

## A message from Judi Cooper

This is the time of year when many of us re-visit our financial plans. Perhaps it is the recent RRSP contribution deadline. Maybe it is a post-holiday, pre-spring sense that this is a good time to stop and take stock. It is a good time to think seriously about the future – our own future, the future of our families, the future of our community. Whatever your reasons are, we hope you will also take this occasion to once again consider what your plans might be for SickKids.

This edition of *Planning for Kids* highlights just a few of the many ways you could help to ensure the best medical care for children. We are so fortunate at SickKids Foundation to be remembered in the estates of many people. Most choose never to tell us of their plans, and so we miss the opportunity to thank these wonderful people during their lifetimes. They remain, however, deeply appreciated, and their quiet generosity goes a very long way toward helping fund important research, training for the next generation of medical specialists, and meeting the most pressing needs of the hospital and the Research Institute.

We are equally grateful to those who choose to endow a fund, and who add to the fund at their own pace. Endowed funds create a *permanent source of funding* for the specific or general area that the donor wants to support. Now that is a plan for the future.

As you think about your plans for the future, we ask you to think about including SickKids. Perhaps you're divesting real estate and could turn it into a significant gift to SickKids. Perhaps you're re-visiting your RRSP's and RRIF's and could name SickKids as one of the beneficiaries.

Despite the uncertainty in today's markets, your charitable contributions can and will extend well beyond your lifetime with a little planning. We would love to speak with you about your plans and to be able to thank you today, for what you are planning for the future.

Sincerely,  
Judi Cooper  
Director, Principal and Planned Giving

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



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*Planning for Kids* is a charitable gift planning newsletter published two times a year by SickKids Foundation for its supporters. 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, call us at 416.813.8271 and we will accommodate your request.

*We would like to thank AIM Trimark Investments for their donation of graphic design and editing services and Grafikom for printing this newsletter.*

**SickKids**  
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# Planning for KIDS

A Charitable Gift Planning Newsletter for SickKids Donors

**HEALTHIER CHILDREN. YOUR LEGACY FOR A BETTER WORLD.**

## Maureen Flynn – An Endowment to Honour Her Second Chance at Life

Maureen Flynn's second chance at life was the result of the kindness and timely action of SickKids anaesthetist Dr. John Relton, the dedicated and meticulous work of neurosurgeon Dr. Robin Humphreys, and the physio and occupational therapists at the Clinical Rehabilitation Department. On July 9, 1979, Maureen was seriously injured after walking in front of a bus and being hit by a car. Suffering from severe brain trauma and a fractured pelvis, Maureen's life was saved with the assistance of Dr. Relton who cared for Maureen at the scene of the accident and coordinated an ambulance to SickKids. Maureen attributes Dr. Relton's act of kindness as having "very likely saved my life."

After emerging from a two-week long coma, Maureen worked tirelessly for months with her therapists relearning many basic life functions such as sitting up, walking, bathing and eating. Maureen remembers how proud she was the day she pushed her wheelchair around the block without getting in; "I was exhausted, but really excited! The staff on 5G and the clinicians in Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy cheered for me when I got back to the ward!" Maureen attributes the outstanding support that she received from everyone at the hospital for speeding up her recovery.

Maureen remembers fondly how caring and encouraging the doctors and staff were each day. Maureen recently established the *Maureen Flynn Endowment Fund for Rehabilitation Medicine* which she plans to fund with gifts during her lifetime along with a bequest in her Will. Showing her appreciation, Maureen's wants this endowment "to assist in furthering the growth and education of the physiotherapists and occupational therapists that assist the children of today and tomorrow."

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SPRING 2008 NUMBER 18



Maureen Flynn

Endowments provide a permanent source of support for the area of the donor's choice. They also provide a permanent legacy in the donor's name.

## Gifts of RRSPs or RRIFs Can Benefit Your Estate

- **They provide tax advantages** – RRSPs and RRIFs become fully taxable as income in the year of death, usually at the highest marginal tax rate, unless the funds can be rolled over to a surviving spouse or a dependant child. A charity such as SickKids can be named as one of the beneficiaries of your RRSP or RRIF and provide a tax credit to your estate.
- **They give you control** – You retain the use of the investment for the duration of your lifetime.
- **They are simple** – ask your financial institution to change the beneficiary designation to The Hospital for Sick Children Foundation – it's as easy as that.
- **They are flexible** – The designation is revocable and can be changed if your financial circumstances change. You can name SickKids as one beneficiary, and still name your heirs as beneficiaries.
- **They are cost effective** – There are no extra out-of-pocket costs.
- **They eliminate probate, legal & executor fees** – These gifts are not subject to probate costs or delays in settlement.
- **They allow for peace of mind** – You can plan, arrange and announce the gift yourself and you will know that it will occur just as planned.
- **They give you recognition** – If you so choose your gift can be honoured during your lifetime.
- **They memorialize** – Your bequest can symbolize a lasting memorial for you, your family or anyone you may wish to honour.

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**The name you should include in your Will to make a bequest to The Hospital for Sick Children 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](mailto:gift.planning@sickkidsfoundation.com) or call 416.813.8271.**

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Shane – 84 days at SickKids

Children represent only one-quarter of our population, but 100% of our future.



Joti – 182 days of dialysis

## Give to SickKids Foundation and your other favourite charities at the same time

Some people like to give to more than one charity. That's why we've created the SickKids Charitable Giving Fund which offers our donors the option to support not only The Hospital for Sick Children, but other Canadian charities as well. The Foundation makes this possible through a giving option called a Donor Advised Fund.

“We understand people have different philanthropic goals that evolve and change over time,” says Angela Murphy, Manager of Donor Advised Funds. “The Donor Advised Fund is a charitable option that lets donors give to charities they believe can make a difference. By including SickKids in that list, they are helping us achieve our vision: “Healthier Children. A Better World.”

A Donor Advised Fund is similar to creating your own ‘private foundation’, but much simpler. In fact, it is a convenient and cost-effective alternative to creating a private foundation. A fund can be set-up in three simple steps:

1. **Give:** Make a contribution to create your fund, and give it a name, such as, The Smith Family Fund. The minimum contribution is a total of \$10,000 per year for five years.
2. **Grow:** SickKids Foundation's professional asset managers invest the fund and provide an annual statement of earned income available for granting.
3. **Grant:** Recommend grants to SickKids Foundation and your other favourite charities.

Donors are encouraged to include succession planning in their fund, thereby creating a legacy for your family's giving to the community. Future generations can then continue the legacy of giving and decide what charities to support based on their own interests.

*“Every year, donors have a say in how their dollars will support the hospital and other charities across Canada,” says Murphy. “Rather than making one-time donations to multiple charities annually, donors can centralize their charitable funds to ensure that it grows over time, and annually, direct their support to SickKids Foundation and other charities of their choice”.*

## SICKKIDS: FACING THE CHALLENGE

SickKids Foundation has invested significant funds in paediatric health care, but serious health issues still face our children.

- 3 of every 100 children are living with a disability or chronic illness
- There are 5,000 diseases affecting children that have a genetic or hereditary component including asthma, cystic fibrosis and diabetes
- Cancer is the most common cause of disease-related death in Canada's children and the rate of occurrence continues to rise
- 1 in 100 children is born with a heart defect
- Epilepsy affects the highest number of children of any neurological disease, affecting more than 300,000 Canadian children and 60,000,000 children worldwide

Donor Advised Funds are a very good alternative for people who might be considering establishing a private foundation.