

Why do so many people support Bedford Hospitals Charity?

- This is a local charity benefiting local people
- None of the volunteers who work for the charity are paid and expenses are kept to a minimum. This means that in the region of 99% of all money raised goes directly to good causes
- Many of the projects funded by BHC are unlikely to have received funding from any other source. In other cases, the charity has been able to shorten significantly the waiting time for life-saving equipment and introduce innovative services that have greatly improved the quality of life for patients and their carers.



Making a difference to the local community:

Examples of what has been achieved to date

So far more than £5million has been raised for projects including:

- **1991** £651,000 for MRI Scanner Appeal
- **1993** £180,000 for the first Primrose Appeal to refurbish a portakabin for a Cancer Treatment Centre
- **1994** £120,00 for Cygnet Appeal for a Maternity and Paediatrics wing
- **1996** £190,000 given in support for Cardiology, ENT, Acute Pain service, Maxillofacial Surgery, Theatres and A&E
- **2000** £2.2 million for Primrose Appeal
- **2006** More than £300,000 for the Chemo Preparation Appeal

Who to contact if you would like further help or information about the Charity

Telephone/Fax: 01234 404248

Email: bedfordhospitalscharity@gbeeden.freemove.co.uk

Useful information available on our Website

Additional information about Bedford Hospitals Charity, as well as more about wills and legacies can be found at

www.bedhospcharity.org.uk



THE BEDFORD HOSPITALS CHARITY

Making the difference for patients and carers

Reg. Charity No. 299250



your legacy
to local healthcare

REMEMBERING
BEDFORD HOSPITALS
CHARITY IN YOUR WILL

THE BEDFORD HOSPITALS CHARITY

Making the difference for patients and carers

Our background

Bedford Hospitals Charity exists to support the hospital by raising money within the community. It was founded in 1988 by local unpaid volunteers and since then has raised more than £5million to fund projects aimed at improving the quality of life of patients and those who care for them.



Who is involved?

The charity has benefited from widespread support throughout the local community in Bedfordshire and neighbouring counties. People from all walks of life have given generously of their time and money to make the charity a success.

The future:

Raising money from legacies and bequests

The charity will continue to fundraise for projects that will significantly improve the care given to local patients. Individual donations and contributions from fundraising events will be essential to ensure the charity's continued success. However, along with all other UK charities, BHC also needs to raise income from other sources. As part of a new fundraising initiative it is hoped to encourage more local people to include Bedford Hospitals Charity in their will.

Including Bedford Hospitals Charity in your will - things to consider

- It is very important to make a will and not to die intestate. It may surprise you to learn that only 3 out of 10 people in the UK make a will. If you do not make a will your estate will be divided up according to the law, not your wishes. If you have no family your whole estate could go to the State.
- Making the charity a beneficiary in your will is a fine way of ensuring that money which you no longer need is put to good use and, at the same time, you can reduce your liability to inheritance tax.
- Any legacy left to Bedford Hospitals Charity is exempt from Inheritance Tax (IHT) and such gifts would be deducted from the value of the estate before Inheritance Tax liability is calculated. Currently (November 2006) all estates over £285,000 are subject to tax at 40% so, by leaving a legacy of, say, £1,000 to the charity this would only cost your estate £600. (The full £1,000 would go to the charity.)

- It is always advisable to instruct a solicitor and to make sure your will is properly drawn up, valid and enforceable.
- If you have already drawn up a will, you will not always need to make a new will in order to add Bedford Hospitals Charity. The addition of a simply worded codicil may suffice. Here is an example of the wording you might wish to send to your solicitor:

"I give Bedford Hospitals Charity c/o Bedford Hospital NHS Trust, Kempston Road, Bedford MK42 9DJ (Registered Charity No. 299250) the sum of pounds (£....) for its general purposes."



If you would like your gift to be used for a specific aspect of the charity's work the following wording would be more appropriate:

"without creating a binding trust it is my wish that the monies are applied, if possible, to the.....Appeal."

- Please be assured that any size of legacy would be welcomed by Bedford Hospitals Charity and would be used to benefit local patients and carers.