

# MEDIA RELEASE



## Gracious Gifts from Foundation and Auxiliary Allow for Continued Improvements to Facility and Care

April 21, 2009 – (St. Catharines, ON) Both the Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Foundation and Auxiliary recently presented the health centre's Board Chair, Ron McTavish and CEO, Jane Rufrano with two cheques from their respective organizations totaling an astounding \$689,500.

The centre's Foundation once again came through big time with a donation of more than \$624,000 while the Auxiliary donated \$64,500. Hotel Dieu Shaver's CEO continues to be amazed year-after-year with the support and dedication both groups show towards Niagara's centre of excellence for rehabilitation, complex continuing care and geriatric services. "We are so fortunate to have these two wonderful groups of volunteers, our Foundation and our Auxiliary, supporting us and the work we do," said Mrs. Rufrano. "We honestly could not do what we do without them, they are the reason we have modern equipment, upgraded facilities and newly renovated space like our therapy treatment areas, patient rooms and dining areas, coffee shop, gift shop, staff lounge, therapy pool and cafeteria, which benefit both patients and staff alike," she added.

The more than \$64,000 gift from Hotel Dieu Shaver's Auxiliary is also most impressive given the way the money is raised. "These wonderful people volunteer countless hours to raise these funds that ultimately benefit our patients. "They work so hard and really are an inspiration," said Mrs. Rufrano. The Auxiliary raises their money through sales in the coffee shop and gift shop, break open lottery tickets, bingos as well as various events held throughout the year like card parties and raffles.

The Foundation's gift helped purchase new electric beds, an AcuDose pharmacy system which helps prevent medication errors, a bladder scanner, four defibrillators and other patient care equipment. They also provided the funding that allowed for major renovations to the Leonard B. Herzog Memorial Foundation Therapy Pool. "We think this organization has tremendous staff who do their best to improve the quality of life for the patients they care for and our job is to provide the money so that they can have the tools that will allow them to best provide that care," said Bob Bell the Foundation's Executive Director.

All Hotel Dieu Shaver volunteers will be honoured at a special luncheon today at noon at Club Capri in Thorold. "It's the one time of year that we get to formally thank all of them for the countless hours they give to our organization and I hope they know how much their efforts mean to us," explained Mrs. Rufrano. "They are amazing people in every sense of the word."

### **For more information:**

Kevin Vallier  
Director, Development & Communications  
905-685-1381 ext. 4826  
Cell: 905-359-4007