It was a day like any other until...
A brain aneurysm burst leaving Lucie Brodeur weak and befuddled

On December 9, 2014, Lucie Brodeur, age 46, went to the gym, ran a few errands and attended a meeting downtown. Back home, she sat down in her living room to read and wait for her husband before starting dinner. That is when her life turned inside out.

Ms. Brodeur had a sudden, excruciating headache. The unbearable pain, centred right behind her eyes was like nothing she had ever experienced. Something was seriously wrong. She called her husband for help, but he was stuck in traffic. She called her dad. He rushed over to find his daughter lying on her bed. She didn’t answer when he called out her name. He dialed 911.

Life can change in an instant
“I was very active and healthy and then bang, I’m on the floor unconscious, suffering a hemorrhagic stroke and heart attack virtually simultaneously. A brain aneurysm burst and my entire life exploded,” Ms. Brodeur says.

She needed emergency brain surgery to staunch the bleeding and then she needed a whole lot of patience on the long road to recovery at the Lakeshore General Hospital (LGH). The nurses and social workers helped her regain her physical stamina and overcome lingering cognitive deficits or changes in thinking.

One consequence of the hemorrhagic stroke was Ms. Brodeur had some odd and, at times, rather fantastic thoughts. She was convinced the Queen of England was about to call. She sat by the phone for hours, patiently waiting. In another instance, she thought her hospital room was a hotel room. One day she flung her towel over her shoulder and announced she was going to the beach.

“Life can change in an instant”

“Life can change in an instant. We were overwhelmed by the entire situation. The only thing we could do was support Lucie,” recalls Ms. Brodeur’s dad, Philippe. “She couldn’t do anything. She was like a baby. The care at the LGH was very personal. The nurses and social workers would talk and socialize with her which was amazing. Also, because she was unsteady on her feet, they would get her up and walking. Her care coordinator, was excellent, super-efficient.”

Ms. Brodeur spent two months recovering. “It took me a very long time to feel I was back in control of my body, my life. Everyone at the Lakeshore General Hospital deserves major kudos, MAJOR KUDOS,” she says.

Today, Ms. Brodeur has made a full recovery and has fulfilled a lifelong dream of opening her event planning and PR company.
The inauguration of these new rooms in the Intensive Care Unit is a major step forward in improving the quality of care and comfort of patients at the Lakeshore General Hospital.

During our visit, we were impressed by the high-quality standards and by the large windows looking directly onto the nurses station, which will make it easier for health professionals to monitor patients in the rooms. The fact that one of the units is designed to prevent the spread of infections is also a tremendous asset.

The Trottier Family Foundation is certainly very proud of its contribution to this important step in achieving an unsurpassed level of excellence in hospital care on Montreal’s West Island.

“A few words from Louise Rousselle-Trottier during the inauguration of the new ICU rooms.”

“...”
And the winner of the 2017 Humanitarian Award is... Lakeshore Light Opera!

We had no idea we were in the running for the 2017 Humanitarian Award. The cast and crew are thrilled and very proud. The award recognizes everything we’ve done in support of the Lakeshore General Hospital Foundation,” says Robert Schaap, President of Lakeshore Light Opera (LLO).

The LLO, a not-for-profit theatrical society has —amazingly— donated the proceeds from its annual performance to the Foundation for the past 42 years. In total, they have given $192,000 including $10,000 donated this year alone. The funds have purchased much-needed equipment including hospital beds and fetal heart monitors. For the next few years, the LLO will support the Foundation's campaign which is raising funds for intensive care, geriatric care and mental health.

Mr. Schaap was born at the Lakeshore General Hospital as were his children, so he knows first-hand the vital role the hospital plays. “It is our hospital,” he says. “When we donate to the Foundation, we are helping ensure our friends and neighbours have access to great care. Also, we know hospitals are struggling to make ends meet so it is nice to help out a bit.”

Lakeshore General Hospital Foundation. “Members are responsible for governance and organizational effectiveness. They ensure donations are spent wisely and that Foundation activities are efficient and successful.”

Members also serve as ambassadors raising awareness of the great work being done by the health professionals at the hospital and by the dedicated team at the Foundation. They serve as advocates opening doors and making critical introductions to potential donors. They generate enthusiasm, assistance and support, as well as fundraise and make personal donations to guarantee the success of campaigns and events.

“I feel very fortunate to be working with such a dedicated and knowledgeable team with expertise in governance, philanthropy, human resources, finance and organization effectiveness,” says Mrs. Holmes. “The success of the Foundation is partly driven by board members. They are a terrific source of energy and motivation. Their community spirit is one of the reasons residents of the West Island have access to exceptional health care close to home.”
Actively participate in our events and Make a difference!

Each year, the Foundation organizes several fundraising events that allow you to actively participate in improving health care for our community. We invite you to enjoy yourself at one or more of the events below, while making a commendable gesture!

20th Annual Golf Tournament – Monday, June 19
Join us on a championship course, at the enchanting Elm Ridge Country Club, for a day of pure pleasure filled with wonderful surprises. Reserve your spot today!

21st Duck Race – Sunday, September 10
This ultimate family event offers an array of activities as well as the possibility of winning great prizes. We have completely renewed the concept; the Duck Race is now part of the West Island Mommies Family Fun Fair. Visit our website for more information and to purchase your ticket.

17th Annual Lakeshore Ball – Saturday, November 11
The Montreal Airport Marriott In-Terminal Hotel will once again host our red carpet event! Put on your finest attire and dance to the sound of a live band, treat yourself to cocktails, a five-course meal and an open bar during this sumptuous evening that will take your breath away!

For more information, go to fondationlakeshore.ca or call Anne-Marie Milard at 514.630.2081.

Did you know?
Your great generosity helps us continue to provide excellent health care close to home. We thought it would be interesting to share a few facts and statistics about our community hospital with you.

Designed in 1965 to serve 60,000 residents, the Lakeshore General Hospital now serves a population that has quintupled to nearly 300,000.

The LGH has 255 beds and more than 2,100 employees dedicated to delivering patient-focused diagnosis, treatment and information. The health care team of 250 general practitioners and specialists, 487 nurses and 138 auxiliary nurses is supported by more than 500 dedicated volunteers.

The Lakeshore General Hospital services to West Islanders in 2015-2016 included:

- 1.6 million lab procedures
- 86,165 medical imaging exams
- 42,176 ER visits
- 39,855 ambulatory care clinic treatments
- 19,113 hemodialysis treatments
- 15,816 nuclear medicine visits
- 11,339 hospital admissions
- 4,066 oncology treatments
- 3,376 day surgeries
- 1,726 births
- 463 geriatric admissions
- 339 mental health admissions

Thank you for your continued support!

WE MOVED!
The team at the Lakeshore General Hospital Foundation moved in March to new offices located in the hospital.

You can't miss us as we are located just to the right of the main entrance. Our mailing address and phone number remain unchanged. Please drop by for a visit or to say hello!