



Dear Friends;

Sometimes I am asked why I donate to the Trenton Memorial Hospital Foundation. I work as an RN in Belleville...so why do I support the Trenton Memorial Hospital Foundation?

Growing up in Trenton, I have many memories of Trenton Memorial Hospital, happy memories like visiting my nieces in the newborn nursery and working as a student in the RN program back in the mid-eighties. When I graduated from the RN program, I moved away from this community. After getting married and adopting a baby with Down Syndrome, we opted to move back to this area to be near family and closer to medical services. Having a child with special needs, it was vital to be in a community that could support our son's developmental and health care needs as well as our second child, a daughter, who also happens to have Down Syndrome.

Long before the new ER was built in Trenton, we made many trips...often urgent ones, carrying a toddler in respiratory distress; very scary moments, always met by familiar staff in the ER who took the very best care of him.

A few years later, we would need the services of TMH again; this time to offer end-of-life care to my 60-year-old mom, dying of metastatic lung cancer. Sadly, we needed that same care 9 months later, for my 63-year-old dad, dying of metastatic pancreatic cancer. It was a devastating time for our family, made so much easier by the care and compassion of the wonderful staff at TMH. We were so grateful to be able to palliate my parents in our community hospital.

Over the years our family has used TMH for emergency visits for both our children. We have used the services of the Day Surgery department and diagnostic services such as mammography and ultrasound. TMH has always been there for us over the years, providing access to the health care we needed for our family. Something we always took for granted!

In the past few years, there has been significant concern over the removal of many services offered at TMH: possible reduction in ER services, inpatient bed availability and removal of surgical services. As an RN, I understand the fiscal responsibility of providing efficient healthcare in our community, but I have a greater personal understanding and need for accessible healthcare for my family and I at TMH. I also came to understand the vital role the Foundation at TMH plays in equipping our community hospital



with the equipment it needs to meet our needs!

When you walk through the main entrance at TMH, you see the Donor Wall with the names of people who have contributed to the TMH Foundation. I always stop at the wall to look at one particular name...my mom's (Meg Peterson). When my mom passed away in 2002, her employer donated to the Foundation on her behalf, as a way to honour her and to thank TMH for their care of her. **Every name on that wall has a story.** Every person who donates to the Trenton Memorial Hospital Foundation has a story and a reason they donate to and support their community hospital. Our family is just one of those stories.

In a few weeks, my son who is now 21, will need the services of the operating room, at TMH for day surgery. We will walk through those familiar doors stopping to see his nana's name, grateful to be able to access services, once again, in our community hospital. Something so comforting during stressful times!! Something only made possible due to generous donors who have made Trenton Memorial Hospital what it is today.

You can choose to provide an unrestricted gift to the Future Care Campaign that enables the Foundation board to disburse the funds as they see fit; or you can choose to support medical equipment needed by the staff at Trenton Memorial Hospital. You can also choose to support the refurbishment of the MRI located at Belleville General Hospital.

Because of my family's experience, I am asking you to **join me today** by giving a gift of health to yourself, your family and your friends. Your gift is an investment in better health care for your community. **Thank you.**

Merry Christmas

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wendy Wild". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wendy Wild RN

P.S. TMHF prides itself on funding tomorrow's healthcare today to support both current and new healthcare priorities in your community. Please join me by sending your gift today. Consider it a gift for someone you love and **in honour of their story** this holiday season. From the bottom of my heart, Thank You!

Season's  Greetings