



Media Backgrounder

London Health Sciences Foundation (LHSF) is a registered charity with the Canadian Revenue Agency's Charities Directorate. We are committed to ethical and transparent fundraising, and have met the standards required to become a [Better Business Bureau Accredited Charity](#) and a member of [Imagine Canada](#).

We strengthen London Health Sciences Centre's (LHSC) ability to provide the highest quality health care for patients in Southwestern Ontario and beyond, by offering donors the opportunity to support discovery and innovation at the hospital.

We have raised more than one third of a billion dollars since 1996, for health care education and training initiatives, leading-edge equipment, new technology and new facilities that enhance patient care, as well as the development of innovative treatments and research discoveries that advance health care. During that time, LHSC recorded 46 national and international medical firsts. Many of those firsts were enabled by facilities, equipment, training and research funded in whole or in part by donors.

We share the same logo with LHSC, which is based on the partial double helix DNA strand. It reflects the human and scientific elements of LHSC's mission in patient care, research and teaching excellence.

While we work closely with the hospital to support their mission we are, in fact, a separate organization. We act as a trustee on behalf of our donors and are governed by our own, independent Board of Directors, comprised of 28 volunteers who represent the community. We employ a staff of 52, combined with hundreds of volunteers who support foundation events, committees and administration.

Three Things You Should Know About LHSF:

1. Donations help enhance and advance the current standard of healthcare. Ontario's Ministry of Health and Long Term Care pays for quality healthcare - based on current, proven medical standards - including the day-to-day operations of LHSC. Our foundation funds certain aspects of research, education and patient support at LHSC that are above that standard and that do not typically receive Ministry funding. We also help pay the local-share of hospital redevelopment and renovation projects.

Our Mission: To inspire investment in excellence at London Health Sciences Centre.

Our Vision: To meet the needs of London Health Sciences Centre by revolutionizing the response of our communities to health care philanthropy.

Our Values: In our relationships with our donors, hospital, communities and each other we commit to:

- **Accountability.** We are responsible for our actions and performance.

- **Innovation.** We support creativity and strategic thinking.

- **Integrity.** We carry out our responsibilities in a professional, ethical and transparent manner.

- **Respect.** We value individual contributions and foster a supportive environment to achieve shared goals.

- **Service.** We provide quality service and respond to needs in a timely manner.

2. Our foundation matches donor interest with hospital-identified needs. The hospital has a list of needs that are prioritized by the hospital's physicians, researchers and administrators based on medical need and financial sustainability. The foundation uses this list to inform donors of the hospital's needs. Donors sometimes have an affinity to a specific program. For example, a donor whose family member has received care for a cardiac condition may be more inclined to direct their support to the needs of the hospital's cardiac program. Donations made to a specific program are known as "donor-directed" funds.

3. Making an unrestricted donation gives our foundation the most flexibility to help meet the ongoing needs of patients in Southwestern Ontario. While donors can choose to direct their support to a specific program, "unrestricted" donations allow our foundation to meet the needs of all programs. Unrestricted donations ensure money is not tied up in a program where donations are plentiful while the needs of less popular, but equally important, programs go unmet.

Our Fundraising Programs: Every dollar counts and everyone can help advance and enhance health care in Southwestern Ontario. With a wide range of programs our foundation offers donors opportunities to contribute at their individual level-of-ability and the manner that best suits their giving style.

Annual Giving

- Gifts up to \$24,999, including monthly donations.
- Community Events
- Memorial Giving
- Celebration Giving
- Corporate Sponsorships
- Direct mail /Phone programs through our Donor Contact Centre
- Signature Events
 - Tastings – a culinary and wine black-tie event held first Thursday in May
 - Country Classic Auction – a country-casual entertainment event held the first Saturday in November

Lotteries

- Dream Lottery supports LHSC, Children's Hospital at LHSC, and St Joseph's Health Care, London

Planned Giving / Estate Planning

- Gifts of annuities, RRSPs, estate bequests or life insurance.

Major Giving

- Gifts of \$25,000 or more from: Individuals, corporations or foundations.

Contact Us:

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