

Your Gift Makes Care Better



March 2022

Dear Friend,

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning. Kidney Stones. Severely low platelet count. Any one of these serious health episodes would be cause for concern.

Just imagine experiencing all of those health events — while pregnant — during a global pandemic, no less!

Throughout her pregnancy, Ashley Rushnell became a regular at Belleville General Hospital, and she's so grateful for the care she received.

At 20 weeks pregnant, Ashley was diagnosed with Thrombocytopenia, which causes very low platelet counts. The condition poses serious risks for pregnancy complications. She required routine monitoring and infusion treatments.

But Ashley didn't just receive routine care in the Maternity Department. By fluke, she also required Emergency care too — twice!

While she was pregnant, Ashley had to be admitted overnight for a terrible case of Kidney Stones. She also had to be taken to the ER — by ambulance — for a terrifying case of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning, which required five hours of oxygen treatment.

"A lot of things happened during the pregnancy that weren't exactly ideal situations," recalls Ashley.

"As a Funeral Director, I've seen the worst-case scenario of every possible situation. Unfortunately, when things go wrong, they can go really wrong," she explains.

"But I trusted the people who were looking after me," says Ashley. "They always had my best interest in mind. Every nurse and doctor went above and beyond to care for me. 'It's better to be safe than sorry' was their motto, and I'm so grateful."

Thanks to kind community members like you, Ashley received world-class healthcare close to home. Recently, she gave birth to her first child — a healthy baby boy named Emmett — by C-section.

Will you make a gift to Belleville General Hospital today? Your gift of \$50, \$75 or \$100 will walk with new mothers like Ashley every step of the way through their pregnancies.

Please respond today to show your support. New mothers like Ashley thrive because you care.

With your help, Belleville General Hospital (BGH) will be prepared to give patients like Ashley the life-saving care they need.



As you may already know, the government does not pay for medical equipment, which makes your support vital. Your gift today will help purchase the essential equipment and technology BGH needs to save lives.

Some of the expensive equipment BGH needs to replace will help save our tiniest patients in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

The Special Care Nursery needs a Neonatal CPAP machine, which provides breathing support for newborns with respiratory failure. Also, six of our Vital Signs Machines, used to monitor babies in NICU, need to be replaced as well as the Ultrasound Machine, which was purchased in 2014.

"It's the community that keeps the hospital alive," Ashley says with gratitude.

"When you go to Belleville General, you can't help but notice a lot of specialty equipment has been purchased by donors — by people in our community," she adds.

"And it just goes to show," she continues, "that those things wouldn't be possible without community members — the hospital wouldn't be this amazing without the donors."

"We're just so grateful, says Ashley. "Grateful for being able to bring our baby into this world healthy — that I'm healthy — that I've had such a positive experience that I can share with other people."

Ashley is so grateful for the care she received from her Health Teams and from her amazing community.

<u>Patients like Ashley thrive because of people like you.</u> I hope you're inspired by Ashley's touching words. Healthcare is a labour of love, and it takes the heart of an entire community to make it work.

Please show your support today by filling out the enclosed donation form or by donating on our secure website.

Your generous gift of \$50, \$75 or even \$100 will provide life-saving care for new mothers like Ashley.

Your gift today will help purchase the essential equipment and technology required for the NICU to deliver world-class healthcare to newborns and mothers in the greater Quinte region.

You and your loved ones deserve access to quality local healthcare.

As you know, the ongoing global pandemic has put a massive strain on the entire healthcare system but, with your support, BGH continues to deliver the very best care to every patient who comes through our doors.

Thank you so much for your generosity and support — grateful patients like Ashley thrive because you care.

Sincerely,

Executive Director Belleville General Hospital Foundation

P.S. You can help provide life-saving care for new mothers like Ashley. Please donate to Belleville General Hospital Foundation today!



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