



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Date: August 1, 2018

### **A Great Match Keeps Patients Safe and Comfortable During Surgery**

The generous donations received from the WDMH Foundation's Spring Matching Gift Program will make a difference for thousands of patients each year – keeping them safe and comfortable in the operating room. We are pleased to report that three new anesthetic machines have now been purchased thanks to the generosity of our donors.

A total of 42 gifts were given to the Spring Matching Gifts Program, raising \$36,665.66. "The successful matching gift program, combined with a portion of a recent estate gift, has resulted in total funding for the anesthetic machines – much sooner than expected," reports Kristen Casselman, Managing Director. "We are so grateful to everyone for your support."

WDMH performed 4,512 surgeries last year alone and anesthetic machines were used for almost all of them. The machines monitor patients and keep them asleep. They provide ventilation and oxygen during surgery and provide a controlled, safe environment.

"The transition to our new machines went very smoothly thanks in part to our Team Leader Karen Lydiatt," notes Dr. Lucas Gil, former Chief of Anesthesiology. "The machines are smaller, easier to move and more ergonomic. And the displays are easy to read and adjustable which helps us see the vital signs more clearly."

"We were able to exchange one machine per day which required perfect timing between patients. We had it down to a science by the third machine. We felt like a NASCAR pit crew that requires a fast changeover!" adds Karen Lydiatt. "We have an amazing operating room team with dedicated anesthesiologists and nurses who embraced and welcomed the opportunity to use these state-of-the-art machines. Now we have technology that surpasses our expectations, and safe, efficient machines to support our most vulnerable patient population. I can say wholeheartedly that this was a success and a giant thank you to our donors."

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