



Media Release

Tuesday September 14, 2010

Volunteers donate \$250,000 to patient care & redevelopment at Providence Care

(Kingston, ON) – Providence Care and the University Hospitals Kingston Foundation are celebrating today with the announcement of a \$250,000 pledge from volunteers at St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital and Mental Health Services.

The gift to the *Together We Can* campaign will be directed toward patient care and the redevelopment of a new Providence Care hospital.

Volunteer Mary Margaret Dauphinee presented a cheque to the Foundation for the \$250,000 pledge on behalf of Providence Care hospital volunteers, at a celebration event held at St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital.

"As volunteers, we get much more out of each experience than what we give," Ms. Dauphinee said. "We see the difference that Providence Care makes in people's lives. This gift will be part of some big changes for our hospitals, but the resolve to provide compassionate care to patients and clients will always stay the same."

Campaign Chair Ian Wilson expressed thanks for the volunteers' continued support of the *Together We Can* campaign. "I salute your commitment and generous spirit, and commend you all for the hard work and long hours you put in to help make Providence Care such a wonderful place for those in our community who need and use its services."

The volunteers announced their gift on a Providence Care "Mission Day," one of three days through the year celebrated by the organization to acknowledge the contribution staff and volunteers provide and their commitment to the Mission and Values of Providence Care.

"Mission Day is a time to acknowledge and thank our volunteers and staff, and remember our shared commitment to respect & dignity, compassion and stewardship," Glen Wood, Chair, Providence Care Board of Directors said. "This generous gift will fund patient needs and will help us to realize our vision of a new hospital that will combine the services of St. Mary's of the Lake and Mental Health Services."

Donations from St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital and Mental Health Services volunteers are raised through the gift shops, sales of lottery tickets, raffles and bazaars, and proceeds from community bingos. Volunteers at both hospitals provide a range of patient support services such as assisting with physiotherapy, occupational, and palliative care programs, and leading arts, music and social skills group programs.

Providence Care is southeastern Ontario's leading provider of adult mental health treatment and rehabilitation, complex continuing care, forensic psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry, palliative care, specialized geriatric medicine, long-term care and rehabilitation programs. One of Kingston's university hospitals, Providence Care has three main sites in Kingston: Mental Health Services, St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital and Providence Manor, as well as 18 community locations. Affiliated with Queen's University, Providence Care is a major centre for teaching and research. www.providencecare.ca

The \$70-million Together We Can campaign is the largest and most important health care fundraising initiative in the history of Southeastern Ontario. Led by the University Hospitals Kingston Foundation, the joint fundraising arm for Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston General Hospital and Providence Care, the campaign will raise money for the redevelopment of our hospitals, the purchasing of equipment and the funding of medical research and staff education. To find out more go online to www.kingstonhospitalsfoundation.ca.

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