



CANBERRA
HOSPITAL
FOUNDATION

Gifters

GAZETTE



VOLUME 1

Published by Canberra Hospital Foundation - Donation Station

Page 2

Hello to all our wonderful in-kind donors and welcome to our new newsletter – the very first edition of the **Gifters Gazette!** You can expect a new

Gifters Gazette quarterly, packed full of information of what's been happening at the Foundation and in our crafting community, patient and medical staff's stories about the impact of your kind donations, and inspiration for new projects!

We hope you and your families have been keeping safe and well throughout the coronavirus pandemic. As you all know, the pandemic has changed the way we have to function for a while, and we therefore haven't been able to receive your in-kind gifts. Please know that while we haven't been receiving your new comfort items, the donations you made before the pandemic have continued to bring comfort and joy to patients throughout the hospital and health services. Before we had to close our office for visitors, we organised delivery of all the comfort items we had at the Donation Station to areas of the hospital where patients would need them most.

We look forward to welcoming your regular donations again in the future once restrictions have relaxed, but in the meantime, we are excited to invite you to be a part of a new crafting project – **Wrap Our Hearts Around You.**

We hope you enjoy reading the Gifters Gazette as much as we enjoy receiving your precious crafted creations. We'd love to feature any of your stories, photographs or designs in future editions, so please feel free to get in contact and send in what you have in mind!



Love Amy

What's been happening at Canberra Hospital Foundation

It has been a very different start to 2020 and the coronavirus pandemic has changed the way we operate for now. The Foundation team has been working from home, staying in contact with our community and each other video conferencing, phone calls and emails. At the hospital, stringent infection control protocols have meant that patients have limited access to visits from their loved ones and Foundation supported programs, like the **Therapeutic Harp** and **Delta Dog** programs, have needed to cease. Medical staff have also had changes to their work life; some not being able to leave their areas on their breaks, or having to isolate themselves from their families.

In response to these difficult changes, the Foundation launched the **#CHFCareShare** campaign, putting the call out to Canberrans and local businesses to donate cooked restaurant meals as well as new, unused goods for healthcare workers across the territory. We were blown away by the generosity



Canberra Hospital staff enjoying one of hundreds of meals donated by Namaste INDIA Restaurant during the Covid-19 pandemic.

of our community in response to the initiative. Canberrans have come together— while maintaining social distancing—offering encouragement and solidarity to healthcare workers and patients alike. Namaste Indian Restaurant is one of the many businesses who've shared their care and have donated over 300 delicious meals to healthcare workers in the two months since the pandemic took off. Our healthcare workers are so grateful for the support and care!

For more information, visit www.canberrahospitalfoundation.org.au/chfcareshare

NEW WEBSITE AND OUR COVID-19 APPEAL

Canberra Hospital Foundation has a new website and a special page just for our Donation Station. You will find our latest news, events and raffles and how you can get involved in changing the hospital experience for patients.

Our hospitals and health services in Canberra face new and growing

challenges from COVID-19.

With the support of the community, we can make sure our frontline health workers can provide patients everything they need for the best possible care during the pandemic. Donations made before 30 June are eligible to claim a 100% tax-deduction for your gift.

DONATE NOW www.canberrahospitalfoundation.org.au/covid19 or call Amy on 5124 3542.



Keepsakes photograph received by Maureen O'Brien.

Peter's keepsakes

After the Anzac Day long weekend, Acting Clinical Nurse Consultant and Nurse Manager, Maureen O'Brien for the Chronic Care Program was moved by a photograph she received from the widow of one of her patients who had recently passed away. The photograph was accompanied by a message, "First Anzac Service. We used some of Peter's keepsakes in the display along with some wattle and rosemary." Maureen was moved to see the trauma

teddy from the Donation Station which she'd gifted the patient when she had gone to visit him at his home before his passing. The patient couldn't speak and loved the bear, and Maureen had no idea just how much it meant to him and now his wife. Maureen wishes to extend her thanks to all our wonderful volunteers and donors who make knitted comfort items and bears for the Chronic Care Program clients, and for making such a difference to her patients and families.

GET INVOLVED! Wrap Our Hearts Around You

The Foundation has missed its regular donations from our in-kind donor community, and we can't wait to be able to welcome donations and visits once again when restrictions have relaxed in the future! In the meantime we are excited to invite you to get involved with a new project – **Wrap Our Hearts Around You**.

Wrap Our Hearts Around You is a project which aims to unite Canberrans through the common activity of creating hearts.

The hearts will be collected by the *Canberra Hospital Foundation* for a special celebration that will be symbolic representation of the appreciation and love in the community for our healthcare workers and patients. Hearts can be crafted using any medium, from knitting, crocheting and sewing to drawing, paper crafting and painting. We ask that the hearts are no larger than the size of a palm, and are made using the colours of the *Canberra Hospital Foundation* heart – dark blue, light blue, pink, orange, dark green, light green and red. To finish off your hearts, please sew little hoops on the sides or tops so we're able to assemble them in a special configuration.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

It's simple! Once you've decided that you'd like to be involved, all you have to do is visit our website, sign up and tell us how many hearts you aim to make.

You can sign up here:

www.chfoundation.org.au/wrap-our-hearts-around-you

You'll also find links to some websites with instructions and patterns for making the hearts if you need some inspiration. You're also welcome to call Amy on **5124 3542** and let her know you'd like to be involved.

From there you can start creating!



We would love it if you could take some photos of your smiling faces and your creations and send them in to us too. You can email them to us by email hello@chfoundation.org.au.

Once you've registered, we will keep you up to date in regards to the next steps, including the collection of the hearts and the final special event.

Everyone is welcome to get involved, so please pass on the information to anyone you think would be interested. We are so looking forward to seeing your heart creations and showing healthcare workers and patients just how much they mean to the community!

HAVE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE?

We'd love to hear from you!

If you have a story, photo or design you'd like featured in future editions of the **Gifter's Gazette** we'd love to hear from you! Please email hello@chfoundation.org.au or call Amy on **5124 3542**. We'd also love to feature a profile of one of our lovely donors for every edition, so please let us know if you'd like to be involved.