

WOMEN, BABIES + KIDS

“

By the time I got to RVH, I was a ball of emotion. The team of nurses who greeted me and my husband that morning were angels. Immediately, they just took us in and made us feel so supported. They assured us that they were going to take great care of Christopher and we knew they meant it.”

Stephanie Cobble

Stephanie's son, Christopher, was transferred to RVH's NICU at 32 weeks and received care until he was well enough to go home at 40 weeks.



CARE FOR WOMEN, BABIES AND KIDS AT RVH

RVH cares for our tiniest patients, their parents, and women more broadly. Each year, more than 2,000 babies are welcomed into the world at our health centre. About 160 of them require neonatal intensive care. Overall, more than 6,300 visits were made last year to RVH for child and maternal health care.

RVH has a Birthing Unit, an inpatient unit for before and after care for mother and baby, as well as post-operative care for women who require gynecological or women's health surgical procedures.

We also have a level 2 Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), a six-bed inpatient child and youth pod (Paediatric Unit) within the Maternal Newborn Unit that provides medical care for patients 18 and younger. Our outpatient clinics provide care for chronic diseases like asthma, diabetes, eating disorders and more.

“

The expansion of the Paediatric Inpatient Unit and NICU would allow us to improve our care to all our families and patients. We need private spaces that allow mothers to breastfeed their babies, safe isolation spaces for children who are sick, and a space for our nurses to care for our most vulnerable patients. Babies and children are our community's future. This expansion will allow us to have the space that our kids and families need.”

Dr. Leah Bartlett

Chief of Paediatrics and co-Medical Director of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Youth Program



THE CASE FOR EXPANSION

Space is the biggest challenge in our Birthing, Paediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care Units.

Our current NICU design is original to the building and features 12 bassinets in an outdated, open-concept layout. Each patient has about 35 square feet of dedicated space. Current medical standards require nearly five times that. With all the special equipment needed to support critically ill babies, there is little room for our care teams to manoeuvre or for families to actively participate in their child's care.

Additionally, the Birthing Unit is within the same area of care as our inpatient Paediatric Unit. Having newborn babies and postpartum mothers on the same unit as really sick children is not ideal.

Redesigning the entire program operationally and expanding the physical space will allow for better family-centred maternal newborn care.



Current north site after planned expansion.

Courtesy of Diamond Schmitt

OUR VISION FOR YOUR CARE

Our vision is to offer the best possible care for all women, children and families, while giving babies a healthy start to life, with acute and complex care for when wee ones arrive ahead of schedule. And as they grow, we give kids of all ages the specialized care they need to keep on enjoying just being kids.

Our aim is to expand our specialized spaces and make state-of-the-art upgrades to our equipment and technology.

Priority initiatives

- + A rebuilt Birthing Unit, redesigned for the comfort and participation of families in the birth of their newest member
- + A new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit with cutting-edge equipment and enough space to provide the special care babies need when they arrive as early as 10 weeks ahead of schedule
- + A new Women's Health Centre for minor gynaecological procedures, maternal mental health service, menopause and surgical consultation
- + Specialized care, spaces and equipment for kids who are really sick, including chronic ventilation and palliative care
 - Genetics counselling
 - Fetal heart imaging
- + New clinics designed especially for new parents and kids
 - Well-baby care and support
 - Diagnostic and development clinics
 - Urgent follow-up clinic to support kids recovering from treatment back at home
- + More beds and care spaces
 - Four new beds for women's health, ten new beds for postpartum care, and five new beds for paediatrics
 - Six new bassinets in the NICU
 - Exam rooms, interview rooms, group rooms

THE PLAN TO KEEP LIFE WILD

To offer the best possible care for all women, children and babies, RVH needs to grow.

The Keep Life Wild campaign is a rallying cry for our community to come together to protect our health so we can all continue to enjoy the unique way of life we have here in Simcoe Muskoka.

But we can't do it without you. Public support for the campaign and donations from the community are vital to making our vision of the future of healthcare a reality.

We can't live a good life, the wild life, unless we have our health. So, will you join us in the fight to Keep Life Wild?

RVH
FOUNDATION

KEEPLIFEWILD.CA

201 Georgian Drive, Barrie, Ontario L4M 6M2
Charitable Registration Number: 125249185 RR0001