring more services to our local program."

- Dr. Karen Zhang



| MacKid Lyla and her mother Danielle in McMaster Children's Hospital's oncology unit.

Advanced care for critically ill heart patients

Hamilton General Hospital has the largest integrated stroke program in Ontario, treating some of the sickest patients from across the province. Thanks to a donation from the Doug Lamon Foundation, the hospital's Cardiac Unit now has a new continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT) machine, a cutting-edge tool that provides continuous kidney support for critically ill patients.

When time is critical, this technology ensures patients receive the best possible treatment fast.



| CRRT Machine

Advancing research to improve seniors' lives

As a national leader in aging research, St. Peter's Hospital's GERAS Centre is transforming how we care for older adults with complex medical needs. Thanks to donor support in 2024, this critical work is moving forward.

This investment supports researchers at GERAS as they develop innovative strategies to improve mobility, cognition and overall quality of life for aging patients. Their work is helping create better models of care that enable seniors to stay healthier, stronger, and more independent for longer.



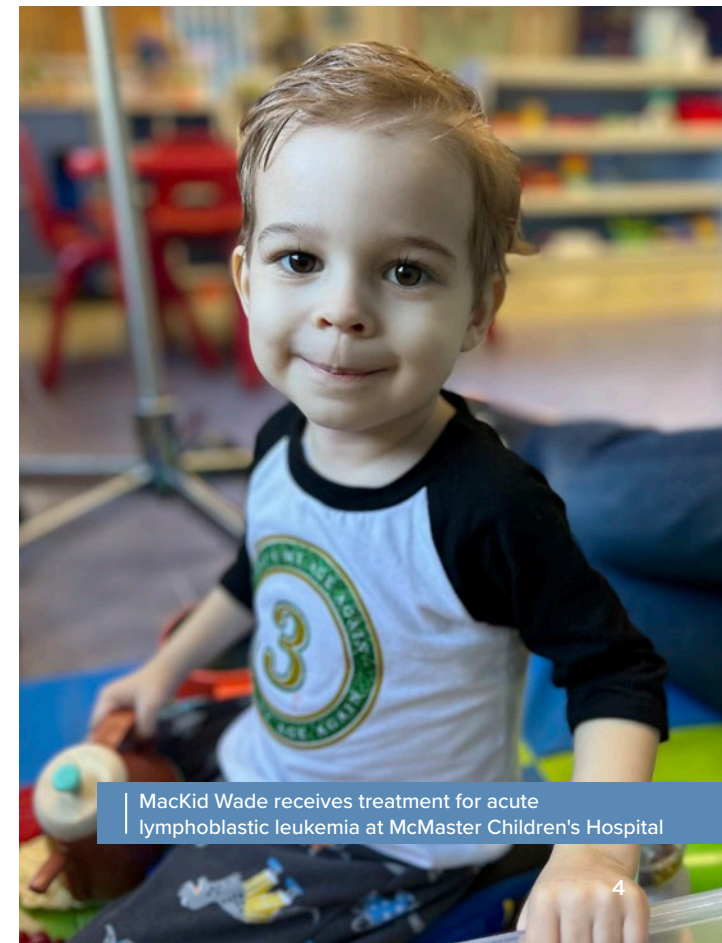
| Dr. Alexandra Papaioannou & GERAS team

Helping kids with cancer get care faster

A cancer diagnosis changes everything for a family. But thanks to a generous \$150,000 gift from the Steven Young Trust Fund, young patients at McMaster Children's Hospital's Pediatric Oncology Clinic will receive chemotherapy treatments with shorter wait times.

This funding helps support the creation of a new Pediatric Oncology-Pharmacy Satellite Chemotherapy Suite, streamlining the preparation of life-saving treatments.

For parents facing the unimaginable, knowing that treatment is ready when their child needs it – and that support is available – means everything.



| MacKid Wade receives treatment for acute lymphoblastic leukemia at McMaster Children's Hospital

Your support at work

Critical care expansion

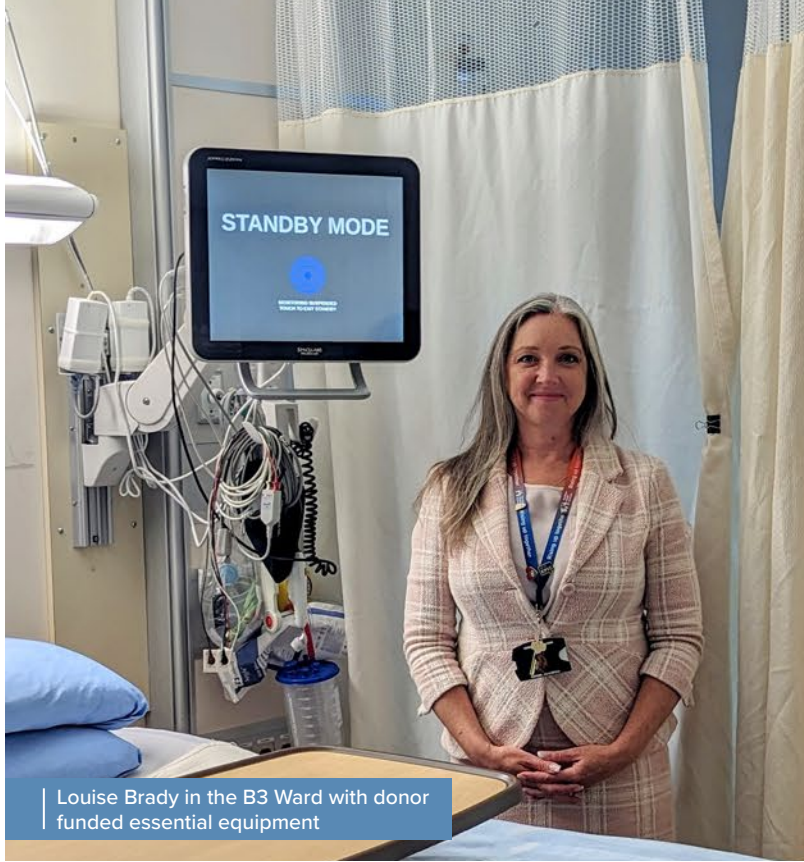
Nearly \$1 million in donor support provided essential equipment to upgrade the B3 Ward at Juravinski Hospital into a Level 2 Critical Care Unit, providing care for critically ill patients while alleviating strain on the hospital's Intensive Care Unit.

Robotic revolution

A generous gift in 2023 from Hamilton and District Senior Citizens' Home RAMBYNAS Inc. brought state-of-the-art rehabilitation tools to Hamilton General Hospital's Regional Rehabilitation Centre in 2024, including a cutting-edge robotic exoskeleton. This technology helps patients who have experienced health care crises like stroke, brain and spine injuries, and amputations regain mobility faster, improving circulation, reducing pain, and enhancing joint health. The Regional Rehabilitation Centre is now one of the first in Canada to offer this groundbreaking resource.

A bold leap for autism research

In its inaugural year, the National Centre for Autism Collaboration hosted the 10th Canadian Autism Leadership Summit. The event mobilized 290 advocates – including self-advocates, service providers, and policymakers – to craft evidence-backed policy notes for Canada's forthcoming National Autism Strategy, putting lived experience at the heart of national change.



Louise Brady in the B3 Ward with donor funded essential equipment

A warm welcome

A new pilot program created in partnership between the Foundation and local organizations is providing a safe, staffed overnight space for individuals discharged from the hospital with nowhere to go. The Hub on Vine Street is reducing emergency room strain and improving patient outcomes. So far, it's connected over 40 individuals with resources beyond hospital walls.

Backstage pass to medical innovation

This year, the Foundation hosted dynamic Speaker Series events, offering exclusive insights from leading physicians and researchers. Donors and community members got behind-the-scenes looks at how their support drives medical breakthroughs and clinical care at Hamilton Health Sciences. Look forward to more engaging opportunities in the year ahead.

Safer care for older adults

A generous estate gift from E.D. Connor provided 30 new ProCuity beds for patients at St. Peter's Hospital, enhancing safety and comfort for older adults. The gift is also supporting ongoing upgrades to a palliative care room, helping ensure patients receive end-of-life care in a more peaceful, dignified environment.



Grateful patient Kofi (centre) using donor-funded exoskeleton

Community champions at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre

Imagine facing a life-threatening illness, knowing your treatment depends on complex, highly specialized equipment. At Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre, replacing aging apheresis machines is a carefully planned effort designed to ensure the latest technology is in place while also expanding capacity for a growing number of patients requiring this essential care. Rather than waiting for machines to fail, the hospital is proactively replacing two machines per year over three years to ensure seamless care.

Apheresis is a medical procedure that involves removing blood from the body and passing it through a centrifuge to separate it into its individual components. This process allows for the collection of specific components, such as stem cells, platelets or plasma, which can be used for transplantation, while the remaining blood is reintroduced back into the bloodstream. Apheresis plays an essential role in the treatment of blood cancers, supporting both stem cell transplants and other advanced therapies.

Last year, some of the apheresis machines at the Juravinski Cancer Centre were nearing the end of their lifecycle, making the acquisition of new equipment essential to maintain and improve patient care.

In response, compassionate donors rallied together to ensure these life-saving devices were replaced. Their swift and generous response facilitated the immediate purchase of two apheresis machines as well as four more over the next three years as they too wear out. Donors were also quick to jump in and purchase two specialized freezers for storing harvested stem cells, increasing the hospital's capacity to treat patients with blood cancers.

Tammy De Gelder, clinical manager of hematology, expressed heartfelt gratitude for this community support:

“These apheresis machines are true lifelines. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are now better equipped to meet the evolving needs of our community, especially as the demand for cellular therapies continues to grow. From the hematology team, we are profoundly grateful.”

Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre is one of Ontario's most comprehensive cancer centres and among the select few in the province providing all forms of stem cell transplants. The replacement of these apheresis machines is pivotal in enhancing the hospital's capacity to serve patients, ensuring that those facing blood cancers receive the best possible care, close to home.



Apheresis machine

FROM GRATITUDE TO GIVING:
How one couple's cancer journey is
fueling research at Juravinski Hospital
and Cancer Centre

When Carolyn Koppelaar was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in early 2020 – just as the world was beginning to shut down due to COVID-19 – she found herself facing two life-altering events at once. But from the moment she began treatment at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre, Carolyn felt comforted.

"I was treated with so much compassion and kindness," she says. "I felt like they went above and beyond."

Under the care of Dr. Amaris Balitsky, a hematologist-oncologist, Carolyn underwent a combination of chemotherapy and immunotherapy over 13 weeks. The treatment was an unmitigated success.

Grateful for the care she received, Carolyn and her husband Walter were inspired to give back, donating \$200,000 to support key research positions and resources for a robust study that will benefit patients at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre, and around the world.

Their generous gift is helping fund a promising area of research led by Dr. Balitsky, who is investigating the long-term impacts of an innovative treatment called CAR T-cell therapy.

A centre of excellence in cancer care

Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre was the second hospital in Ontario to offer CAR T-cell therapy. This revolutionary treatment involves extracting a patient's immune cells, modifying them in a lab to better recognize and destroy cancer cells, and infusing them back into the patient's body.



Health care is something that every single human will need at some point in time. So if we can help that system do the things we need it to do, then why wouldn't you?

- Walter Koppelaar



| Carolyn and Dr. Balitsky

CAR T-cell is one of the most exciting cancer breakthroughs in decades – offering hope to patients with few options left. Still rare in Canada, it's available at only a few hospitals, including Juravinski Cancer Centre. This personalized therapy reprograms the immune system to target cancer with precision, marking a new era in treatment.

While CAR T-cell therapy has transformed cancer treatment for many patients, it can also come with serious side-effects. Dr. Balitsky's research is focused on understanding how patients' cognitive function – things like memory and concentration – are affected over time after treatment.

"Our research helps us understand the real-world challenges CAR T-cell recipients face after treatment. This allows us to design more effective follow-up care, tailor supportive interventions and improve patients' quality of life," says Dr. Balitsky. "I'm excited that our work bridges cutting-edge cellular therapy with human-centred outcomes, combining science, clinical care and the lived experiences of patients. We have the opportunity to shape how CAR T-cell care is delivered, not just in Hamilton but across the country, and to position HHS and Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre as a leader in survivorship research for advanced therapies."



| Walter, Carolyn and Dr. Balitsky



Donors driving discovery

Stories like the Koppelaars' underscore the impact donors have on both individual patients and on the future of medicine. At Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation, donor support is essential to advancing research that improves patient experiences and outcomes.

"CAR T-cell therapy is transforming cancer care, but the story doesn't end when the infusion is done," says Dr. Balitsky. Donor support helps researchers like her explore important, underfunded questions about long-term recovery, from emotional well-being to returning to daily life, ensuring every patient has the best chance to fully heal. "Without donor partnership, these patient-centred research questions risk going unanswered. Your support helps us turn cutting-edge science into meaningful, lasting impact for every patient we serve."

Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre is proud to be among the pioneers of CAR T-cell therapy in Canada. This leadership isn't accidental, it's made possible by donors who believe in the power of research and innovation. Support from philanthropists like the Koppelaars allows Hamilton Health Sciences to be at the forefront of delivering and improving advanced therapies that are changing the future of cancer care.

"Health care is something that every single human will need at some point in time," says Walter. "So if we can help that system do the things we need it to do, then why wouldn't you?"



"I'm in a life-long relationship with the team at the Cancer Centre. They're keeping me alive and will always be part of my life, and that's beautiful."

- Heaton Dyer, a patient of Dr. Mian

Heaton and friends at the Multiple Myeloma March

Partnership highlights: Making a difference together

The generosity of our partners is more than just numbers - it's real impact, real lives changed and real hope for the future.

\$3.5K for long-term patients

At St. Peter's Hospital, compassionate care extends beyond medical treatment. A gift of \$3,500 from the Ontario REALTORS Care Foundation is helping provide comfort and dignity to long-term patients, supporting essential equipment and resources to enhance their daily lives. In a setting where personalized support is foundational, this funding ensures that patients continue to receive the best possible experience throughout their journey.

\$1.75M for burn care research

As one of only two burn centres in Ontario, Hamilton General Hospital is leading the way in specialized burn treatment. Thanks to a generous and anonymous \$1.75 million pledge, researchers are pioneering a five-year study to explore innovative therapies that enhance wound regeneration and healing. Their ultimate goal? The development of artificial skin, a breakthrough that could transform burn care for future patients.

\$45K for righting a rare cancer

The hard work of participants in the 2024 Multiple Myeloma March is advancing research into multiple myeloma care led by Dr. Hira Mian at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre. Dr. Mian's work with this rare cancer is establishing HHS as a leader in this field of research. For patients battling this highly recurrent cancer, this research is more than scientific progress - it's a lifeline to the future.

\$10M for MacKids

This year, we celebrated a remarkable milestone: a cumulative \$10 million in giving from the LCBO community to support children's health care. Since the '90s, support from LCBO customers and employees has funded life-saving equipment, including ventilators and incubator beds, while also expanding urgent mental health clinic services at McMaster Children's Hospital.



MacKid Clara



Child and youth mental health services at Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre were life-changing for Olivia and her mother, Bethany.



Navigating chronic illness at McMaster Children's Hospital

At just two-and-a-half years old, Morghan (Mori) Freitag's frequent infections signalled a more serious health concern. After extensive testing, she was diagnosed with vesicoureteral reflux, a condition where urine flows backward into the ureters and sometimes the kidneys, leading to recurrent infections. Despite undergoing deflux surgery at age four, Mori continues to face health challenges that require ongoing medical care.



McMaster Children's Hospital has been a central pillar of care and support throughout Mori's journey. She has undergone specialized tests, including voiding cystourethrograms and CT scans, and received care from nephrology and urology specialists. Child life specialists have helped her cope emotionally, and hospital tutors have ensured she stays on top of her schoolwork.

Mori's love for the performing arts became a defining moment in her health care experience. In 2022, while preparing for a local production of *Annie*, a ureter blockage threatened to keep her from performing. Understanding the importance of her emotional well-being, Mori's care team coordinated her treatment schedule so she could take the stage.

"Her care was number one and her health was number one," says Mori's mother, Meghan. "They also knew that part of her health was her mental health. So, they made sure she was able to do her show."

Exceptional, holistic care like this has been the hallmark of Mori's journey with McMaster Children's Hospital and just one of the many reasons she was a fantastic ambassador for her hospital as MacKids' 2024 Children's Miracle Network (CMN) Champion.

As a Champion, Mori shared her story with CMN partners like The Brick and Walmart to advocate for the hospital that has been such a critical part of her life and inspire generosity to support children like her who rely on its specialized services.



| MacKid Mori

CMN & CCHF: Transforming pediatric care

Children's Miracle Network (CMN) and **Canada's Children's Hospital Foundations (CCHF)** are national fundraising networks dedicated to supporting children's hospitals across North America.

At McMaster Children's Hospital, their partnerships with corporate donors and caring communities help fund lifesaving treatments, transformative research, and top-priority equipment to guarantee young patients exceptional care.

Championing hope

MacKid Mori embodies the spirit of giving. As MacKids' 2024 CMN Champion, she shared her story to inspire others and has raised over \$13,000 for McMaster Children's Hospital by selling handmade bracelets and partnering with local businesses. From setting up shop at her local farmers market, to collaborating with her local theatre to allocate ticket admissions to our cause, she is one hard working young philanthropist who continues to pursue brighter futures for young patients.

Partners making a difference

Peoples Jewellers: Chose McMaster Children's Hospital as the destination for the amazing \$78,222.77 raised (nearly 50 per cent more than the year before!) from top-fundraiser celebration, recognizing outstanding staff dedication.

Sobeys: Employees toured the hospital to see their support for the Child & Youth Mental Health Program in action. Their annual fall campaign helped fund staffing for substance use counsellors who will help support children and teens in crisis.

Costco: The Ancaster warehouse ranked among Canada's top fundraisers, helping increase Costco's total contributions to MacKids from \$500K to \$600K.

Dairy Queen: Local franchisee Bryan Benninger was named the 2024 DQ Miracle Maker and was honoured at the Children's Hospital Week conference. DQ's contributions to MacKids totalled an incredible \$127,393 in 2024.



| Sobeys teammates tour McMaster Children's Hospital



| Miracle Treat Day with the DQ Fennel team



| Costco 1436 St. Catherines team



The journey to better mental health begins with accessible, compassionate care, evidence-based therapies and a path toward healing. Thanks to donor support, we can offer innovative therapies that truly make a difference for children and families in our outpatient programs.

- Kyle Graham, Clinical Manager, Child and Youth Mental Health Program, McMaster Children's Hospital



| Champions for Charity fighters

Community highlights: Compassion in action

Giving is at the heart of our community, where individuals come together to make a lasting impact on patient care. These are just some of the ways local support is shaping health care.

Champions for tiny fighters at McMaster Children's Hospital

When seconds matter, having the right equipment saves lives. Thanks to the generosity of Champions for Charity, a charity boxing event, McMaster Children's Hospital received more than **\$246,000** to purchase four life-saving 'difficult airways carts.' These specialized carts, stocked with critical intubation tools, will be positioned across hospital units, at the ready to help the most vulnerable patients draw life-giving breath.



| Champions for Charity

Fueling groundbreaking research at Hamilton General Hospital

Every heartbeat counts at Hamilton General Hospital, where more cardiac surgeries are performed than anywhere else in Ontario. Thanks to a generous **\$100,000** gift from Tom and Julie Allen, research and education in stroke and cardiac care are taking a leap forward. Their donation is helping fund the Stroke Fellowship Program, advancing stroke research and supporting innovative cardiac procedures, including the Laparoscopic Assisted Abdominal Myomectomy technique led by Dr. Whitlock.



| Austin's Pumpkin Patch

Growing hope at Austin's Pumpkin Patch

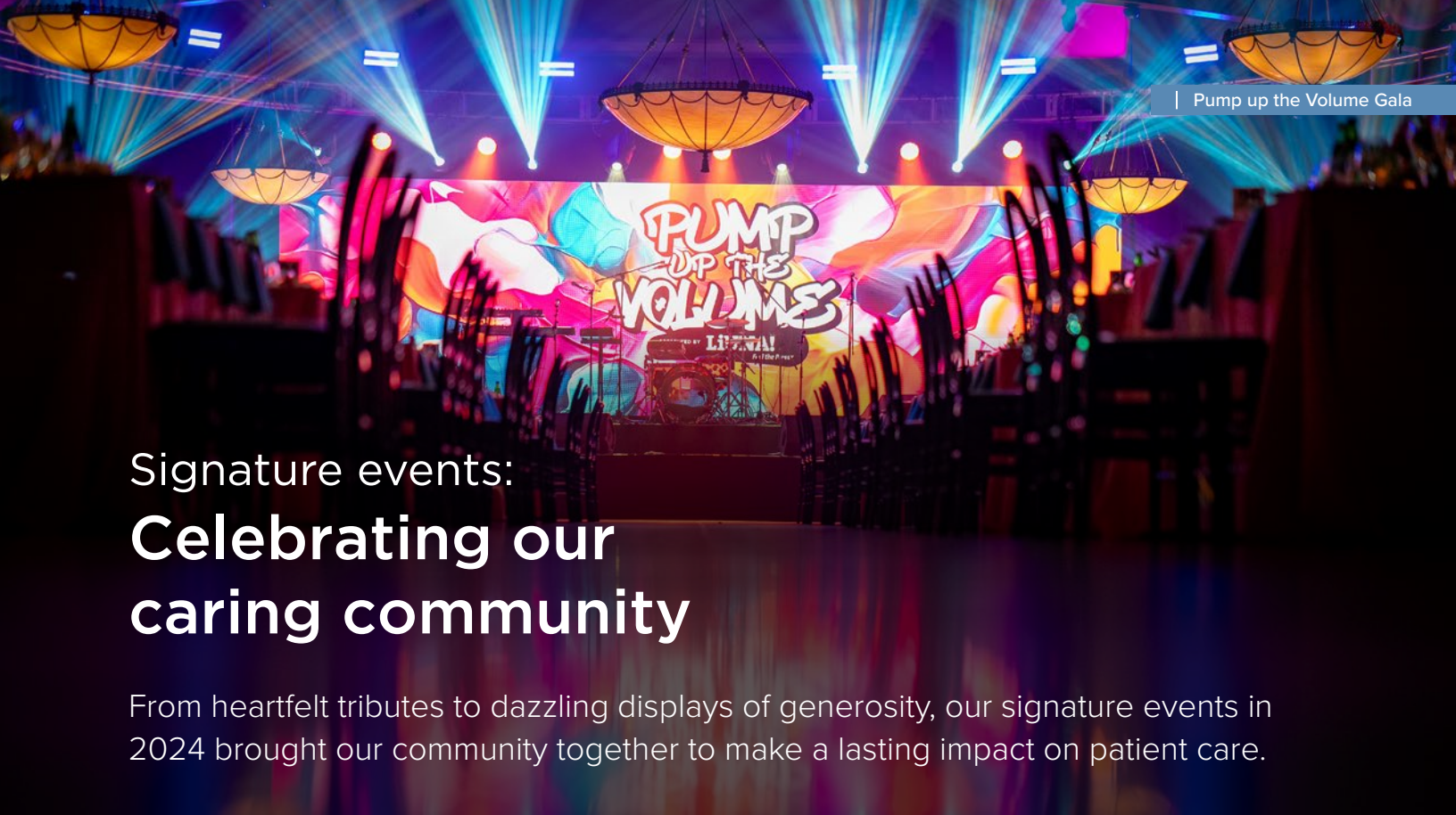
A cancer diagnosis is life-changing, but donors like Austin's Pumpkin Patch are helping patients fight with confidence. Their **\$21,740** gift has funded a new apheresis machine – an essential tool for stem cell transplants and immunotherapy at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre. This gift ensures more patients can access cutting-edge care when it matters most.



| The Courtyard at St. Peter's Hospital

A healing performance at St. Peter's Hospital

A hospital stay can be isolating, but thanks to the Retired Teachers of Ontario, long-term patients at St. Peter's Hospital are experiencing the joy of live theatre. Their **\$4,000** in-kind donation is bringing the magic of Smile Theatre, a traveling performance group, to patients who can't leave their hospital rooms. Music, laughter and storytelling transformed an ordinary day into something special. This gift is proof that healing comes in many forms, including the power of the arts.



Pump up the Volume Gala

Signature events:
**Celebrating our
caring community**

From heartfelt tributes to dazzling displays of generosity, our signature events in 2024 brought our community together to make a lasting impact on patient care.



MacKids Walk & Wheel

MacKids Walk and Wheel

Big strides were made for little feet as the event raised **\$327,212** to support the youngest patients in our HHS family. Team Zoë showed up for their 10th year to honour Zoë's legacy with over 100 supporters in pink shirts, contributing an incredible \$70,000 to the total.



Illuminight

Illuminight

A record-breaking crowd gathered to shine a light on cancer, raising **\$256,051** for cancer care at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre. Twelve hospital teams joined in the fundraising, proving their dedication goes far beyond their shifts.

Hamilton Health Sciences Gala

A night of elegance and impact, the Gala raised **\$354,965** to fuel groundbreaking research. From new treatments to pioneering studies, donor support is shaping the future of health care.

Donor Appreciation

This celebration at Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre was our cherished opportunity to give a heartfelt thank you to the donors who make it all possible. Guests experienced interactive activations, saw life-changing equipment in action and were moved by powerful patient stories that were all made possible by donor generosity.



Steve Nixon and Maria Artuso of RBC attending the Donor Appreciation Event

Enduring gifts

Planned giving allows donors to leave a meaningful impact on the causes closest to their hearts. Whether through securities, estate gifts, or other financial contributions, their generosity ensures that Hamilton Health Sciences continues to provide exceptional care for years to come.

Giving children a reason to smile

A family's gratitude can be expressed in many ways. For one family whose child received expert care at McMaster Children's Hospital's Cleft Palate Clinic, their appreciation became a lasting legacy. A generous **\$100,000** gift of securities is helping enhance care for children born with cleft lip and palate by supporting specialized surgeries and therapies. This transformational donation is advancing treatment options that give young patients the ability to speak, eat and smile with confidence.

A firefighter's legacy lives on

Evyleen Litt knew the courage and sacrifice of first responders personally. Her husband, a captain with the Kitchener Fire Department, was tragically the first firefighter in Kitchener to lose his life in the line of duty in 1988. To honour his memory and support those facing devastating burn injuries, Evyleen left a gift of **\$43,085** in securities to Hamilton General Hospital's Burn Unit. Her generosity is ensuring that patients have access to critical treatments and compassionate care in their most difficult moments.



Dr. Courtney Kennedy & Aastha Relan with team at St. Peter's Hospital

Strength in every step

Recovering from a stroke is a journey that requires specialized care and rehabilitation. Thanks to a **\$25,521** gift of securities from Vietta Wilson, patients at Hamilton General Hospital's Integrated Stroke Unit now have access to telemetry monitoring for multiple beds and several ergonomic wheelchairs to enhance comfort and mobility during recovery. As part of Ontario's largest integrated stroke program, these additions are helping patients regain their independence and rebuild their strength.

Comfort, care and dignity for long-term patients

Sometimes, the simplest comforts make the biggest difference. When staff at St. Peter's Hospital learned that an estate gift of more than **\$781,000** from June Young would fund – among other essential resources – a new air conditioning system for the Restorative Care Unit's rehabilitation gym, they were overwhelmed with emotion. Some even shed tears. This extraordinary gift is also supporting new beds for the Behavioural Health Unit and public washroom renovations, all contributing to the holistic well-being and dignity of long-term patients.

To learn how you can leave a lasting legacy for your community, email us at legacy@hhsc.ca.



Members of the research team at the Burn Unit, Hamilton General Hospital

Grants

Advancing AI for better breast cancer detection

Thanks to support from Johnston Chrysler Dodge Jeep that purchased contrast-enhanced mammography software, researchers at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre are developing an AI platform trained on local data to improve breast cancer detection in women with dense breast tissue.

Easing the journey through spinal surgery

Last year, the Cameron Family Award empowered Samantha Hill, a child life specialist at McMaster Children’s Hospital, to develop a surgery preparation workbook for young patients awaiting spinal fusion. With year-long wait times and intense recovery periods, this resource will help families feel more informed, supported and ready for what’s ahead thereby making a stressful journey a little less overwhelming.



32

grants were awarded to support ongoing education for Hamilton Health Sciences staff



22

donor-supported research grants moved health care excellence forward



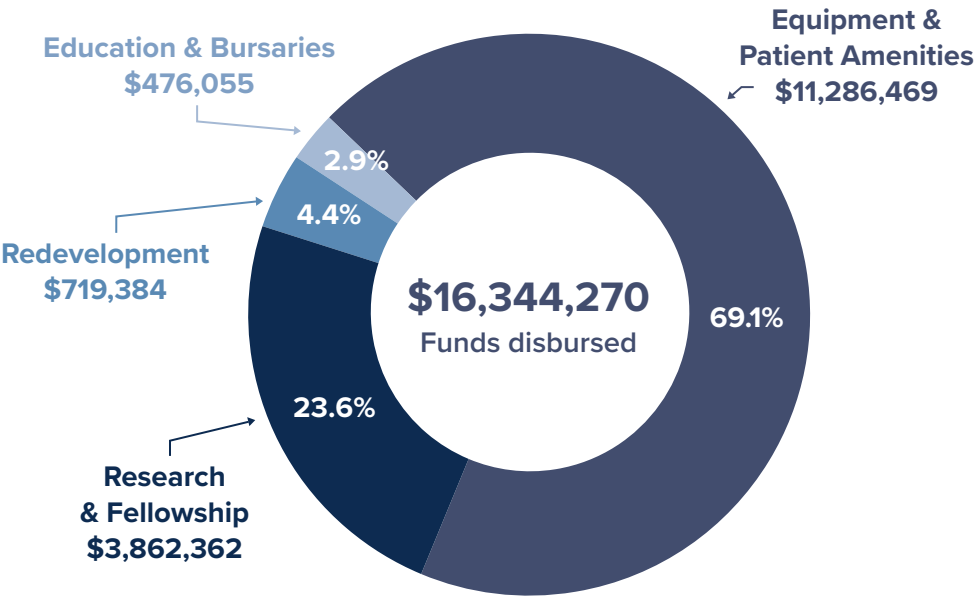
MacKid Eilidh

Every dollar at work

Every dollar you give has a purpose and a powerful impact.

Thanks to your generosity, life-saving funds were disbursed across key areas of health care in 2024, supporting patients, advancing research, strengthening HHS hospitals and empowering the next generation of health care providers.

Here’s how your support was put to work.



\$476,055 to give health care providers life-changing learning opportunities that improve patient care today and tomorrow.
One of many education initiatives: Dr. Karen Zhang attended a national oncology conference, bringing new tools and knowledge back to cancer patients at Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre. [Read more on page 3.](#)

\$3,862,362 to accelerate groundbreaking research and innovation that will shape the future of health care across all stages of life.
One example: A \$100,000 gift from Tom and Julie Allen is advancing stroke and cardiac care at Hamilton General Hospital through the Stroke Fellowship Program. [Read more on page 14.](#)

\$719,384 to build stronger, more responsive hospital spaces that meet the growing needs of your community.
Among several site enhancements: donor support is creating a new pediatric oncology-pharmacy satellite chemotherapy suite. [Read more on page 4.](#)

\$11,286,469 to provide essential tools and comforts that make a difference in every hospital room, treatment space, and recovery journey.
Just one impact: McMaster Children’s Hospital received four specialized ‘difficult airways carts,’ stocked with life-saving intubation tools, thanks to Champions for Charity. [Read more on page 13.](#)

Meet the Foundation’s Board of Directors

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