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years, says tournament chairman Jack Miller. He points out that Lakeside is one of three 'major' sponsors of the event and the largest local sponsor (the other two are Molson and CCM). Lakeside has donated money or equipment received from their suppliers in each of the last four years and Miller is very pleased with the company's help with the tournament.

"They seem to go out of their way," he says.

Lakeside is the major sponsor of the Mayors' Challenge Golf Tournament, and the company is a proud sponsor of local sports teams.

Besides its charitable work, the company rents and sells equipment for people with respiratory and mobility problems, and stocks a long line of incontinent supplies and safety products. Its head office is here in Belleville but Lakeside operates an outlet in Kingston as well.

Manager of its durable medical equipment (D.M.E.) division, Randy McFarland, says it's the service side of the business, matched with a strong commitment to the community, that makes Lakeside Homecare Services Ltd. a unique company.

After selling or renting a product, Lakeside doesn't forget about the customer once they've walked out the door. Employees follow up with in-home instruction on such things as the proper use of oxygen and maintenance of wheelchairs. Then they submit written reports to doctors and retirement home workers on how their patients are faring. And these services are given free of charge.

The company has two major specialties; respiratory products and durable medical equipment. The former deals with the safe administration of oxygen, inhalation therapy (for people who must inhale medication) and sleeping disorders.

After a customer has rented or purchased respiratory equipment, one of Lakeside's health care professionals will provide a home education seminar for the patient. Regular follow-up checks are done to ensure that there are no ongoing problems. Again, written reports are submitted to the individual's doctor. These services are extended to nursing and retirement homes where Lakeside includes staff in their seminars.

"There are a lot of misconceptions in the general public about oxygen," says Respiratory Therapist, Brad Kowacz, manager of the respiratory products division. Lakeside tries to correct these misconceptions, easing fears and making the use of such products easier by holding seminars not only for patients, but also for community groups such as Loyalist College's nursing students and firefighters throughout the Quinte area.

Durable medical equipment is the second division of Lakeside's operations. It deals with the sale, rental and maintenance of mobility devices such as wheelchairs, walkers, ceiling track lifts, van and stair lifts, and safety devices such as grab bars and seats for bathrooms. Also in the D.M.E. division are graduated compression therapy products, mastectomy products (certified female fitters on staff) and incontinent supplies. The company employs three full-time service men to maintain equipment sold or rented.

Lakeside Homecare Services Ltd. has established an impressive track record as a provider of home health care services as well as being a responsible corporate citizen. The people at Lakeside intend to maintain this strong commitment and active presence in Belleville and surrounding communities for years to come.