

# Welcome!





A gift in your Will to the Humber River Hospital Foundation is a promise to provide health, hope and love to your neighbours, forever.



#### Welcome!

Imagine you are here with us at Humber River Hospital. One of the first things you'll see is a lovely public art project called Aspen Grove. It was created as a way to honour the variety and diversity in our community. The aspen grove—though it has different colours, different shapes, and different sizes—trees actually come from one root system. The trees don't have individual roots; they're connected. That's our community.

When you join your fellow neighbours by choosing to make a gift in your Will to Humber, you become a member of the Aspen Grove Society, a dedicated and special group of donors who are connected by your generosity, your kindness and your compassion for the future health of your neighbours.

On these pages, we have shared stories of some of our loyal and cherished donors who have made a gift to our Hospital in their Will. We hope you enjoy reading their stories, and reflect on your own story and what matters to you most. Thank you for your amazing support of our Hospital.

### Alan and Julie's Story: Giving Where Our Values Align

"Humber is a leading Hospital here in Canada and indeed around the world. Julie and I are proud to give to Humber because we feel that our values align very well. As a member and now Chair of the Board, my trust and confidence in this Hospital has only grown and flourished. Our whole family is very dedicated to helping Humber grow.

We are both excited about supporting our Hospital, a leader in developing new methodologies in patient care. Our Hospital is also on the cutting edge of the latest technologies in the medical field.

When you think about your Will, you want to provide for your family, but you also want to consider what organizations mean the most to you. We are so fortunate to have Humber as our Hospital. The quality of care and expertise here are unmatched.

It's very important to us that Humber continues to invest in future research and the latest advancements, whatever they may be 20 or 30 or 50 years into the future. We are proud to be part of that story."

Alan Spergel, Chair of the Board of Directors, Humber River Hospital Foundation



## **Carl's Story:** In The Healing Garden With Thelma

"My beloved wife Thelma started giving to Humber after being a patient here. Over the years, Humber became one of our most cherished charities. And when Thelma died, I thought about what she would have liked and I decided to give to help build the Healing Gardens. Today, that garden runs the whole length of the Hospital, and I like to imagine that Thelma is here, greeting the patients. And when a family member needs to step outside for a breath of fresh air or to say a prayer, Thelma is watching over them.

We made the decision together to leave Humber in our Will. Our Will represents what we have valued most in our whole life, and this Hospital is a part of our story. The story of Humber is that they are always innovating, always learning. I absolutely trust the Hospital to spend our gift on what

they need most at the time. As a donor today, I feel very updated and informed about what's happening. And I'm constantly impressed by the staff — they are just the most kind and caring people you'll ever meet. And I know that Thelma felt the same, especially after having being treated for her cancer. I also like to imagine that she's looking down on the Healing Garden and thinking, 'Well, Carl finally did something worthwhile'. — Carl



#### **David's Story:**

#### **Humber Changed My Life**

"Nearly 40 years ago, I was diagnosed with kidney disease. My life changed overnight. For the rest of my life, I was going to need dialysis 3 times a week for 4 hours at a time. Little did I know that Dr. Pierratos was going to pioneer a dialysis solution that would change my life once again. Because of Humber River Hospital, I can do my own dialysis, at home, while I'm sleeping. It's this kind of passion and innovation that makes me a proud supporter of the Foundation. I see for myself, every single day,

how dedicated the Humber team is to my health care. I can't imagine my life without our Hospital.

I'm living proof that anything can happen, at any moment. You just don't know when you will need the hospital. That's also why I've decided to leave Humber in my Will. I know the money will be used well, just as it is today. I believe that all of us have a responsibility to support our Hospital today and into the future. It feels really good to know that the Hospital will continue to be there for my loved ones and for other people like me, forever."

— David

### **Jack and Pat's Story:**

### **What Matters More Than The Health Of Our Families?**

"Pat is a registered nurse and I'm a registered psychiatric nurse, so health care has always been important to us. And Humber is our family hospital—here for our family and our neighbours. The people here are what makes Humber so special. We are in a position to give back to our community and we are proud to do so. We made a decision to give half now and leave half in our Will. This 'blended gift' was perfect for us. We know the need is urgent right now, today. And we also feel great knowing

that we'll still be helping in the future. Whatever the future of health care is, Humber will be able to respond and remain on the leading edge." – Jack

"Both our children were born at Humber and have been treated here since. In fact, one of our sons needed a kidney transplant and I donated one of mine to him. Without our health what do we have? Jack and I have seen our boys in dire need of help, and Humber has been there for us. There is so much to look forward to in the future, and we are very proud to be part of that." – Pat



## Frederick and Greg's Story: Remembering and Loving Our Lois Lane

"Lois and I met at university. We were at a dance and I felt this tap on my shoulder, I turned around but didn't see anyone behind me. I felt a second, more forceful tap, and turned back around and this time noticed a very short, and stunningly beautiful woman, with big blue eyes, looking at me. She asked me to dance, but they were playing rock and roll that I couldn't dance to. Luckily, the music changed and we had our first dance. She was studying journalism, and when we got married she took my name, becoming Lois Lane. And she worked here at the Hospital in public relations in the 1970s, before getting into local politics. Humber was always Lois' hospital, even from the time she was 2 years old. Greg was born here. And when she got sick, Humber cared for her right until the very end. Every time Humber was mentioned, she would just light up." – Frederick

"Mum didn't put up with a lot of nonsense. As a journalist she was curious

about everything, always chasing down stories. And even when she was a patient here, she got to know everyone. I remember there was a man here who used to bring her meals. She found out he was going to New York City for the first time and got \$40 changed into American cash. She pressed it into his hand and told him he had to go and eat as many hot dogs as he could. That's the generous heart that I miss every day, but I know that her impact is still felt here at Humber and across the city. And I feel close to her knowing that her generosity continues because she left Humber in her Will." – Greg



### Giovanni's Story:

### **Helping and Blessing**

"I'm 92. 92-and-a-half, as a matter of fact. I moved to Canada from Abruzzo, Italy. I came here for a better life and took care of mother and four siblings after my father died. I worked hard in construction and eventually opened my own printing company. I am very proud to support my friends and neighbours who use our Hospital.

It feels very good. I'm glad to know that I'll also be able to help even after

I'm gone. I always want to help the needy and sick in our community get better.

Humber also makes me feel very appreciated. I like hearing from different people at the Foundation about how they are using my donations. I know they are going to good use, and I feel that they always will.

Thank you to everyone at Humber for caring for people in our community.

May God bless everyone in the Hospital, every day." – Giovanni



### **Alex's Story: Every Gift Spreads Love**

"I have been a Child Life Specialist at Humber for 21.5 years, working with paediatric patients birth to 18 years old and their families to help them through their entire hospital experience.

When a family is having a challenge and is scared, it is wonderful to know you can help them right away to put them at ease, decrease their stress and anxiety and help them through it. I am so proud of our work, and our terrific collaboration with all the teams here at the Hospital.

I know first-hand just how much our Hospital relies on the Foundation and how important donors are. I have been a proud donor for my entire

career. When I bought my own home, I was aware that I was able to purchase this beautiful cozy home because of my career at Humber. It made me feel even more connected to give back as a donor to the Foundation and remembering the Foundation in my Will.

What would I say to other donors is, this is your Hospital. We are here to take care of you, your family, and your loved ones. We live our values of professionalism, compassion and respect every single day. No matter what you have to give, every little bit helps, every single day."—Alex



# Jackie's Story: A Cause In My Heart

I'm a nurse, and my late husband and I were both involved as volunteers at first. He was on the Board before me, and, as a matter of fact, I was the first female Board Member. They desperately needed a woman and I fit the bill. All these businessmen couldn't figure out a simple way to sort out issues in the operating room and the delivery room. It took a few conversations and a bit of listening, and it was sorted out. Since then, I've been involved, and giving, all my life.

This is my Hospital. It's the one I use. It gives me what I need, so I feel happy supporting it. And, as I said, I've been involved all my lifetime, and I want to be involved when I'm gone. Of course, I talked to my daughter about it. She's got her own money. And she's taken care of in my Will.

And I told that I was going to leave her one-third of what Dad and I have and that the rest will go to helping others.

We all have causes in our heart. And I wonder sometimes, when I talk to others in my ladies group, what are they waiting for? Many of us are getting along in age. Hurry up! It's time for us to take action for the things we believe. Those causes in our hearts. Humber River Hospital is mine. – Jackie



#### What's Your Story?

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about how you can help support the health of our Hospital—and our neighbours—forever with a gift to our Foundation in your Will. I love speaking with donors like you, hearing your stories and your hopes and dreams for the future of our Hospital. I consider myself a giving matchmaker—I love hearing about what you want to make possible with your giving, and then match that up

with our incredible and inspiring programs here at Humber. You are welcome and encouraged to contact me anytime for a confidential conversation to learn more about legacy giving with Humber. Thank you!

- Caterina Magisano, CFRE, Director, Legacy Giving, 416-242-1000 Ext. 81516, cmagisano@hrh.ca





#### **Our Promise To You**

- A gift in your Will to the Humber River Hospital Foundation is a promise to provide health, hope and love to your neighbours, forever. We are honoured that you are helping secure the future health of our community with a gift in your Will.
- Your Will is an intensely personal document. We promise that every conversation we have with you about your Will is confidential. We respect your privacy.
- We understand and support the notion that your loved ones come first.
- You are encouraged to contact us for a conversation about our areas of work that interest you most, and how you can ensure your gift supports our work in the most effective way possible.
- We would like to know if you have made a gift to Humber River Hospital Foundation in your Will so that we can plan ahead, and also so that we can recognize your generosity. Whether you choose to tell us or not is entirely your decision.
- We will provide you and your loved ones with special opportunities to learn about our work in any ways that are meaningful to you.
- We are proud of our effectiveness and efficiency. We will apply both to your gift.
- We deeply appreciate the confidence and trust you have in the Humber River Hospital Foundation.
- We will respond immediately to your questions or concerns. You can contact Caterina Magisano or anyone on our Foundation team, at any time.







When you let us know that you have joined our Society, we are pleased to offer you these exclusive benefits:

- Invitations to events for Society members, including our Doc Talks series, our Donor Reception and other special events
- Exclusive updates and reports for Society members
- Recognition on our website and donor wall
- Gifts over \$25,000 will receive permanent recognition in our Hospital once the gift is realized







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