



Media Release

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Major gift boosts future of MCNALLY HOUSE *\$1.6 million given to create endowment funds for local hospice*

Thanks to the generosity of Patrick and |Nancy McNally, the financial future of McNally House looks brighter. The McNally's have donated \$1.6 million to establish two endowment funds that will support the ongoing operations of the organization.

"Nancy and I were approached by Dr. Denise Marshall about the on-going funding challenges faced by McNally House," said **Patrick McNally**. "The **hospice has an important role to play** in our community and we wanted to find a way to provide some on-going support. Setting up the endowment funds was the **perfect solution for our family.**"

The endowments will ease the annual fundraising burden for McNally House, which raises more than \$600,000 annually from the community. Until now, financial support has come from memorial gifts, donations and special events. The McNally's **gift** will be **held in perpetuity** in two new endowment funds - the **McNally House Endowment Fund** and the **Patrick and Nancy McNally Family Fund**. The **Niagara Community Foundation** will hold and manage the funds, directing a portion of the annual earnings to support McNally House.

"**This is a dream come true,**" said Dr. Denise Marshall, Medical Director of McNally House. "Patrick and Nancy have a profound understanding, not only of the moral imperative of exemplary end of life care, but of the need for sustainability of such care. This was evidenced by their original commitment to the build and now with their wisdom around ensuring that McNally house is sustainable. They know the numbers. It requires \$412 a day to operate each of the six patient beds at McNally house. But this is a fraction of what it would cost if that same person had to end up in hospital at end of life. This is a magnificent 'call to arms' for our entire community - **an open invitation for others to follow suit**. I like to think of this as a 'call to embracing arms'".



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“As the new board chair, **sustaining the operations** of McNally House is one of my **top priorities**,” said **Norm Beal**.

“Memorial donations and events are extremely important in keeping us connected with the community. This donation from Pat and Nancy will provide a new revenue source, for which we are extremely grateful. It is **our hope that their gift will inspire others** in our community to contribute to the endowments.”

The Niagara Community Foundation has noticed an increase in estate gifts over the past few years to their various endowment funds. “By making a gift through a bequest to an endowment, the donor can continue their annual giving in perpetuity,” said **Alan Goddard**, board member of the foundation. “McNally House holds a very special place in the hearts of so many in our community and these **new funds will ensure the hospice’s continued success**.”

The two funds to support McNally House become part of the family of endowment funds held in perpetuity by the Niagara Community Foundation. Created in 2000 the Foundation has raised more than \$14 million and has granted in excess of \$4 million to charities working in the arts, heritage, environment, social services, health, education and community development. The Foundation works with donors wanting to create permanent legacies to support causes important to the donors during their lifetime. The donations to the endowments are never spent, but held in perpetuity with a portion of the annual earnings given to charities.

- 30 -

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