



**When you PAY IT FORWARD today,
you help us save lives tomorrow.**

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May 29, 2009

Dear Ms. Donor,

More than 50,000 of our community members were able to receive high-quality emergency treatment at Markham Stouffville Hospital last year thanks to *your* generous support.

You see, when you make a gift to Markham Stouffville Hospital you PAY IT FORWARD to everyone in the community. Your generosity multiplies and touches thousands of lives.

Sudden emergencies like heart attacks and broken bones happen all the time, and the truth is –

You never know if and when you or someone in your family will come to rely on the life-saving care of your community Hospital.

As an important member of our Markham Stouffville Hospital family, you know the incredible impact donations have on patient care and I am deeply grateful for your recent gift, which is already making a real difference for so many patients. That is why I hope you will take a moment today to PAY IT FORWARD to your Hospital and to your community by making another special donation this year. With your continued support, we will be able to purchase much-needed equipment and continue to provide the best in progressive community care to you, your family, friends and neighbours.

In the words of one of our youngest supporters, 11-year-old Shelby Simms:

“When people are sick, everyone in the community should help.”

Both Shelby and her friend, Jesica Tairoski were born at Markham Stouffville Hospital. Recently – as a way of paying it forward – they took up dog-walking in their neighbourhood to raise funds for the Hospital.

Kelly McCabe* and her family are also paying it forward by acting as ambassadors and supporting the Hospital in any way they can. Earlier this year, Kelly’s family got to experience just how important it is to have the right care, facilities and equipment close to home when her 14-year-old son Jason* was rushed to the emergency room with severe abdominal pain. Thanks to the skilled and well-organized team of doctors and nurses, Jason was quickly diagnosed with appendicitis and underwent surgery in a matter of hours. According to Kelly:

Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation
381 Church Street, PO Box 1800
Markham, Ontario L3P 7P3

T: 905.472.7059 F: 905.472.7018

“Everyone in the community should realize that someday they or their loved ones may come to rely on the Hospital’s facilities. We all need to do our part to ensure our community Hospital is able to provide us with the best care possible.”

Another caring supporter of the Hospital – Ruth Braithwaite – has also found a unique way to make a difference in her community. Over the years, Ruth has made commemorative gifts in honour of the staff, as well as asked friends and family to make a donation to the Hospital in lieu of buying birthday presents. As a frequent patient who has made more than a few visits to the emergency room, Ruth is committed to ensuring that our Hospital is able to continue providing life-saving care to everyone in her community.

When you PAY IT FORWARD to Markham Stouffville Hospital, thousands of people in your community benefit from your generosity.

Your donation – of any amount – will enable us to purchase vital pieces of medical equipment like a new operating room table and vital signs monitors. Without these tools, it is simply impossible for our Hospital staff to do their jobs.

You are such an important member of our Markham Stouffville Hospital family and we want to recognize the incredible difference you make in the lives of so many people. That is why I have enclosed a special link just for you to write your name on and send back with your donation.

We will proudly display it in the Hospital next to Shelby, Jesica, Ruth, Kelly and the other names of our generous supporters who are paying it forward in their own special ways. Stringed together – these links represent the “chain of support” that it takes to make Markham Stouffville Hospital the best it can be for everyone in your community.

On behalf of our patients and staff, thank you for your past support and for choosing to PAY IT FORWARD to Markham Stouffville Hospital. Without you, life-saving care would not be possible.

Gratefully yours,



Suzette Strong, MA, CFRE
President
Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation

P.S. Shelby, Jesica, Ruth and Kelly are just a few examples of how community members are helping to ensure our Hospital has the state-of-the-art equipment it needs to continue saving lives. Please PAY IT FORWARD today by making a special gift to your Hospital.

P.P.S. To ensure your community and loved ones have access to high quality care and state-of-the-art equipment now and in the future, I encourage you to consider making a planned gift and PAY IT FORWARD for generations to come. To learn more about how your planned gift can make a long-lasting impact, please see the enclosed insert. **Thank you for your generous support.**

* Names have been changed for privacy reasons.