

St. Patrick's Mercy Home Foundation **Newsletter**

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Spring 2010

Working with our Supporters

The St. Patrick's Mercy Home Foundation, through the generous support of our donors, the hard work of the very caring members of our volunteer Board and Committees, and the generosity of the Sisters of Mercy, provided the following to the residents of the Home over the past four years.

Five Bathing Systems valued at approximately \$40 000 each, that have greatly added to the quality of life of the residents. With the new bathing systems, residents can be wheeled into a tub with temperature controlled water and bubbles (if they so wish). One elderly gentleman expressed his satisfaction like this: "When I get in, I hate to get out".

Fifteen Electric Beds valued at \$6 000 each. Most of the beds at the Home are the mechanical type and due to wear and tear over the years it is time to replace them. The new beds will greatly add to the comfort of residents and the staff. They are state of the art technology, equipped with bed alarms and can be lowered to the floor. The Foundation has committed to replace the 80 mechanical beds currently in use. We look for your support to help us purchase the 80 beds sooner rather than later.

213 Privacy Screens Many of the rooms at St. Patrick's have two or more beds. The privacy screens between the beds became very worn over the years. The new ones not only provide more privacy but also really brighten the rooms.

Supporting our Residents

Five Electric Resident Lifts costing about \$5 000 each. These allow residents to be more easily lifted in and out of bed to a wheelchair.

Physiotherapy Equipment The recumbent cross trainer (\$6 500) is the first of its kind in a nursing home in St. John's. It allows residents to exercise leg and arm muscles.

New Organ for the Chapel The organ adds to the various denominational religious services conducted in the Chapel.

New Drapes for Stage in the Auditorium where residents have many of their socials and entertainment events.

Christmas Gifts for each resident, delivered by Santa Claus on Christmas Eve. This year we gave each resident a beautiful fleece blanket, with his or her name embroidered on it along with the Crest of the Home. It is wonderful to see so many of the residents sitting in their chairs snuggled up in their blankets. Last year each male resident received a personalized, crested cardigan and the ladies a personalized, crested fleece shawl. I wish you all could see the excitement, the joy, and the smiles on the face of each resident as Santa, accompanied by many elves, personally delivered each gift.

*"We can do no great things, only
small things with great love."*

~Mother Teresa

Thank You

The Foundation offers a very special thank you to Jeannette Nagle and Glenda Reid for purchasing; wrapping and helping Santa deliver the Christmas gifts. We appreciate the work of all the staff in making Christmas Eve such an enjoyable day for our residents.

How Do We Decide What to Donate

On a regular basis we consult with the Home Administrator to determine the priorities and needs for the residents of the Home.

The St. Patrick's Mercy Home Foundation supports all efforts of the Home in ensuring continued high quality of care for the residents. We provide funding for improvements to environment and other needs that impact positively on the care and life of residents and staff.

A Long Time Resident Remembers the Foundation

St. Patrick's Mercy Home Foundation gratefully acknowledges a very generous bequest from the Estate of Mary Flynn. Mary, a long time resident of the Home passed away November 1. Her legacy lives on for present and future residents of the Home. May she rest in peace!

If you would like to speak with someone, or learn more about **Leaving a Legacy** for St Patrick's Mercy Home Foundation, please contact Jim Byrne at 726-2687 ext. 229, email: James.Byrne@easternhealth.com or contact any member of the Planned Giving Committee: Ron Hynes (Chair), Norm Doyle (Board Liaison), and Andrea Stack. You can contact them at the number above.

**Make St Patrick's Mercy Home
~Your Charity of Choice~**

Fundraising Committee and the Emerald Auction

Our Fundraising Committee hosted a very successful fund raising event, **the Emerald Auction and Dinner**, at Murray's Pond, September 17th. What a wonderful evening! Members of the Committee who worked so enthusiastically to ensure its success are:

Isobel O'Shea (Chair), Lisa Daly, Rosemary Healy, Hugh Gaulton, Janet Grant, Mary Ennis, Celina Stoyles, Paula Ellsworth, supported by Ted Howell, Jim Byrne from the Foundation Office, his wife Golda, and the Board and Committee members.

A special thank you to all our friends and supporters who kindly donated items for the live and silent auctions, purchased tables, and were so generous in their bidding on the evening of the event.

About the Foundation

The Sisters of Mercy established St. Patrick's Mercy Home Foundation in November 1998. The Foundation's mission is to support the ongoing efforts of St. Patrick's Mercy Home ***to provide a comfortable and home-like atmosphere for all of its residents.*** A dedicated, volunteer Board of Directors manages the Foundation, which has a part-time staff person.

The Board is supported by four very active committees: Finance, Fund Raising, Donor Recognition, and Planned Giving. To volunteer to serve on the Board or any of the Committees call Rita Janes, Board Chair at 722 3860 or email ritajanes@nf.sympatico.ca.

The **Foundation Office** is located on the First Floor and is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday to Thursday.

Visit our website!

<http://www.spmhf.nl.ca>