

H CGMH FOUNDATION

Newsletter

SPRING 2026



Dr. Jesse Guscott
Rural Generalist and
Medical Educator at CGMH

Great Care Deserves a Place to Grow

As the first signs of spring appear, it's hard not to think about the growth that surrounds us both in our community, and within our hospital. At the CGMH Foundation, this season always brings a renewed sense of possibility. It reminds us that the work we do together isn't just about meeting today's needs, but about planting the seeds for a healthier tomorrow.

That spirit is at the heart of *Tomorrow's Hospital*, the largest and most transformative healthcare project in our community's history. South Georgian Bay is growing rapidly, with over 74,000 full-time residents and 3.4 million visitors per year. As our region expands, so do the needs of the patients and families who rely on us. Great care deserves a place to grow, and our new hospital will finally provide the space, technology, and environment our exceptional staff need to continue delivering the personalized and heartfelt care our community depends on.

In this edition of our newsletter, you will see how that growth is already taking shape. From innovative programs flourishing within our current walls to the exciting momentum behind the \$100+ million *Tomorrow's Hospital* Campaign, every story underscores a simple truth: when our community invests in care, care expands in remarkable ways.



Brad Miller
Board Chair
CGMH Foundation

Sandra Taylor
President & CEO
CGMH Foundation

Your belief in the future of local healthcare makes progress possible. Every gift, every conversation, and every act of generosity helps move *Tomorrow's Hospital* from vision to reality.

Spring reminds us that growth starts small but becomes powerful when nurtured. Thank you for helping us cultivate a future where exceptional care continues to grow, right here at home.

KEY FEATURE:

Foundation Updates

Since our last newsletter, a number of exciting changes have taken place at the CGMH Foundation, and we are pleased to share them with you.

In November 2025, the Foundation moved out of the hospital and into our new office at 1 First Street, Suite 204, Collingwood. This relocation created essential space within the hospital for new Diagnostic Imaging equipment, which will be installed once the room renovations are complete. We look forward to keeping you informed as progress continues on these upgrades.

We are also delighted to welcome a few new team members to the Foundation. In late March, we welcomed Lee Skovsgaard as our new Philanthropy Officer, and Maryann Almas as our new Manager, Donor Relations. Later this spring, we will welcome back Kate Black, Director, Philanthropy as she returns from parental leave.

We are grateful for your continued support and look forward to sharing more updates with you throughout the year.



Lee Skovsgaard



Maryann Almas



Kate Black

With gratitude to Jess Crandlemire, Barry Adunmo and Michael Gray for their beautiful photography throughout this issue.

Featured on the Cover: Dr. Jesse Guscott, Lead Physician, Simulation Program Director, and award-winning Medical Educator. Recent recipient of a National award from the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada.

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Foundation Staff

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- Alison Sheffer** - Manager, Donor Relations (Retiring in June)
- Maryann Almas** - Manager, Donor Relations
- Anne Marie Underhill** - Senior Administrative Coordinator
- Kate Black** - Director, Philanthropy
- Mary Thomas** - Director, Campaign
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CGMH Obstetrics rooms are now home to stunning wall art donated by local photographers Jess Crandlemire, Colin Field, and Corynn Fowler.

Their photography celebrates the beauty of South Georgian Bay, bringing calming landscapes and familiar scenery into the rooms where families meet their newest members.

These thoughtful additions help create an environment that feels peaceful, comforting, and connected to the community outside our hospital walls.

We are so thankful to Jess, Colin, and Corynn for sharing their talent so generously. Their artwork will be part of countless special moments for families in our community for years to come.



The Care Is Already Here. Let's Build Its Home.



Building tomorrow, together.

As South Georgian Bay grows, so does the need for a hospital that reflects the people who live and visit here. *Tomorrow's Hospital*, a modern, state-of-the-art facility coming to Poplar Sideroad and Raglan Street, represents the most transformative healthcare project in our region's history.

CGMH is now in Stage 2 of the Ontario Ministry of Health's capital planning process, refining the design through detailed user group meetings with physicians, nurses and support teams. Patients, families, staff, volunteers, and local residents are contributing through visioning sessions to ensure the new hospital reflects the needs and values of the community. At the same time, Stantec's Planning, Design & Conformance team is advancing site planning to support operations and long-term growth.

Construction is targeted to begin in late fall 2028, with substantial completion in four to five years.

Thanks to remarkable community support, the *Tomorrow's Hospital* Campaign has already raised more than **\$75 million toward its \$100+ million goal**. Our Campaign Cabinet and Ambassadors continue to drive this momentum, championing the project across neighbourhoods, workplaces, clubs, and social networks in Wasaga Beach, The Blue Mountains, Collingwood, Clearview and parts of Grey Highlands.

Their message is clear: this is our hospital, and it will take all of us to bring it to life.

Light the way to *Tomorrow's Hospital*

In partnership with Serendipity Soy Candles, the latest CGMH Foundation Candles feature the beautiful art of local artist and CGMH Foundation Board Vice Chair, Kara McIntosh.

Proceeds from the sale of the candles support *Tomorrow's Hospital*.

Get yours today!
Candles are available through Serendipity or from the Foundation Office.



Tomorrow's Hospital - Key Features

A new and expanded 24/7 Emergency Department, designed to reduce wait times and enhance the patient experience.

Nearly triple the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) space, supporting additional beds and expanded respiratory therapy.

Expanded Mental Health outpatient and Community-based services.

New Inpatient Rehabilitation beds to support local recovery from illness, injury, or age-related conditions.

Space to Heal: What *Tomorrow's Hospital* Means for Our Community



When we speak with CGMH staff about *Tomorrow's Hospital*, one word comes up again and again: space.

Space to move patients to the right place at the right time.
Space to provide exceptional care.
Space for privacy, dignity, and healing.

Tomorrow's Hospital is being designed with that in mind. Every square foot is planned to support patient wellbeing, staff workflow, and the future of our growing community.

One of the most significant changes is increased capacity, with room for up to 132 beds, including 98 inpatient beds, and the flexibility to add 34 more as demand grows.

This means that every inpatient room in the new hospital will be 100% private, complete with a window and natural light, as well as a private bathroom. These are not luxuries - they are essential components of modern, patient-centered care. Quiet, privacy, and the comfort of having loved ones nearby, play a profound

role in recovery. Research shows that daylight is consistently linked with reduced stress, improved mood, and shorter hospital stays.

Private rooms also support the best in infection prevention and control, protecting patients during their most vulnerable moments. When you are unwell and feeling vulnerable, these details matter.

Your family matters.
Your dignity matters.
Your healing matters.

Tomorrow's Hospital is about creating the right space for every patient who walks through the doors.

TOMORROW IS BUILT TODAY

gratitude ^{IN} action

Helping Build Tomorrow's Hospital



Kim Wilson,
Registered Nurse, Medical, CGMH

Late in 2025, the Collingwood General and Marine Hospital (CGMH) Foundation received a visit from two generous donors who wanted to talk about matching gifts. They had recently seen a matching gift offered through the Tree of Life campaign and felt inspired to do something similar for an upcoming campaign.

We were deeply moved when they shared their intention to offer a matching gift of \$90,000 for our next campaign in the late spring. Once we explained that the Foundation would be launching a campaign at the end of May, they immediately stepped forward to support it. Although they wished to remain anonymous, they kindly agreed to let us share a part of what inspired their gift and their long relationship with our community and the hospital.

The couple has called South Georgian Bay home since the mid 1980s. Over the years, they built their lives, careers, and now their retirement in the community they love. They have seen many changes over the past 40 years, including a substantial population growth.

Throughout that time, they have relied on the hospital for care. Their connection to CGMH became even more personal several years ago during a medical emergency that required highly skilled and immediate intervention. Thanks to the dedication and expertise of the hospital team, the outcome was positive. That moment of crisis not only reinforced their trust in CGMH but also led to a lifelong friendship with a member of our healthcare team.

Their gratitude for the care they received and their love for this community shaped their desire to give back. "We have been blessed throughout our years here in South Georgian Bay. It is our home, and we are fortunate enough now to be able to give back to our community," they shared.

For them, supporting the hospital is both meaningful and practical. They compared it to the peace of mind that comes from insurance, something you hope never to use but value greatly when needed. "Having a great local hospital is insurance for all of us. We have insurance to protect our families and our belongings all the while hoping we will never have to use them. However, as in our case, it is comforting to know the best care possible is here when we need it."

Their matching gift comes at a crucial time for CGMH, as the community prepares to build a new, modern hospital. The couple spoke passionately about the need for expanded facilities that will better serve South Georgian Bay. "We all know we have outgrown our present hospital. Our dedicated hospital staff need new spaces and equipment to continue to provide the services required for our ever growing community."

Their generosity is a powerful example of what community spirit looks like. Their story reminds us of how deeply people care about South Georgian Bay and how meaningful it is to invest in the future of healthcare at home. We are sincerely grateful for their trust, their belief in the hospital, and their leadership in supporting its future.

The CGMH Foundation will send a letter to supporters in May, inviting them to take part in the matching gift opportunity. Every donation made will be doubled, helping us move closer to building the modern hospital that South Georgian Bay needs and deserves. We hope that many will feel inspired to join this generous couple in supporting the future of healthcare close to home.

A THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS:

Recognizing Generosity

This spring, we are highlighting the remarkable individuals whose generosity is helping transform healthcare in South Georgian Bay. Their commitment is bringing *Tomorrow's Hospital* to life, because great care deserves a place to grow.

Each donor embodies the values at the heart of our community: compassion, connection, and a shared belief in a healthier future. With their leadership, the foundations of tomorrow's care continue to take shape, ensuring that generations to come will benefit from a stronger, more responsive healthcare system.

We are building tomorrow together.



"Reinhardt Foods has been a proud local family-owned business in South Georgian Bay & Clearview for over 125 years. Reinhardt's employees live throughout the South Georgian Bay area and along with our community deserve first class local medical care. We encourage all area businesses to support *Tomorrow's Hospital* campaign, to create a lasting impact for generations to come."

[Reinhardt Foods](#)



"CGMH has touched the lives of so many families, including our own, and we are honoured to contribute to its future.

For almost 40 years, our family's support for CGMH has been constant. The caring and compassionate professionalism in the Emergency Department and the outstanding healthcare provided by the doctors, nurses and support staff, constitute a legacy of excellence, one that will serve our children, grandchildren and the entire community for generations to come."

[Victor & Yvette Sacucci](#)



"I chaired the CGMH Foundation shortly after its inception in the 1980s, leading its first major fundraising campaign and later helping oversee investments and the growth of the endowment fund. I was fortunate to work alongside many dedicated volunteers. The CGMH has had a great staff; I especially admired long-time Foundation CEO Jory Pritchard Kerr, recently retired.

Now, as I look back, I'm encouraged by the new leaders supporting *Tomorrow's Hospital*. My gift honours CGMH's long service to the community, including the many visitors and staff of Blue Mountain." - [George Weider](#)



"Nineteen years ago I relocated my cardiology practice in Toronto to Collingwood and joined the staff of CGMH. I wanted to support a community that has been an integral part of my life. When I joined the CGMH, I was particularly impressed by the dedication and knowledge of the Physicians and the commitment of the support staff.

As a Physician, I believe it is important for me to personally support this campaign to build a new hospital and I am very pleased that my wife Judy has also decided to donate along with me." - [Dr. Eric Goode & Judy Farncomb](#)



At Mike Jackson GM, putting people first has always been at the heart of who we are. What began as a small local dealership has grown into a thriving, family-owned business supported by a dedicated team that takes pride in creating a welcoming experience every day.

From the beginning, Mike built the dealership on trust, relationships, and community. These are the same values that Courtney and Ryan continue with fresh energy today.

"As a four-generation family rooted here, we know how vital strong local healthcare is. Supporting the new hospital is a natural extension of who we are, a family business that believes in showing up and investing in a stronger, healthier future for everyone."

[Courtney Jackson, Mike Jackson GM](#)



"Bonnie and I live in North Toronto, but for more than forty years we and our family have spent countless days in the Collingwood-Blue Mountain area. Our love of outdoor activities - alpine and nordic skiing, golf, biking, hiking along the escarpment, and long walks through the forest, is what continually draws us back. We believe in supporting the community that has given so much to our lives." - [Warren & Bonnie Finlay](#)

Dedicated Service:

Alison's Impact at CGMH

For nearly two decades, Alison Sheffer has been a familiar and trusted presence at the CGMH Foundation. Joining in 2007 as an Administrative Assistant, she went on to serve as Manager of Donor Relations, working across Annual Giving, Events, Major Gifts and Finance. Along the way, she has built lasting connections with donors and helped move the Foundation through some of its most significant chapters.

As Alison looks ahead to retirement, we sat down with her to reflect on the journey, the community she loves, and the impact of her 18 years of dedicated work at the Foundation.



You have been with the CGMH Foundation for many years. Do you remember what first drew you to donor relations and to this community?

I was born and raised in Collingwood, and I've always loved connecting with people. Working in Donor Relations in a community I care so deeply about just felt natural.

Over the years, what have you learned about why people choose to give?

I've learned that people give because they truly care about this community. Many have received exceptional care at CGMH themselves or through a loved one, and they want to give back. They want to help ensure that access to excellent healthcare continues for others.

What are some milestones or campaigns you're especially proud to have been part of?

There have been so many, but I'm especially proud to have been part of some specifically: the New Age of Care campaign, the Diagnostic Imaging campaign that added two new mammography units to CGMH, the campaign that brought the first MRI machine to our hospital, and most proudly, our current campaign for *Tomorrow's Hospital*.

What does *Tomorrow's Hospital* mean to you personally?

To me, *Tomorrow's Hospital* represents an expanded and much-needed healthcare service that will support the needs of our growing community.

What has made coming to work each day meaningful?

People here don't just live in South Georgian Bay, they feel connected to it. Whether you are biking, hiking or sailing, there is a shared understanding that when you support local healthcare, you are supporting your neighbours, your friends and your own family.

What has surprised you most in your role at the Foundation?

What continues to surprise me is how often people go above and beyond. Donors are doing much more than just giving. They are sharing their stories, their gratitude and their belief in better healthcare for everyone.

The Foundation has changed significantly over the years. What changes have been the most meaningful to witness?

The Foundation has evolved in many ways, from welcoming new staff and a new CEO to most recently moving our office out of the hospital and into downtown Collingwood. It has been meaningful to see how the organization continues to grow while staying rooted in the community.

What will you miss most about coming into the office each day?

That one is easy. I will miss the colleagues who have become friends, the incredible donors I have been fortunate to get to know, and most recently, the beautiful view of the Collingwood Harbour from our new office.

What are you most looking forward to in retirement?

I'm looking forward to travelling with my husband of forty years and spending more time with my two beautiful granddaughters.

Is there anything you would like to say to the donors, volunteers and colleagues who have been part of your journey?

I want to say thank you. It has been an incredible 18 years, made even more meaningful by such a generous and supportive community.

And one thing most people may not know about you?

I have been a certified personal trainer with CanFitPro for more than 20 years.

YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION:

Community Generosity Powers New Mammography Upgrades

At the end of 2024, our community came together to fund two new mammography units for CGMH during our annual Tree of Life campaign. Thanks to a generous matching gift from our late supporter, Teri Yamada, and her husband, Doug Moxon, every dollar was matched up to \$375,000 to help purchase the new units.

CGMH currently has one mammography unit that performs over 7,000 mammograms every year. In other hospitals, a single machine will only handle approximately 2,500 mammograms each year.

One of the new mammography units will be dedicated exclusively to screening mammograms, while the other new unit will focus on in-depth assessments, allowing for a steady flow of appointments and timely exams.

The new units will also bring contrast-enhanced mammography to CGMH, a significant leap forward in breast cancer detection. The machines use a contrast agent to highlight areas of concern, providing detailed imaging that is especially effective for in-depth assessments of dense breast tissue.

Construction has begun in the hospital to prepare for the new units and they will be installed and up and running early this summer.

We extend our sincerest gratitude to every donor who helped make this possible. Your generosity is directly enhancing patient care in our community and ensuring that more people will have access to earlier detection, faster results, and better outcomes. Thank you for helping great care grow at CGMH.



A Day Away Podcast Returns for Season 2

The CGMH Foundation podcast is returning for another great season. Catch our new host Maria Borges, CGMH Foundation Director, Communications & Annual Giving as she chats with some new faces and brings you a behind-the-scenes view of what is happening with the *Tomorrow's Hospital* campaign.

Visit cgmhf.com/podcast to catch up on Season 1, which is available now, and return in early May to watch or listen to the first episode of Season 2.

Small hands. Big Impact.

Tomorrow's Hospital will care for families in South Georgian Bay for generations. And some of the biggest cheerleaders for this project are actually some of our youngest supporters.

Young donors like Ember, Matéo, Charlotte and Nora have already shown that you don't have to be grown up to make a big impact. With creativity, heart, and a little bit of courage, they are helping build something that will serve our whole community.

Want to join them? Here are a few fun ways you can help:

- **Set up a lemonade stand or hot chocolate stand**
- **Host a bake sale with your family**
- **Organize a mini car wash in your neighbourhood**
- **Create and sell handmade crafts or artwork**
- **Take on a fun challenge and ask friends and family to sponsor you**
- **Learn about *Tomorrow's Hospital* and tell everyone why it matters**

Every loonie & toonie counts.

Because when young people care about their community, amazing things happen. Got your own fun idea? We would love to hear it.



The Story of a Grateful Heart

Recently, we heard from a grateful patient who made a gift to the Foundation as a way of saying thank you for the care she received at CGMH. While she prefers to remain anonymous, she wanted to share her story.

On January 11, this grateful patient began to feel unwell. At first, she assumed it was a reaction to the antibiotics she had been taking to treat a lingering virus and sinus infection. Something felt off, so she did what many of us would do and called her family physician.

That call quickly shifted the tone of the day. Her physician was immediately concerned that her symptoms could be something more serious and urged her to go to the Emergency Department without delay. While she expected she might simply need a change in medication, the possibility of an imminent stroke was suddenly on the table.

She and her husband have been part-time residents of Collingwood for many years and now consider the community home. In that moment, they decided they were not going to drive to Toronto. Her husband had visited the CGMH Emergency Department once before and had been impressed by the care he received, which gave them confidence in choosing to stay local.

When she arrived at CGMH, the triage doors opened quickly. The nurse was thorough, calm, and clear, moving through a fact-based discussion before guiding her smoothly through registration. Although the Emergency Department was busy, she felt her situation was taken seriously from the start.

She was brought into the Emergency Department shortly after, changed, and prepared for an EKG, which was completed within a few minutes. Just ten minutes later, Dr. Bolton came in and ordered a CT scan. The results confirmed that she was not having a stroke, bringing an overwhelming sense of relief.

What stood out most was not only the speed of care, but the way it was delivered. The Emergency Department was busy, yet her case was treated with urgency, focus, and genuine concern. Every interaction felt intentional. The staff were professional, transparent, and deeply compassionate while remaining incredibly efficient.

From start to finish, she felt the focus and expertise of the entire team. "The level of professionalism and concern at CGMH is exceptional," she shared, adding, "Kudos to the hospital, especially during this extremely busy winter/virus season."

In less than two hours, our grateful patient was back home. She remains deeply grateful to everyone who played a role in her care, including Dr. Bolton, Robert from patient transport, Holly in CT, her nurse April, and everyone in between.

As she and her husband look ahead to retiring in Collingwood, access to strong healthcare has always been a consideration. After this visit in January and her husband's own experience in the Emergency Department this past fall, they feel reassured. Their experiences at CGMH have given them confidence, comfort, and peace of mind in the community they proudly call home.

CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION.

1. The inaugural Fairways to Family First golf tournament, held in memory of Kevin Pearce, raised an outstanding \$30,000 to support local healthcare.
2. Golf4Good hosted its second annual tournament at Duntroon Highlands, bringing together enthusiastic golfers and pickleball players, and raising over \$25,000.
3. From bareback riding and barrel racing to bull riding and saddle bronc, the First Annual Mayor's Charity RAM Rodeo brought high-energy excitement to Wasaga Beach while raising \$25,250 for local healthcare.
4. Kathleen Chin opened her home for a beautiful community tea party, raising over \$2,600 for *Tomorrow's Hospital* and helping bring care closer to home.
5. David Barrett welcomed guests for an intimate evening of music and connection featuring the Jim Cuddy Trio, creating a memorable night in support of local care while raising over \$59,000 for *Tomorrow's Hospital*.
6. Ski Bees hosted their second annual silent auction at Alpine Ski Club, raising \$5,500.
7. The Collingwood Blues and the Optimist Club of Collingwood and South Georgian Bay teamed up to raise an impressive \$6,521 in support of *Tomorrow's Hospital*.
8. COBS Bread Collingwood dedicated an entire month to collecting donations in-store, bringing the community together in support of *Tomorrow's Hospital* by raising \$10,900!



Building *Tomorrow's Hospital*, one month at a time.

Tomorrow is shaped by the commitments we make today.

With monthly giving, your support becomes something dependable, something the hospital can count on as we plan for the future of healthcare in South Georgian Bay.

One month at a time, you help turn a vision into a reality.

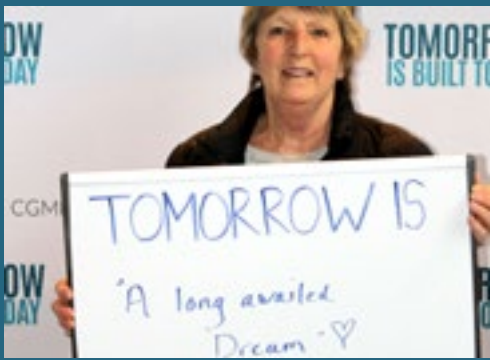
We are building tomorrow, together.

Join the Monthly Giving Club and help bring *Tomorrow's Hospital* to life.

Monthly Giving Club



Join the club!



CGMH Employee GIVING Club





 **CGMH FOUNDATION**

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