Lindsay hospital launches fund to support COVID-19 response

Catherine Whitnall

Ross Memorial Hospital has been there for people in need for more than a century.

However, the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic has significantly turned the tables.

"Things just keep changing at such a rapid pace. We've been receiving so many positive messages of support for our front-line workers. So many people have been asking how they can help," said Ross Memorial Hospital Foundation executive director Erin Coons.

To this end, the foundation has established a special fund, called Heroes at Heart, to support urgent equipment and technology needs as the hospital responds to the pandemic.

"We all feel our front-line workers are our local heroes, but we believe all of our donors are heroes too and we wanted a way to let them know how we feel," said Coons.

Coons said the hospital continually examines its equipment and technology needs, most of which is not government-funded. For many years, the foundation has been able to replace and upgrade their equipment and technology through generous community donations, including the dedicated volunteers of the Ross Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, whose ongoing fundraisers have resulted in millions of dollars being injected into local care.

"The hospital has financial constraints and having the equipment we need on hand is only made possible by the incredible donations we receive from the community," said Coons.

Those wishing to support the COVID-19 response at Ross Memorial through the Heroes at Heart fund are asked to call <u>705-328-6146</u>, email <u>foundation@rmh.org</u> or visit <u>www.rmh.org/foundation</u>.