

# Pulse

Published by Four Counties Health Services Foundation Communications Committee

## Fall Medical Equipment Appeal - \$123,500



Dr. Colin McCabe, FCHS Physician and Denise Lutz RN, Site Supervisor

Looking back on 2024, Four Counties Health Services (FCHS) is proud to have offered uninterrupted 24/7 emergency care, inpatient support, and outpatient services in the face of growing community need. With this activity comes the need to renew the essential tools that

allow us to provide the exceptional healthcare our patients deserve.

For our Fall Appeal, FCHS Foundation is raising funds toward advanced medical equipment and training to be used directly for patient care right here at Four Counties Health Services.

### PORTABLE ULTRASOUND

Any Patient, Anywhere, Anytime

- Provides flexibility and mobility to travel with clinicians and image patients where they are in real-time.

### MONITORING GATEWAY

- Clinicians now have the ability to receive the most up-to-date vital signs and evaluate a patient's health status immediately.

### ECG CART

- Provides information about heart rate and rhythm; can show if there is enlargement of the heart or evidence of a previous heart attack.

### STAFF EDUCATION

- Each year the Foundation invests in FCHS staff education to keep connected to current medical care.

### RING CUTTER

- In emergencies, it may be necessary to cut off a ring to stop swelling and restore blood flow to the injured finger.

**Your support matters!**

### Portable Ultrasound

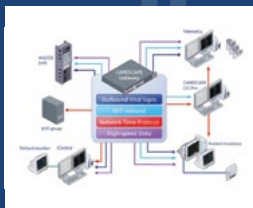


24/7 Emergency Ultrasounds

Emergency Dept.

\$55,000

### Monitoring Gateway



Electronic Records System

Emergency Dept.

\$30,000

### ECG Cart



Records Heart Signals

Diagnostic Imaging

\$22,500

### Staff Education



Supporting Staff Training

Hospital-Wide

\$12,000

### Ring Cutter



Easily Cuts Through Metals

Emergency Dept.

\$4,000

**YES! Here is my gift to help support the FCHS Medical Equipment Appeal**

Donation Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Payment Method:

CHEQUE  CREDIT CARD  E-TRANSFER (Contact Us)

Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**YES!** I would like to join the **Monthly Giving Program**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

# FCHS Foundation Update

**F**CHS Foundation Board of Directors and staff are proud to work with Four Counties Health Services (Newbury Hospital) to provide healthcare to the counties of Chatham-Kent, Elgin, Lambton, and Middlesex.

## Did You Know?

FCHS Emergency Department requires an enormous amount of medical equipment to augment healthcare to 13,274 patients seen last year.

## Did You Know?

FCHS Diagnostic Imaging Department provided 12,095 imaging exams last year. X-ray, ultrasound, and ECG equipment are required to keep diagnostic imaging current.

## Did You Know?

FCHS is funded for 12 beds with an occupancy rate of 100%. For patient comfort, each room

requires a bed, over-bed table, ceiling patient lift, visitor chairs, TV, and oxygen support to provide a comfortable atmosphere for inpatients.

## Did You Know?

**Medical Patient Care Equipment is not covered by the provincial government. FCHS Foundation focuses on raising funds for the medical equipment needs of each Four Counties Health Services department.**

I want to shine a light on how your generosity makes a difference to patients receiving healthcare at Four Counties Hospital. Your support allows doctors, nurses, and staff to have the necessary equipment to provide the healthcare we expect and deserve.

When visiting local municipalities and community service groups, we hear gratifying stories of how important our hospital is to residents.

Listed on the front page of this newsletter is the FCHS Foundation equipment goal for Fall 2024.

**THANK YOU** for your continued financial support and possible new support if you were unaware that the provincial government does not fund patient medical equipment.



*"On behalf of FCHS Foundation Board directors and staff, we thank you for your continued support of our hospital. In 2023 your contributions directly funded \$223,341 of new patient care equipment at Four Counties Health Services."*

**Tom Jeffery**  
FCHS Foundation  
Board Chair

## Four Counties Health Services Statistics 2023-24

Beds funded: 12

Four Counties Health Services is a very busy place as you can see from the statistics below. We've had significantly more patients come through our doors in the last year as well which makes us even more grateful for and in need of community support to keep FCHS running smoothly.

**EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS**  
13,274  
↑ 13% since 2022/23

**DIABETES EDUCATION VISITS**  
2,455  
↑ 32% since 2022/23

**DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING EXAMS**  
12,095  
↑ 32% since 2022/23

**PHYSIO OUTPATIENT VISITS**  
9,403  
↑ 3% since 2022/23

**Dinner Theatre Event!**  
Crossroads Community Players present:  
**HOTBED HOTEL**  
A Farce by Michael Parkes  
Directed by Janice Sellen  
**Nov 15-17 & 22-24**  
Thamesville United Church Theatre  
**TICKETS:**  
info.fchsfoundation@mha.tvh.ca  
519-693-4441 ex 2438 or 2539  
PROCEEDS for PORTABLE ULTRASOUND in FCHS EMERGENCY DEPT

**SUPPORT YOUR HOSPITAL & WIN CASH!**  
splitthepot.ca  
**SPLIT THE POT** Lottery  
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING FCHS FOUNDATION IN THE SPLIT THE POT LOTTERY!  
NEXT DRAW COMING SOON!

## YES! I would like to join the Monthly Giving Program

I would like to give \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**METHOD OF PAYMENT:** I authorize The Foundation of Four Counties Hospital to withdraw from my bank account through my financial institution on the 10th day of each month.

I have enclosed a VOID cheque     I prefer to use my credit card     VISA     MASTERCARD

Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

You will receive a tax receipt at the end of the year. At any time you can change or cancel your monthly contribution by notifying

**The Foundation: 519-693-4441 x 2438**

At FCHS Foundation, we appreciate your support and treat your information with respect. We do not rent, sell or trade any personal information. The information you provide will be used to issue your charitable donation receipt and to keep you informed of events and fundraising opportunities in support of FCHS. If at any time you wish to be removed from our mailing list, simply contact us: 519-693-4441 ext. 2438 or info@fchsfoundation@mha.tvh.ca



# What's Happening at Four Counties Health Services

## Retirement Announcement



Dr. Jon Dreyer, retired Deputy Chief of Staff

In June 2024, the Middlesex Hospital Alliance (MHA) wished Dr. Jon Dreyer a very happy retirement after 20 years as Deputy Chief of Staff at Four Counties Health Services. Dr. Dreyer continues to be an unrelenting advocate for FCHS.

With Dr. Dreyer's retirement, the MHA welcomed Dr. Norm Furtado - a local Family Practice Physician - as Interim Chief of Rural Medicine, to support and represent the unique and rural interests of FCHS.

## The Middlesex Hospital Alliance is thrilled to share its new Strategic Plan - Caring for our Communities: Building our Future Together.

This plan has been designed to guide and inspire all that we do here at the MHA for many years to come. The journey toward this new Strategic Plan started back in 2022 with feedback and engagement from our staff, physicians, volunteers, and communities. You can find the plan on our website here: <https://mhalliance.on.ca/about/strategic-plan/>

Caring for our Communities:

### Building our Future Together

STRATEGIC PLAN | 2024 — FORWARD

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

- Collaborate for Exceptional Care and Experiences
- Engage, Support and Inspire Our People
- Advance How We Deliver Care

**VISION:**

Exceptional People providing Exceptional Care.

**MISSION:**

To provide the health care we would expect for our own families.

**VALUES:**

- Compassion
- Accountability
- Respect
- Excellence

## FCHS Facilities Update

In Fall 2023, we submitted a request via the Healthcare Infrastructure Renewal Funds (HIRF) exceptional circumstance project grant (ECP Grant) to fund a second generator for Four Counties Health Services. Rural hospitals are more susceptible to frequent and prolonged utility power outages than urban centres and having only one backup emergency generator creates a risk for Four Counties. Failure of any component of the existing emergency generator would leave the hospital without electricity during a utility outage, which could require temporary closure of the site and evacuation of patients.

While we were unsuccessful with our application for complete funding, we did receive \$291,840 for infrastructure funding for 2024/25. As we have

identified the addition of a second emergency generator being our largest mechanical risk, our Senior Leadership Team will be recommending we proceed with engineering and tendering of this project, and through advocacy with the province, anticipate that the HIRF ECP Grant in 2025/26 will provide the additional necessary funds. We are projecting this project to exceed \$1M.

Four Counties Health Services is crucial to supporting the needs of the communities it serves and the MHA recognizes the importance infrastructure plays in advancing care, to ensure we continue to provide the healthcare we would expect for our own families, now and into the future.



**Ryan Whitney**  
Director of Facilities,  
Redevelopment & Support Services,  
Middlesex Hospital Alliance



# 28th Annual Golf Tournament Friday, July 12, 2024

FCHS Foundation's 2024 Golf Tournament raised \$41,470 to fully fund a C1 Ventilator for Four Counties' Emergency Department. This life-saving medical equipment will provide airway support for both adult and paediatric patients.

THANK YOU to golfers, sponsors, donors, raffle purchasers, and volunteers for a great result! Please save the date for next year's event: July 11, 2025.

### Platinum Sponsors

### Gold Sponsors

# FCHS Auxiliary Update



## We're Back!

Effective May 2024 the FCHS Auxiliary resumed its operations in both the "Gently Used" Bookstore and FCHS Gift Shop.

With new and previous Auxiliary members returning from a lengthy hiatus, we are so happy to be back and supporting the Foundation in raising necessary funds.

Plans are underway to host a Spring Bazaar and other exciting opportunities geared for 2025.

Auxiliary member Cathy Kelly enjoys her time volunteering in the FCHS Gift Shop

We continue to appeal to our community for additional Auxiliary volunteer members so that we can offer new and exciting events. If interested in learning more, please reach out to Jackie Herdman 519.328.6123.

# Campaign Presentations



Village of Newbury - \$2,500



RCL West Elgin BR 221 - \$2,000



The Optimist Club of West Lorne, Jackpot Time - \$1,000



Celebrate Community Committee, Tartan Days Car Show - \$541



Pampered Chef Fundraiser - \$433



Kiwanis Club of West Lorne - \$3,000



Glencoe District Lions Club - \$1,000



Newbury Dental - \$2,000

For more information about the work of FCHS Foundation, please visit our new website at [fchsfoundation.ca](http://fchsfoundation.ca).

While there, be sure to take in the recent video highlighting hospital services and updates to our Health Village. Both website and video were made possible by a grant from the Government of Canada's Community Services Recovery Fund.