Your precious gift... a new life

A desperate wait for a transplant

Elaine had to be ready to go with a moment's notice should a donor organ be found. Over and over, she had to pull her little ones out of bed in the middle of the night and tell them, "Mammy is off to hospital again and I might see you tomorrow or I might not."

It broke her heart. But what choice did she have?

You'll be happy to know that a donor was found, and her surgery was successful. But Elaine never forgets that her new life is only possible because someone else lost a loved one.



You are siving people like Elaine new hope for life. And it's because of you that the Mater is ready to help. Thank you!

OUR NEW YEAR'S WISH LIST

You are at the very heart of the Mater. You care about our patients just as we do. And this new year, we're wishing for the following items to help us provide the very best care!



Patient Essentials Packs

Cost: €50 each (300 needed)

We provide clothing and other essential items to patients who cannot afford or access their own. Before we can release a patient, they must have shoes and clean clothing. Your kind gift will ensure the dignity of every person – while they're with us and when they leave.



Family Heart Screening

Cost: €1,000 per screening

The sudden death of a loved one from cardiac conditions such as Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndrome (SADS) is tragic. But genetic screening may help us prevent the sudden death of a family member from occurring. If you're able to help with a gift of €1,000 we would be very grateful.



Eye Scanners

Cost: €5,875 (4 needed)

Did you know? Measuring tiny changes in eye pupil diameter in response to light is key to diagnosing critically ill patients. We currently depend on subjective assessments. New technology would mean we can diagnose patients more quickly and accurately.

Phone: (01) 830 3482

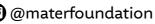
Email: contact@materfoundation.ie

Online: materfoundation.ie

Post: The Mater Foundation, 53-54 Eccles St., Dublin 7

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≗Mater **Foundation**

HEART OF THE **MATER**

Look at the life saving difference YOU make!



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2023

A New Life...

thanks to compassion like YOURS





How your kindness and generosity changed Elaine's life...

t was a routine x-ray, so Elaine wasn't at **all concerned.** But it was just the beginning of a long and difficult journey.

Elaine was diagnosed with an autoimmune condition. It affected her organs, skin, and joints. She was given steroids and other treatments, yet her lungs didn't improve.

You made the care Elaine needed possible

Elaine had her first child, then her second. After that, her lungs deteriorated. A simple

phone conversation would leave her short of breath. With two young children to care for, Elaine needed help. She needed to know what was happening to her!

Her doctors tried everything. Then finally, they referred her to the Mater for a lung transplant. At the Mater, Dr Oisin O'Connell shared difficult news:

There would be serious complications. **But** Elaine's reward was that she would live.

Continue reading on page 4

INSIDE: Hearts brimming with gratitude for you...

FROM OUR HEARTS TO YOURS... WE WANT TO SAY THANK YOU!

"

I understand how difficult it is to be a patient, and whether the staff knew me as a staff member or not, I was always treated so well. The Mater is like my second home, I love it here and even after I retire, I'll continue to support the Mater in any way I can.

"

~ **Joy,** patient and Mater theatre nurse



"

I spent maybe a month and a half in the spinal unit but my God, it was absolutely amazing. I know the circumstances were bad, but I am grateful. It was the staff; the care was just second to none.

"

~ Steven, spinal injury patient



"

I can't say anything bad about my experience in the Mater, everyone was so kind, helpful and professional. All of the staff take the time to find out how you are doing – not just physically but mentally too. And that makes all the difference.

"

~Martin, transplant patient





I would love to thank Dr Joyce for all that she has done for me as well as all of the doctors and nurses that cared for me in the Mater, they were absolutely phenomenal.

"

~ **Danny**, transplant and cancer patient







"

I didn't realise just how sick I was at the time.
My family were called a couple of times to
come and say goodbye. The staff in the Mater
were incredible, every single one of them was
kind to me. They brought me back from
the brink.

"

~ Tara, heart patient



With gratitude and love for all you do this year and every year, thank you from your Mater family