



URGENT REQUEST

Could there possibly be a worse time for us to be seeking donations? Not likely!
But that's the reality of our situation and I'd like to explain why we need your help.

These are truly exceptional times in our Grey-Bruce Community. Who would have predicted that measures like self-isolation and social distancing would be put in place to prevent the spread of a virus that has travelled the entire globe? We don't know with certainty how long these extreme measures will remain in place for the safety of our local citizens. I hope that you and your loved ones are safe and in good health. I can assure you that at hospice, we are closely following all of the government Covid-19 guidelines for the safety of our residents, families, employees and visitors. After listening to the recent "Virtual Town Hall" kindly sponsored by Bruce Power, I am grateful that we have such a strong health care system here in Grey-Bruce. Public Health and our Hospitals together with front line health care professionals have made a quick and strong response.

This unprecedented time has created plenty of concerns for individuals and businesses who struggle to make ends meet and to pay their bills. Many of us are watching retirement investments diminish daily. Many not-for profit organizations like ours have also been impacted with the struggle to safely deliver essential services facing challenges like remote staffing and volunteers being asked to stay at home due to safety concerns. Although our government may provide various levels of assistance to some, it could take time for it to arrive.

Our greatest **IMMEDIATE** challenge due to the COVID-19 outbreak is the cancelling of our largest fundraising events of the year which could have a devastating impact on us and may even jeopardize our ability to sustain ongoing operations. **Casino Night at Legacy Ridge** and **Hike for Hospice 2020** have been shelved. Last year the **HIKE RAISED WELL OVER \$200,000.00** and this money is essential to ensure we can continue to operate!

I am sure you are aware that the province only partially funds our operations- just over 50% of our operating costs are funded through the generosity of local donors in our community. Through your support we have been able to serve many of the vulnerable persons at end of life in our community- in fact well over 750 people since we started just a few years ago. What makes us a bit different from other charities is that we are not able to access donations from a large provincial or national organization. Chapman House was built by our community for our community. We carefully manage our resources to ensure we meet our fundraising goal each and every year. We do not have any funds set aside that we can draw upon if we fall short. Our audited financial statements show that there is little margin for error.

Today, even though we receive funding for 8 licensed beds, **at any given point in time we have a waiting list of 20 or more people who have been referred by their physician for hospice palliative care.** Hospice frees up important hospital beds and the demand for our service continues to grow with our rapidly aging population. Plans are also in place to expand our service in Brockton to meet this growing need in the foreseeable future.

Chapman House is vitally important to our community and we need your help to assist with this financial challenge by asking for your support with this special **ONE TIME REQUEST**. If you are not able to help us at this time, we understand - it's a difficult time, but rest assured we would not be asking if we didn't need the help urgently!

Please donate either on-line by clicking on this link: [Donate to Chapman House](#) or by phone; call Amy at 519-370-7239 extension 105, or by mailing a cheque to: Chapman House, 1725 10th St. E. Owen Sound On N4K 0G5 attention: Amy. If you have any further questions, please call Amy at 519-370-7239 extension 105.

Thank you for your consideration

Alex Hector
Executive Director