



Planning for Kids

SickKids Gift Planning Newsletter

SickKids®

Research discovery makes world of difference for Yusuf

At the age of 16, most teenagers are looking forward to getting their driver's license. Yusuf looked forward to simply getting out of his hospital bed.

In July 2012, Yusuf was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a cancerous bone tumour that often develops in adolescence. Patients with this disease must stay in the hospital for three to four days after each chemotherapy treatment to ensure they are healthy enough to go home. Suddenly, he found himself spending more time in a hospital than he ever thought he would.

"Being at the hospital was a constant reminder that I was sick," says Yusuf. "My spirits weren't the best and I felt glued to my bed, constantly watching the clock."

Luckily, a new donor-funded pilot project at SickKids is changing things for patients like Yusuf. He became the first of two paediatric patients in Canada to receive portable cancer treatment through a blue backpack that he carried with him at all times. This meant he was no longer required to stay so long at the hospital, completing each treatment from the comfort of his own home.

This project also improved his overall quality of life. Before his backpack, Yusuf was spending the equivalent of four days in hospital for each treatment. With the help of the backpack, he only had to spend 22 hours at the hospital.

Today, Yusuf is finished his treatment, and hopefully the

only backpack he'll have to carry from now on is one for his textbooks.

The project was initiated and managed by the Garron Family Cancer Centre at SickKids. The Centre is Canada's largest and busiest paediatric cancer centre, treating 25 per cent of all new childhood cancer cases in the country.

Building on what they've learned from the first two patients, the research team is looking forward to offering the backpack program to other sarcoma patients in 2014.

Yusuf became the first of two paediatric patients in Canada to receive portable cancer treatment through a blue backpack.





Margaret, now 94, celebrates the holidays with her sons (from left to right) Ian, Gordon and Archie.

A legacy for nursing

The polio epidemic that crippled tens of thousands of Canadians had passed, women in Quebec had won the right to vote and World War II dominated the headlines. It was 1944 and Margaret Platt, a 25-year-old nurse from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario was at The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto to do her paediatric clinical training.

In 1944, the 320-bed hospital occupied land at the corner of Elizabeth and College Streets, the place it would remain until 1951 when the present day SickKids would open at 555 University.

“SickKids gave so much to her and this is her way of giving back.”

Margaret’s eldest son, Archie, recounts his mother’s memories about her time at the hospital. “My mom fondly remembers being assigned to take care of premature babies who had been placed in a special room. She would feed the babies every three hours and ensure that they were all receiving the best care possible. She learned how to make formula, tend to patients at the bedside and assist with surgeries. The skills she gained really enhanced her ability to do her

job to the best of her ability. She even recollects one particular patient who would sing the hymn, “We Are Fishers of Men,” to her every morning. She thought he had a lovely singing voice.”

Archie says that from day one, nursing was Margaret’s calling in life. “She’s a nurse in every sense of the word. To this day, it is part of who she is, and SickKids played a big part in that.”

Last year, Archie and his two brothers decided that they wanted to do something to honour their mother. “We asked her how she wanted to be remembered, what she wanted her legacy to be.” Margaret’s response? “SickKids.”

Margaret’s wish was granted. Her three sons made a commitment to the hospital to establish a nursing education fund in her name. The gift will help give nurses at SickKids the opportunity to get specialized training in paediatric clinical care, just as Margaret did 70 years ago.

“She speaks so fondly of SickKids,” says Archie. “She has a great affinity for the hospital and it will always have a very special place in her heart. SickKids gave so much to her and this is her way of giving back.”

A message from the new President and CEO

Dr. Mike Apkon was appointed President and CEO of The Hospital for Sick Children on January 13, 2014 following a comprehensive, international search. He has already demonstrated a strong personal commitment to the future of the hospital.



Dr. Mike Apkon, SickKids
President and CEO

I am thrilled to have received the honour of becoming the new President and CEO of The Hospital for Sick Children.

Since joining the SickKids family, I have learned that SickKids is an incredible place with remarkable opportunities. It brings together an elite level of care with world-class research and education that allows us to have a transformative and lasting impact on child health. There is an unparalleled spirit of innovation and

collaboration that is evident in all areas across the hospital.

Our vision, Healthier Children. A Better World., is one that deeply resonates with me. As a physician and health-care administrator, I am deeply committed to furthering quality, improvement and innovation in the paediatric health-care setting.

I'd like to thank you for your continued support of SickKids. It is because of your commitment and generosity that SickKids remains one of the top paediatric hospitals in the world. The impact of your gifts allows us to continue to bring hope and healing to our patients and their families, enabling them to live longer, healthier lives.

I understand the value that planned gifts provide to the future of SickKids. This is why I have left a gift for the hospital in my will. If you are considering a gift, I encourage you to speak with the Gift & Estate Planning team to help you get started.

On behalf of my colleagues and the children whose lives have been improved by SickKids, thank you for your inspiring generosity.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mike Apkon

A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

Leaving a gift for SickKids in your will is a simple but incredibly impactful way of giving. Through a gift in your will, you are helping to provide leading medical care for sick children, educate future generations of health care providers and support discoveries that can lead to recoveries.

In your will, you can choose to leave **The Hospital for Sick Children Foundation** the residue of your estate, a sum of money or a specific piece of property.

Leaving a gift in your will is a fairly simple process. Speak to your lawyer about drafting or revising your will to include the appropriate wording. Sample wording could be: "My estate trustees shall pay the sum of \$_____ or _____% of residue of my estate (or transfer assets with an equal value) to **The Hospital for Sick Children Foundation**, Toronto, ON for the purpose of supporting the highest priority needs."

Then, please contact us to let us know about your gift so we can thank you and, if you would like, offer you the opportunity to be recognized in our Donor Hall.

There are many benefits to leaving a gift in your will, including the satisfaction of providing a future gift while retaining control of your assets during your lifetime, a charitable tax receipt to your estate, a reduction or elimination of estate taxes through careful planning and an opportunity to honour or memorialize yourself or a loved one by establishing a named endowment fund.

For more information on how you can build your legacy, please contact the Gift & Estate Planning team at **416-813-8271** or **gift.planning@sickkidsfoundation.com**.

What's your story?

We are always touched to hear your stories. We are privileged to speak to many people who have been helped by SickKids, those who have been here with their children and those who were helped when they were children. We also speak to those who have never been here, but want to help. Each story is inspiring to us.

Individuals who make SickKids part of their legacy are part of the reason why 80 per cent of Canadian children diagnosed with cancer will survive, and why 90 per cent of children born with a heart defect now live into adulthood. Fifty years ago, we only dreamed of those numbers.

Please let us know if you are considering leaving a gift to **The Hospital for Sick Children Foundation** in your will, or have already done so. We would be happy to answer any questions about the different ways you can give or about designating your gift. We would also like to thank you for your faith and commitment to our institution and discuss the recognition you may wish to receive.

One of the ways we recognize our legacy donors is by placing their names on a plaque in our Donor Hall of Honour and then hosting a celebration to honour these individuals. This year, our celebration will take place on Tuesday, May 27 at 5:30 p.m. at the hospital and will feature a presentation by patients and staff.

If you would like to learn more, please contact the Gift & Estate Planning team at 416-813-8271 or gift.planning@sickkidsfoundation.com.

Sincerely,



Catherine

Catherine Starling
Coordinator

Malcolm

Malcolm Berry
Director

Denise

Denise Fernandes
Associate Director

SickKids®

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BEQUEST INFORMATION

SickKids Foundation is the hospital's parallel charity which raises money, performs estate administration and manages endowments on behalf of The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids).

Do your estate plans include SickKids Foundation? Let us know! If you plan to make a bequest, the name you should include in your will is:

The Hospital for Sick Children Foundation

PRIVACY

SickKids Foundation respects the privacy of its donors. Please read our full privacy policy at www.sickkidsfoundation.com.

ABOUT PLANNING FOR KIDS

Planning for Kids is a charitable gift planning newsletter published twice a year by SickKids Foundation. The information provided is general in nature and not intended to be a substitute for professional legal and financial planning advice. The Foundation encourages donors who are planning a significant donation to seek legal and financial planning advice.

SHARE WITH US

We invite you to share your comments and ideas with us. If you have an idea for a story or would like to make a general comment or suggestion about the contents of the newsletter, please send an email to: gift.planning@sickkidsfoundation.com or call 416.813.8271.



ABOUT THE COVER PHOTO

Antonio was four when he was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. After undergoing treatment at SickKids, the six-year-old is now in remission.