

Planning for KIDS

A Charitable Gift Planning Newsletter for SickKids Donors

HEALTHIER CHILDREN. YOUR LEGACY FOR A BETTER WORLD.

Helen and Robert Disenhouse

It began as young love and blossomed into a long-standing partnership that informed all aspects of their lives. Born one year apart, Helen and Dr. Robert Disenhouse met at the University of Toronto where Robert completed his medical degree.



Robert and Helen Disenhouse

Robert dedicated his life to his passion for medicine and Helen devoted her days to supporting him. His medical training took them to Detroit (Grace Hospital) and Minneapolis (University of Minnesota Hospital). When it was time to begin their own family, Helen insisted that they move back to Toronto to be closer to their parents.

Robert joined the world-renowned Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) as a paediatric cardiologist while simultaneously fulfilling a teaching appointment at the University of Toronto and managing his own private practice.

Their children, Sheldon Disenhouse, Nathan Disenhouse, and Gilda Waltman, fondly remember their mother's pride in their father's work.

"She supported our father as he realized his career successes and she created a home and family life that was cherished by them both," said Gilda.

Robert's patients and colleagues held him in the highest regard. He went to great lengths to ensure parents and children dealing with significant illnesses felt reassured and safe. Helen felt comfort knowing Robert's long hours were spent caring for some of Canada's sickest children.

After more than 40 years together, three children and nine grandchildren, Robert passed away. He left clear instructions to donate any memorial gifts received to SickKids. In his honour, Helen wanted to do more.

"Our mother understood the importance of our father's passion for his clinical practice and the treatment of children with cardiac disease," Nathan remembered. "She made a financial contribution with the direction to set up an endowment fund in his name."

... The endowment truly represents the hopes and dreams of both my mother and my father

Seventeen years after her husband's death, Helen passed away, too. With her children's direction, the endowment fund in her husband's name was changed to reflect them both, and honour their commitment to each other and SickKids.

The Dr. Robert and Helen Disenhouse Endowment Fund supports cardiac education at SickKids. Currently, the endowment sponsors the Dr. Robert Disenhouse Lectureship and Visiting Professorship at the hospital's international bi-annual cardiac symposium.

"The endowment truly represents the hopes and dreams of both my mother and my father," Sheldon says. "Our mother continued to contribute to the fund long after my father passed away. The endowment fund is a legacy for them both."

GIVE THE GIFTS OF RRSPS & RRIFs ENSURE A HEALTHIER FUTURE FOR CHILDREN

Did you know you can name SickKids Foundation as the direct beneficiary of your registered retirement savings plan (RRSPs) and registered retirement income funds (RRIFs)?

If you are interested in reducing the taxes payable on your estate while supporting the work of SickKids this might be the option for you. RRSPs and RRIFs are assets that are not included in your estate and not subject to probate fees. This a great option to offset taxes owing on funds at the time of death.

The gift is easy to make – you simply change the beneficiary information on the plan document and advise the institution holding your retirement account of the change. You can support multiple beneficiaries, meaning a combination of family members, other significant people, and charities such as SickKids Foundation.

One of the simplest
and most effective ways
to preserve the value of
your estate and reduce
tax liability



Malcolm Berry (right), Senior Development Officer at SickKids Foundation shows new SickKids donor, Joseph, Doner Hall at The Hospital for Sick Children

Turning a childhood accident into a lasting legacy

As a precocious 16-year-old boy, Joseph found out the hard way the benefits of having The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) in his own backyard. A serious tobogganing accident in 1971 found him being rushed to SickKids and into emergency surgery when a rusty pipe cut through his right leg.

“To this day, I remember my experience at SickKids so vividly to the point where I can still hear the anesthesiologist asking me to count backwards as I drifted off on the operating table,” Joseph said. “I truly believed I would lose my leg that day. I will never forget the moment I woke up to discover everything was still intact. I couldn’t have been happier.”

In fact he was so thankful that he quietly made a \$15 donation to SickKids that Christmas without even any mention of it to his family. “That was a lot of money for a 17 year-old back then,” Joseph added.

Forty-five stitches and 38 years later, Joseph feels thankful that SickKids was there for him. His decision to give back to the Hospital through a planned giving vehicle was a natural one.

“I’ve been very fortunate throughout my life. I have the benefit of a good education, a successful career and I have had the opportunity to travel extensively over the years,” he said. “I’m at a point in my life where I am starting to get my affairs in order and realize that it is time to give back.”

Joseph recently took an important step toward ensuring others have the benefit of SickKids expertise when they unexpectedly need it. By establishing a SickKids Donor Advised Fund, 50 per cent of the income generated from his fund each year will be directed to various charities of his choice including the Alzheimer’s Society, Canadian Cancer Society, Epilepsy Toronto and The Salvation Army, with the remaining 50 per cent supporting the highest priority needs at SickKids.

“A Donor Advised Fund really works for me and gives me the opportunity to honour my family that has been affected by various diseases in their lives,” Joseph said. “It is nice to be able to help if you can and this is a really nice blended portfolio that supports the critical work at SickKids but also recognizes that there are a lot of good charities in need of support.”

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A Donor Advised Fund is an opportunity to create a lasting charitable legacy without the expense or hassle of establishing a private foundation. The process is simple:

- Make a minimum \$50,000 contribution (may be payable over five years @ \$10,000/year)
- Name your fund, eg. Joseph's Donor Advised Fund
- Make annual grant recommendations to support SickKids and other charities of choice
- Name a successor to carry on your legacy of giving

Seemingly humble by nature, Joseph still credits SickKids for helping save his leg. It seems only fitting that through his legacy he will be helping others.

Donations = Discoveries

The Future of research at SickKids

Last year marked the 55th anniversary of the SickKids Research Institute, a significant milestone that marks over half a century of major advancements in child health, including the invention of Pablum, the discovery of the gene responsible for Cystic Fibrosis, and the development of numerous life-saving procedures. This year SickKids is moving from looking back to looking forward – to the discoveries that will shape the future of research, education, and clinical care and to the investments in child health that will make those discoveries possible. SickKids is embarking on its most innovative project to date: a campaign to build a brand new research tower.



How can you help launch the next generation of child health care? By directing a legacy gift towards this incredible project you will bring SickKids one step closer to turning the dream of new cures into the reality of healthier children.

It can be as simple as naming SickKids in your Will. Through your future gift, you will leave your mark on the world by helping SickKids make discoveries that change children's lives and ensure that, for generations to come, they have the best chance at a healthy future. Now that's a lasting legacy!

Recent SickKids Discoveries:

- SickKids scientists discovered a genetic clue for Type 1 diabetes providing important insight into how genes may influence a patient's ability to regulate blood glucose
- SickKids researchers have discovered a powerful new tool that can help predict the prognosis for patients with bone cancer and help doctors more accurately determine how aggressively they need to treat specific patients
- An international team of scientists, led by SickKids researchers, made an important breakthrough in describing a rare type of brain tumour that currently delivers a grim prognosis to the young children stricken by it

SICKKIDS LEGACY 135 YEARS OF PROGRESS...AND COUNTING

2010 – researchers find powerful predictor of bone cancer prognosis

2009 – Canadian first: baby receives heart procedure in utero

2008 – Paediatric world first: transplant procedure using interventional Lung Assist device

2007 - Key breakthrough in diabetes – discovery of link between diabetes and the nervous system

2007 – Opened state-of-the-art paediatric cardiac diagnostic and interventional unit

2003 – Cancer stem cell for brain tumour identified

2000 – Opened world's first paediatric magnetoencephalography (MEG) facility

1993 – Opened the Atrium, a \$232 million state-of-the-art patient facility

1989 – Cystic Fibrosis gene discovered

1971 – First successful separation of conjoined twins

1963 – Mustard's "blue baby" procedure developed

1954 – Research Institute is established - a first at a Canadian hospital

1930 – Development of Pablum

1919 – Blood transfusion pioneered

1908 – First Canadian milk pasteurization plant installed at SickKids – 30 years before it is mandatory

1875 – SickKids is Founded – the second children's hospital in the British Empire

A message from Judi Cooper – Director, Gift & Estate Planning

The Olympics are behind us, and what a heart-warming and powerful display of drive for excellence they were! Each year, the next generation surpasses the last in its quest for excellence. And yet, the reality is that each new “first” has been built on the success and learnings of the athletes and trainers that came before them.

So it is with medical discovery. Each advance creates the foundation upon which the next discovery may be built. Thanks to continued advances in research and the translation of new medical knowledge into new treatments, many children have grown into healthy adults. Medical research seems such a mystery to many of us. Yet there are so many medical discoveries within our grasp. In my own lifetime, I have watched an 11 year old child living with Cystic Fibrosis benefit from medical advances. Her reality in 1986 was a projected life span of 15 years of age. Today, she has grown into a successful young “thirty-something” with her own bright research career ahead of her. Continued medical research has provided knowledge, treatments and hope; in short, it has changed her reality. She still lives with the rigorous daily medical routines required to manage her disease, but thanks to medical research she has lived more than 20 years longer than expected when I first met her, and she is living her life and making plans in the hope that the continuing quest for new medical breakthroughs will give her the same long life expectancy that many of us take for granted.

Some individuals dream about competing in the Olympics. Others dream about helping to discover a cure – for themselves, for a loved one, for humanity at large. As you dream about your own future, we hope you will also consider dreaming about ours. Please consider including SickKids in your estate plans. We also encourage you to share your decision with us so that we may have the opportunity to thank you during your lifetime – and to share with you some of the phenomenal work that, thanks to you, turns dreams into reality.

Sincerely,



Judi Cooper

Director, Gift & Estate Planning



For more information on how you can build your legacy, please contact:

Judi Cooper, Director, Gift & Estate Planning
416.813.8029 | judi.cooper@sickkidsfoundation.com



Malcolm Berry, Senior Development Officer, Gift & Estate Planning
416.813.2932 | malcolm.berry@sickkidsfoundation.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

GIFT & ESTATE PLANNING

SickKids Foundation

525 University Avenue, 14th Floor

Toronto, ON M5G 2L3

www.sickkidsfoundation.com

Toll free: 1-800-661-1083

P: 416-813-8271

F: 416-813-5024

E: gift.planning@sickkidsfoundation.com

Planning for Kids is a charitable gift planning newsletter published biannually by SickKids Foundation. The information provided is general in nature and not intended to be a substitute for professional legal and financial planning advice. The Foundation encourages donors who are planning a significant donation to seek legal and financial planning advice.

SickKids Foundation respects the privacy of its donors; we do not sell, rent or trade our donor lists. The information we collect is used to process donations, keep our donors informed about the activities of the Hospital and Foundation, and ask for their support for our mission to improve children's health. If at any time you wish to be excluded from future contacts, or to discuss our privacy options, please call us at 416.813.8271.

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SickKids[®]
FOUNDATION

Do your estate plans include SickKids Foundation? Let us know! If you plan to make a bequest to The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids), the name you should include in your Will is “The Hospital for Sick Children Foundation.” The Foundation is the Hospital’s parallel charity, which raises money, performs estate administration, and manages the endowment on behalf of the Hospital.

We invite you to share your comments and ideas with us. If you have an idea for a story or would like to make a general comment or suggestion about the contents of the newsletter, send an e-mail message to gift.planning@sickkidsfoundation.com or call 416.813.8271.