

October 5, 2016

## RVH FOUNDATION REVISES LITTLE WONDERS FOR NEW GENERATIONS

The Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) Foundation has updated the Little Wonders display – a tribute and memorial program offering parents, family and friends an opportunity to celebrate a new baby or the memory of a baby.

Through a \$100 donation, loved ones can donate by purchasing a butterfly or a petal of a flower to be added to the newly located and updated display. The petal or butterfly includes the baby's name and birthdate. The parents are also sent a certificate and photo of their tribute on the wall as a memento of their baby's special day. The placement of petals and butterflies represent sibling bonds and memories of siblings within families.

"There are many stories behind Little Wonders – some celebrate momentous occasions and some memorialize little ones who passed too soon," says Eric Dean, CEO, RVH Foundation. "As parents, families and friends honour their own little wonders, they are also providing important support to other babies born at RVH."

Donations to the Little Wonders program support care and equipment in Obstetrics, the Birthing Unit and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) which birth and care for approximately 2,100 babies each year.

For new parents, Katelyn and Jeff Lees, it was an easy decision to celebrate with a tribute to their new baby, Emmett.

"RVH is our closest and most convenient hospital and we truly believe in the quality of healthcare here," says Katelyn Lees.

"We had such a great experience in the Birthing Unit and Obstetrics so we felt it was important to give back. Little Wonders is a great way to show our appreciation to those units, support other babies, and have a lasting memory we can show Emmett and our family for many years to come," adds Jeff Lees.

In 2015, the Little Wonders program added 30 new petals and butterflies to the wall – a 50 per cent increase from the previous year. In 2016, the display was moved from the locked hallway outside the NICU to the glass panes of the Atrium outside the fourth floor unit for all to see and celebrate.

For more information on how to donate to Little Wonders, contact the RVH Foundation at 705-728-9090 ext. 41513 or visit <http://foundation.rvh.on.ca/supporting-rvh/little-wonders>.

Cutline: Katelyn (left) and Jeff Lees show baby Emmett her new flower petal on the Little Wonders display at Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) in Barrie. Through a donation of \$100, loved ones can purchase a butterfly or a petal on a flower including the baby's name and birthdate. For more information, contact the RVH Foundation at 705-728-9090 ext. 41513 or visit <http://foundation.rvh.on.ca/supporting-rvh/little-wonders>.

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About RVH:

RVH is a regional health centre in Barrie, Ontario, located 80 kilometres north of Toronto. As the largest hospital in the region of Simcoe Muskoka, RVH's team of over 350 physicians, 2,500 employees and 850 volunteers provides exceptional care and specialty services to almost half a million residents, including cancer care, stroke services, orthopaedics, intensive care, mental health and interventional radiology. RVH is focused on delivering high-quality, safe care that puts patients and their families first. For more information visit [www.rvh.on.ca](http://www.rvh.on.ca)

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