Smart Technology Will Enhance Patient Care

With your support, hospital rooms will be equipped with the most modern technology to keep patients and staff safe not only during the COVID-19 pandemic, but throughout future health care challenges.

Smart technology was always in the plans for the New Wing of the Petoskey Campus, but when the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March, McLaren Northern Michigan fast-tracked investments in virtual technology. The Banyan Virtual Care Platform allows care providers to visit different areas of the hospital to round on patients, reducing in-person encounters and increasing safety for patients and their providers.

While not originally intended as an infection control measure, it has proven invaluable to minimize the risk of transmission while allowing caregivers to deliver high-quality care. This technology does not replace hands-on care. It is an additional comfort to patients. The technology does not replace hands-on care. It is an additional tool that helps reduce exposure for medical providers and staff, preserves supplies, and provides frequent interaction and comfort to patients.

Every patient room at McLaren Northern Michigan will be outfitted with this Virtual Care Platform, including the Emergency Room, Intensive Care Unit, Acute Rehabilitation Unit, and the New Wing. In addition, the rooms will be equipped with “Smart Room” technology using high-tech tools that will make the inpatient experience safer, more comfortable, and less-stressful for patients, their families, and the staff who care for them.

The “Smart Room” consists of advanced technology, furniture, and equipment to give patients more control of their environment, greater access to their care team and medical information, increased privacy and safety, bedside telehealth, and virtual nursing care, and many other features.

Engineering requires integration of many components, including software, equipment, furniture, and IT configuration. The total cost of this project is more than $2 million. Would you consider being a part of this project to ensure our patients experience safer, more comfortable, and less-stressful care? This is an incredible gift to our hospital,” she said.

Your support keeps staff, patients, and our community safe.

A bequest is one of the easiest gifts you can make. It could be a gift of a specific asset, a fixed dollar amount, or a percentage of your estate. Or your gift could be received at a time when a global pandemic has had such a devastating effect on our economy and our hospital.

This health crisis has profoundly impacted our hospital, and while the COVID-19 pandemic has had such a devastating effect on our economy and our hospital.

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Enhance Patient Care

Smart Technology Will

A Timely Gift

One couple’s plan 28 years ago serves our hospital today.

In 1992, McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation was notified that Ron and Bettie Fenton had planned for a gift to benefit the hospital. Their plan was to pass away in 1995 and that Bettie would follow in 2016 at the age of 99. And just a few weeks ago, we were notified that their gift is forthcoming.

Bettie and Ron certainly never could have guessed how impactful their gift would be. They couldn’t have predicted that their commitment 28 years ago would be needed at a time when a global pandemic has had such a devastating effect on our economy and our hospital. The health crisis has profoundly impacted our hospital, and philanthropy has always played a crucial role in our history; it will play an even greater role in our future. We invite you to think about the ways that you can invest in McLaren Northern Michigan, now and in the future.

Giving now will help our patients get the care they need and deserve. Your future gift will ensure that our hospital remains strong for years to come and that we have the resources needed to continue delivering the very best care—despite what the world throws at us.

Please consider joining others who are helping to support future generations by including McLaren Northern Michigan in their estate planning.

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Thank you for immediately funding powered air purifying respirators (PAPRs)! Before generous donors helped purchase the PAPRs, staff was using N95 masks and face shields. PAPRs reduce exposures to the contaminants in the air and provide more protection than an N95 mask. Another occupational safety advantage of the PAPR is reduced heart, lung, and heat stress. Because purified air continually flows into the canopy, it can be worn comfortably for longer time periods.

Here’s what one of our nurses had to say about your gift: “Thank you! These PAPRs are so much better than N95 and face shields. It reduces the stress. Because purified air continually flows into the canopy, it can be worn comfortably for longer time periods.”

Why are PAPRs important and who wears them? PAPRs are worn by anyone working in patient care areas who has the potential to come into contact with COVID-19. They provide greater safety in a contagious disease including COVID-19 and other life-threatening illnesses.

Due to the incredible response from our donors, there are funds available to purchase additional PAPR’s in the coming months. If you would like to give an additional gift, you may do so here.

Face Masks for Patients and Their Families: Many of our patients, hand sewed face masks and donated them to our patients. Thank you to you, each patient and their family member receive a cloth mask to wear during your ICU, hospital campuses, and hospice houses.

Safe Patient Rooms: A generous donor funded the purchase of a new room. This unit uses ultraviolet light to rapidly sterilize surfaces, which allows us to quickly turn over hospital rooms to the next patient without fear of lingering contagions.

Personal Protective Equipment: Our team is so grateful to those of you who donated to help us stay safe while working. Thank you also to Petsmart for making the sanitation gowns shown here for all of our staff.

"I don’t know if there is ever going to be a way to express our gratitude. I don’t think you could fully understand unless you walked in the shoes of one of our staff members. I don’t think we can explain it. The fact that all of you stepped up to support us during the time is absolutely amazing."

-Aly Biadowski, 3521-02 RN, Circulation Education Specialist

Frontline Staff is Safe Because of You!

Thank you for immediately funding powered air purifying respirators (PAPRs): On a global and national scale, shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE) have left care providers on the frontline unprotected. Our hospital is strong because of you! With gratitude,

Lia Jerome Assistant Chief Development Officer McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation

Elise F. Hayes Brand Chair McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation

Dear Friends,

We have repeatedly thanked you for the difference you make through your philanthropy. But today, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the difference you are making feels even more tangible.

Your support of McLaren Northern Michigan over the years has saved thousands of lives. Over the past few months, as we’ve seen COVID-19 death tolls rise globally and in Michigan, we can say that you make a life-saving impact on our community. Your gifts keep our staff, patients, and community members safe during this crisis.

Since March 16, more than 900 people have donated to the McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation to safely combat COVID-19. Gifts have included homemade face masks, N95 gloves, PPFF, face shields, isolation gowns, and cash donations to the Emergency Response Fund.

Our entire medical team has been humbled and amazed by the outpouring of support. You read more about that in the pages to come.

Thank you for your commitment to McLaren Northern Michigan during this crisis and all that lies ahead. Our hospital is strong because of you! Thank you for your commitment to McLaren Northern Michigan during this crisis and all that lies ahead. Our hospital is strong because of you! Thank you for your commitment to McLaren Northern Michigan during this crisis and all that lies ahead. Our hospital is strong because of you!

Thank you for your generosity made all the difference for staff and patients.

Your comprehensive support and quick response to the COVID-19 health crisis is something we will always be grateful for and will never forget. Gifts to the Emergency Response Fund were put to immediate use to purchase 104 powered air purifying respirators (see article below), six new ventilators, a state-of-the-art ultraviolet disinfecting robot, and food and nourishment for staff. Thank you also to everyone who answered the call by donating masks, gloves, gowns, an N95, and other needed supplies.

As we continue to navigate through the days ahead, one thing is certain – McLaren Northern Michigan could not provide the level of superior care it does without YOU. Philanthropy has always played a critical role in this hospital’s history and will have an even greater role in the days, weeks, months, and years ahead.

If you have not given a gift yet, it’s not too late. Your gift provides economic and family member peace of mind knowing physicians, nurses, and every member of our staff has the resources they need in times of crisis – whether they are fighting COVID-19 or some other life-threatening illness.

Your generosity makes all the difference as we continue to give our best to every patient who needs it. Thank you for your commitment to the hospital and for helping us keep our community safe.

Thank you for your gifts to the McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation and is produced three times a year. Your gifts keep our staff, patients, and community members safe during this crisis.

Your gifts to the McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation are making a difference in the ongoing fight against COVID-19, as well as in all our programs. Your generosity provides:

• Personal Protective Equipment for staff
• Medical technology
• Medical equipment
• Patient upgrades
• Palliative rehabilitation program
• Preventative care and wellness
• Programmatic support
• Hospice care

The entire team of McLaren Northern Michigan appreciates your support—as does every patient who relies on the hospital for their care.

Thank you for your gifts to the McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation.

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