

The Future of Care

Your legacy with the Montreal
General Hospital Foundation





A MESSAGE FROM ELISE NESBITT
Chair of the Montreal General Hospital Foundation Board

A legacy of community commitment



There's a saying in Montreal that has been handed down in families over the years: "If you have to call an ambulance, I want to go to the MGH."

That's because the Montreal General Hospital is really the community's hospital. And that's why my own family have been supporters of the Foundation for many decades.

Every time I visit the hospital today, I see people I know or grew up with – either working or volunteering as a greeter or in the coffee shop.

I've volunteered with hospitals since I was 15. When I was asked to join the Board of its Foundation, I felt "Now it's my turn as part of the community to give back."

Our other Foundation board members feel that way, too – it's our turn to serve the medical teams that have been so important to us – and this community.

I have spent a lot of time at the hospital myself – including when my mother was hospitalized for seven months with leukemia. I visited her every day.

I have the benefit of knowing a lot of the doctors who work at the MGH. Their energy, their drive, the amount of devotion they have... it inspires me.

And I also know that they need us to help them do the best job they can do.

Our donors are the bedrock of the MGH Foundation. You are the reason that the hospital has survived and thrived for so long.

Leaving a legacy gift to the Foundation – perhaps a gift in your will, insurance policies or personal assets – is a wonderful gesture. And you will know that you are supporting the community you care about – long into the future.

You are the reason that the medical teams are able to do the best job they can.

1821: Official beginning of the MGH, made possible by public donations. Quickly followed by the creation of the first medical school in Canada.



1890: Nora Livingston arrives at the MGH to establish what would become a renowned training school for nurses.



A MESSAGE FROM STEPHANIE RIDDELL
President & CEO of the Montreal General Hospital Foundation

A legacy of transforming healthcare



Healthcare touches us all. I experienced this directly when two of my immediate family members received great care at the Montreal General Hospital which is a McGill teaching hospital and part of the McGill University Health Centre.

This adds a very personal aspect to my work and is another reason I'm so committed to the mission of the MGH Foundation to inspire the philanthropic community to invest in transformative initiatives conceived and guided by our medical leaders.

When donors choose to leave a legacy gift to the MGH Foundation, they're supporting visionary projects that have a significant impact on patient lives. And that our hospital's pioneering spirit continues too.

The initiatives your legacy gift makes possible will be felt not just here in Montreal, but across the country and around the world. This is something that has been true for the Foundation's 50-year history and something our entire family of supporters can be proud of!

As we look to the future, our hospital will continue facing many challenges in our ever-changing healthcare system.

Special donations like gifts in wills and gift of life insurance will help us meet these challenges.

We are always extremely moved to learn that someone included us in their plans, and it can be a real morale booster for the medical team. It also sends a very important message to the next generation.

I've been asked to make a provision in my will, and I plan to do so. Will you please join me and take some time to consider this deeply meaningful way of giving?

Thank you for your generous support.

Together we can transform healthcare.

1953: To remain a leading academic medical institution and to be closer to McGill a new, modernized MGH is built on Cedar Avenue.



1973: Creation of the MGH Foundation to rally community support for transformative healthcare initiatives.



2021: The MGH celebrates its 200th anniversary and still pursues its dual tradition of community care and innovation.



Jane Edwards on her father's inspiring vision

Changing lives for patients in pain



"A picture of my father, Alan Edwards."

The MGH Foundation is a great partner, honouring our vision and walking with us every step of the way.

My connection to the Montreal General Hospital comes through my father, but in actuality, our family's connection goes much further back.

On my mother's side, my great, great, great uncle was one of the founding doctors at the Montreal General, Dr. William Robertson!

I was born in the hospital, my grandmother was a lifelong volunteer, my mother-in-law died here and my dad was treated for cancer, beautifully, by Dr. Blake.

Back in the '60s and '70s, my stepmother suffered from chronic migraines, utterly untreatable despite their best efforts. She probably spent two thirds of the year in bed. My father looked everywhere for help, coming up empty-handed again and again.

My father then discovered that Dr. Ron Melzack, a famous pain researcher at McGill, was dreaming of opening a chronic pain clinic at the MGH.

My dad took it upon himself to help Ron by raising funds. He quite literally went door to door for a few years, when he wasn't working or caring for my stepmother.

Slowly but surely, they amassed enough money to entertain the idea of opening a clinic! Dr. Phil Gold gave them a room on the 19th floor and the ball began rolling. The clinic then grew from its meager beginnings into what it has become today, the Alan Edwards Pain Management Unit.

To fulfill his vision, he created the Louise and Alan Edwards Foundation to help others in the pain. When he died, he asked my brother and I to keep up this crucial work... and it has been our privilege.

I am humbled when I think of my father's legacy, and I am enormously proud of him. The MGH Foundation is a great partner, honouring our vision and walking with us every step of the way. This hospital truly is the heart of this community, and the donors are the heart of this hospital.



"My brother Eric and I are so proud to carry on our dad's legacy."

Paul Daoussis on his brother Gerald's legacy

A lifetime of generosity

My brother, Gerald, had the philosophy: "If you have the means, you don't keep it to yourself – you give it away."

He and his wife felt that they were lucky, and they wanted to spread that luck to people who hadn't been as fortunate as they were.

During their lives, Gerald and his wife supported many things – in the Greek community, in the church, and organizations that supported women in times of need.

My sister-in-law left most of her estate to charity – including the Montreal General Hospital Foundation.

I'm proud to say that Gerald felt just as strongly about helping others – and he named the Foundation in his will, too.

He didn't really mention it too much, even on all the days we spent feeding squirrels in the park next to his senior's residence on Victoria where he lived for the last two and half years of his life.

So, I didn't know how much he gave until I saw the details in his will. He had arranged with his lawyer some years before to give extensively through his will.

That's really something for the son of a shoeshine boy – who came to Canada alone when he was just eight years old.

Our parents taught us about helping others right from the time we were young.

It's a good feeling to know that something positive will come about because of someone you love.

I'm proud of my brother. I miss him. And I'm glad that through his gift, his legacy of love for our community will live on.



I'm glad that through his gift, his legacy of love for our community will live on.

Gerald with wife Maria and daughter Georgina.





Dr. David S. Mulder on caring for trauma patients and the Montreal Canadiens

Leading the way for life-saving care

I've had the privilege of working with not just one, but two amazing organizations in my life. The Montreal Canadiens, who I proudly served as team doctor. And our beloved Montreal General Hospital.

On my very first shift at the hospital, a man had fallen off a building scaffold and had multiple injuries. That was the very beginning of my commitment to trauma care – and where I've focused my attention and my career all these years.

Back in the 1980s the mortality rate of trauma patients in Quebec was 50% - whereas in the U.S. it was only 10%. We made a proposal to the then-health minister to develop a trauma system in Quebec. And the Montreal General Hospital led the way, becoming the first level 1 trauma centre, saving thousands of lives ever since!

For 40 years, I've also been a donor to this wonderful hospital. I get a great deal of joy out of donating to where I can see there's an enormous need. Like Winston Churchill said, "You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give."

Making a legacy gift to the Montreal General Hospital Foundation is one of the most important things you can do to support medical teams. It brings a great deal

"All my life I've been committed to trauma care, on and off the ice."



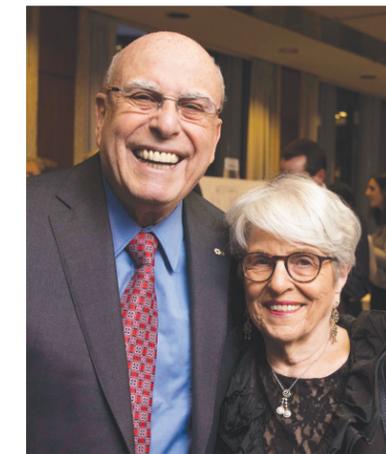
“It brings a great deal of satisfaction to know that in our own way we are contributing to something larger than ourselves.”

of satisfaction to know that in our own way, we are contributing to something larger than ourselves – and a cause that has our hearts.

I hope you will consider this special type of gift and join me in supporting excellent care for everyone who relies on us – from a Canadiens star player to our next-door neighbour, to a cherished loved one.

Dr. Phil Gold's revolutionary cancer breakthrough is still helping patients today

A legacy of discovery



"The love of my life, my wife Evelyn, and me at the Research Awards in 2019."

I came to the Montreal General Hospital in 1959 and, in many ways, I've never left.

A few years later, it struck me that so many patients suffered from cancer. And because they were suffering, so were their families.

I thought that there must be something more specific about cancer cells. Something that makes them different from normal cells.

So we took a rather different approach to any used before and three years later, we finally found something in bowel cancer in humans that was distinct from normal tissue. We called it Carcinoembryonic Antigen (CEA). That discovery allowed us to develop the first blood test for cancer, and the hope that immunotherapy of cancer might be possible.

Since then, my working life has been spent at the MGH caring for patients, doing research and teaching.

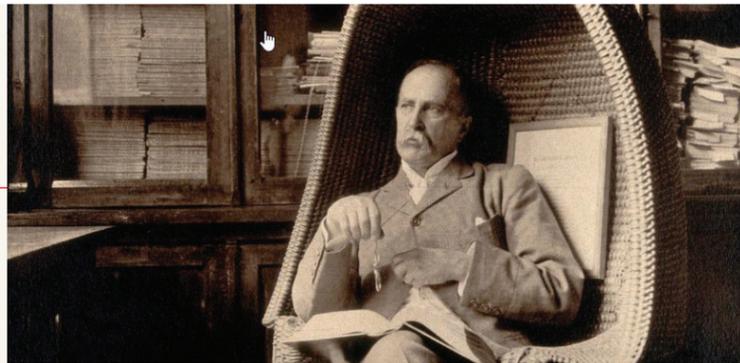
And the Foundation has been extraordinarily supportive – allowing us to bring on students, helping get laboratories going, and bringing on new clinicians.

Supporting this hospital with donations is wonderful. It's the kind of thing that makes life worthwhile.

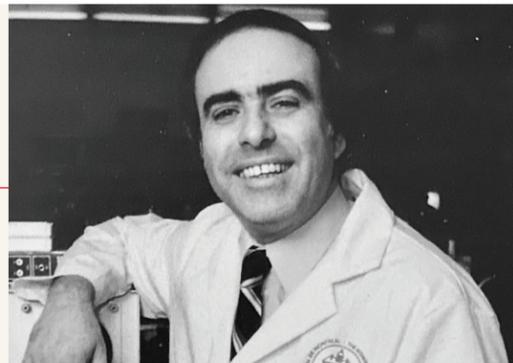
We work our whole lives to create something for ourselves, and for our families. But now we can do something for the community and the world. And that kind of donation is more powerful than you can imagine.

“Leaving a legacy to the Montreal General Hospital Foundation means you will be a part of new discoveries, new innovations, and all the benefits patients of the future will then see.”

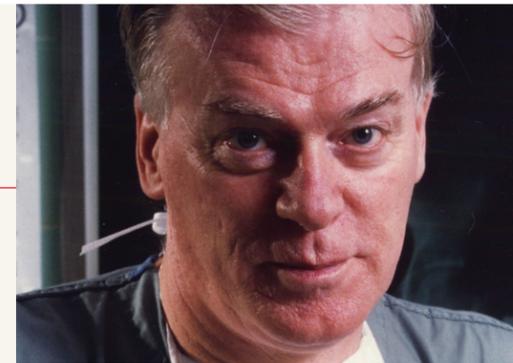
1874: Sir William Osler, one of the world's most influential physicians, begins his medical career at the MGH.



1965: Drs. Gold (pictured below) and Freedman spark a revolution in cancer research with their discovery of a cancer marker.



1992: Dr. Mulder leads the way in the creation of a formalized province-wide trauma system.



Drs. Feldman and Carli launch the Enhanced Recovery After Surgery Program to improve and accelerate patient recovery.



Susan Khan's heartwarming
volunteer journey

Candy strippers and coffee beans



"My husband Jawaid and I both felt we had to support our doctors and nurses."

When I was 18 years old, I decided to volunteer at the hospital – they called us candy strippers back then.

Later on, after I'd been married and had children, I came back to volunteering, first at the breast clinic. Then I became head of the gift shop, and after that the Auxiliary.

I've been Co-Chair of the Board of the gift shop and the Auxiliary ever since. And I still work in the coffee shop once a week!

The money we raise at the gift shop all goes to purchasing equipment for the Hospital. We receive a list of what is needed, and we go through it and see what we can afford to buy with the money we raise. And when I work at the coffee shop, everyone donates their tips to research.

I can't even tell you how many years and decades it's been.

For me, the Montreal General feels like home. It may seem strange to think of a hospital as being like home, but the MGH is not a regular hospital.

It's such a caring place, right at the very centre of our community. So even though it's a big city hospital with research and innovations that have produced discoveries and therapies used worldwide, the staff still treats patients with the all the warmth you'd expect in a small town.

My husband was cared for here, and he ended up donating a bed in cardiology. We both felt you have to support your local hospital, because without them, where would we all be?

The Montreal General is a hospital I am very proud of. And proud to support.

I hope you will consider arranging a special legacy gift so the Montreal General Hospital Foundation can continue the amazing feat of supporting personal patient care while saving lives in Montreal and across the world with medical breakthroughs.

The lasting impact of Michèle
and Philippe Stora

Savouring the sweetness of giving



Mrs. Stora was devoted to supporting medical research at the MGH.

Mrs. Stora and her husband were passionate about the things that make life sweet.

A feeling that good food and beautiful paintings could make most hard days better, especially after the horrors they experienced during the war.

And so they devoted themselves to sharing these passions.

First, their business of importing fine cheeses and food products so the people of Montreal could enjoy some of life's great culinary pleasures. And then, to their support of the arts through patronage and philanthropy.

But Mrs. Stora and her husband were not frivolous or impractical.

They worked hard all their lives to build their dream. When she moved to Montreal from France, Mrs. Stora had saved \$2,000 in her bank account, and that was how the couple started up the family business.

Mrs. Stora was always very dedicated to the business, and she loved to cook and travel. And all through her life she was artistic, athletic, and very traditional.

When Mr. Stora became ill with diabetes and heart disease, it ignited a new passion in her – health and medicine.

Mrs. Stora became devoted to donating to medical research, especially to honour the memory of her late husband. She was very keen on helping people recover from their illnesses, knowing how difficult it is to have a loved one suffer with poor health.

For this reason, she arranged a gift in her will so she can continue the legacy of her and her husband's love of life.

Their wonderful gift will ensure medical advances will continue to allow more people good health and the chance to enjoy some of the sweet things in life.



Dr. Inés Colmegna received the very first Michèle and Philippe Stora Distinguished Scientist Award.



**A gift for
research**

The "Michèle et Philippe Stora Distinguished Scientist Award" will be given every year in perpetuity to support the outstanding achievements of one of our leading physicians.

Every year, thanks to the generosity of donors like Mrs. Stora, more than 80 Research Awards are awarded, providing funding to brilliant, dedicated and deserving research candidates.



Accountability and transparency are essential to our work

A legacy of trust

Your trust in our Foundation is essential and I've been proud to lead the team responsible for the financial health of the Montreal General Hospital Foundation since 2015.

It's essential to ensure our community's incredible generosity is carefully and responsibly managed so we can continue to support excellence in patient care, teaching, and research, in accordance with the wishes of donors.

I'm proud that our Foundation staff's hard work, combined with the dedicated oversight of our volunteer Board of Directors, means we have achieved in the last five years an administrative, fundraising, and investment expenditures ratio that is well below the Canadian average for large hospital foundations.

Julie Denis
Senior Vice President
Finance & Administration



A FRIENDLY MESSAGE FROM CATHERINE ST-ANDRÉ
Director, Gift and Estate Planning



I'm here to help



Joining the MGH Foundation was a defining moment for me. After nearly 10 years specializing in gift planning, I brought together three of my passions: history, medical science, and philanthropy.

I'm delighted to work with donors who share my passion and celebrate the pioneering spirit of the MGH.

Thanks to you and so many other inspiring donors, we help fund unprecedented life-changing initiatives.

One of the special things about the MGH Foundation is how it manages to maintain such a family feel despite being a large and venerable institution. You have probably felt this, too.

After all, you're part of the MGH family! And that's why I hope you will reach out to me directly if you have any questions about making a gift in your will or any other ways you may be thinking about giving.

Please be assured that any conversations we have are completely confidential. I promise you will always be in the driver's seat.

It's my mission to help you realize your dream. Together we will make sure your wishes are respected, your planning needs are met, and you create an admirable legacy for the future of your family and your community.

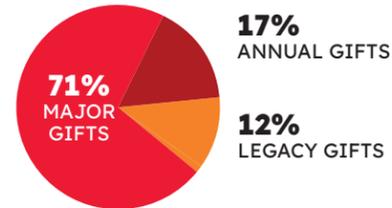
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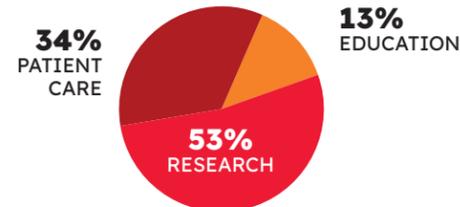
Your legacy, our promise

- ① Making a legacy gift is a very personal decision. We respect your thought process, take the time you need.
- ② Your choices and privacy will always be respected.
- ③ You may choose to let us know you have made a legacy gift. This information helps us plan for the future.
- ④ Your gift will be managed carefully so it has the maximum impact on patient care and innovative research.
- ⑤ You have the right to change your mind about your legacy gift at any time in the future.

THE LAST 5 YEARS IN NUMBERS



Where our funding comes from



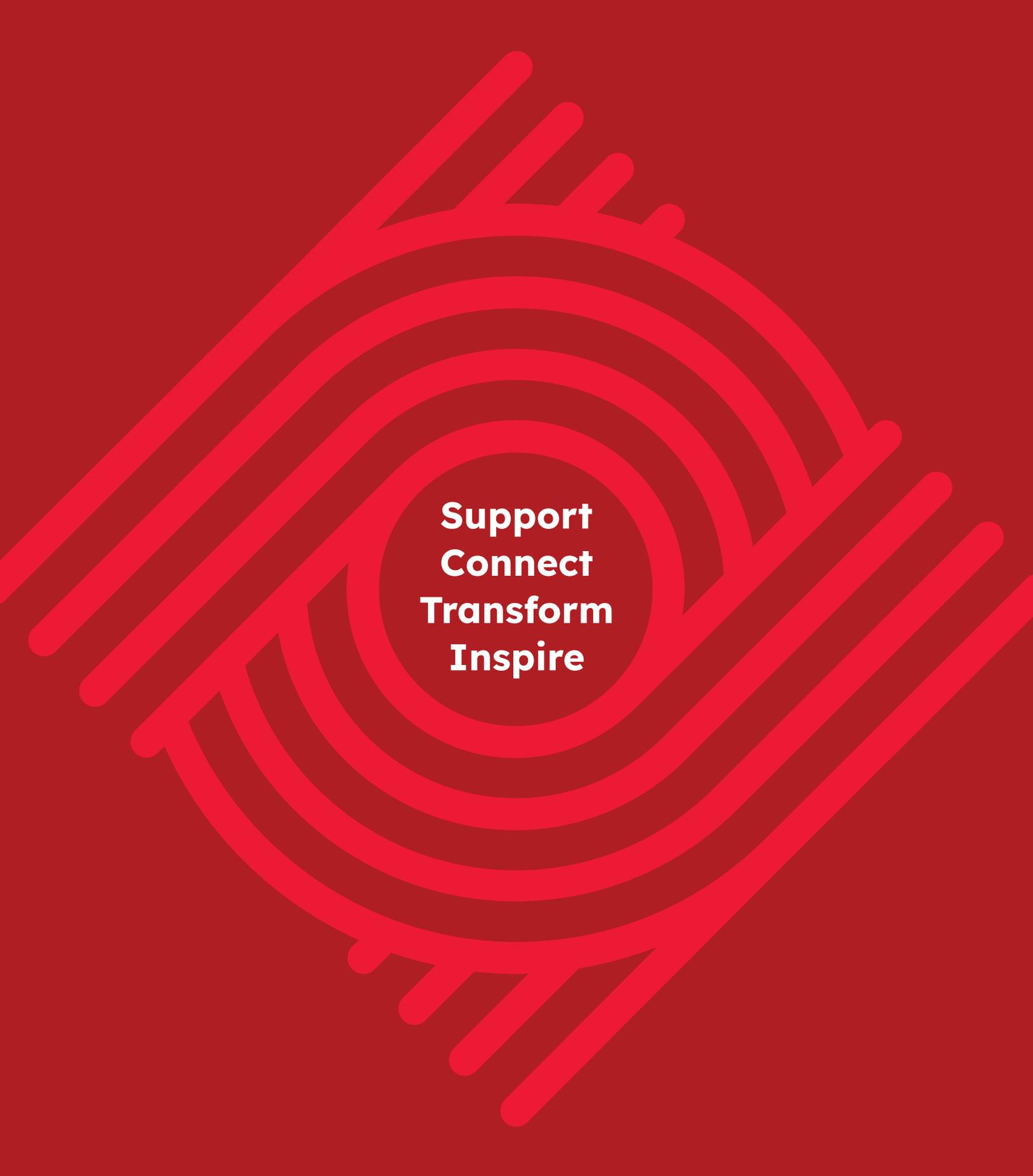
How donors support the hospital

A fund for the MGH's future

Fund for the Future is a special flagship fund created in 1992 to receive legacy gifts from visionary donors. By supporting transformative initiatives, this fund makes a lasting impact in the community. So far, the fund has received donations from more than 318 donors totaling over 23 million dollars.

Legal or other professional advice

When considering your estate plans, it's important to have advice from a notary, lawyer, financial advisor, or estate planning professional working on your behalf. This booklet is not intended to provide legal or other professional advice.



**Support
Connect
Transform
Inspire**

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