



St Vincent's Foundation Queensland
411 Main Street
Kangaroo Point QLD 4169

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ABN 148 519 441 51

411 Main Street
Kangaroo Point QLD 4169

Telephone 1800 161 197

Email helpstvincentsqld@svha.org.au

Website www.helpstvincentsqld.org.au

I hope this letter finds you in good spirits and excellent health.

I am writing to you on behalf of the Cardiac team at St Vincent's Private Hospital Toowoomba where every day we witness the courage and resilience of our cardiac patients as they face surgery or other treatment or undergo rehabilitation. This Christmas, we are thinking of these patients as we ask for your contribution to maintaining their health.

Can you help grant a Christmas wish this year?

In my role as Director of Clinical Services here at St Vincent's, I am responsible for ensuring the effective delivery of clinical operations and maintenance of high-quality care for our patients. The clinical team takes pride in what they do each day and how their work impacts patients and their families.

I therefore need to be sure that equipment used in these important procedures is fully functional and reliable.

This Christmas, we are seeking your support to help us replace two aging electrocardiograph (more commonly known as ECG) machines. These devices evaluate the heart's condition swiftly and accurately and thereby provide a valuable diagnostic tool for our cardiologists.

The cost of a new ECG is **\$8,700** and we would like to replace two of them in the near future.

Can you make a donation this Christmas to help purchase them?

"Proper diagnosis of heart complaints is about having the right equipment at the right time. Having new state-of-the-art, mobile ECG machines makes our job as clinical nurses much easier. The patient would receive more immediate and accurate diagnosis of their heart condition which in turn, this would allow more targeted treatment, more quickly."

Liz Hayes

Nurse Unit Manager, St Luke's Cardiac ward

Under the stewardship of Mary Aikenhead Ministries

**To donate now,
please click here.**



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An ECG machine enables one of the simplest and fastest tests used to evaluate the heart. Sensors are attached to the skin and used to detect the electrical signals produced each time the heart beats. These signals are recorded by the ECG and examined by the doctor to see if they are abnormal.

Some reasons a doctor will request an ECG include:

- To look for the cause of chest pain.
- To evaluate problems that may be heart-related, such as a rapid pulse, severe tiredness, shortness of breath, dizziness or fainting.
- To identify irregular heartbeats.
- To diagnose issues of weakness, fatigue, or a decline in ability to exercise.
- To help determine the overall health of the heart before procedures such as surgery; or after treatment for conditions such as a heart attack.
- To see how an implanted pacemaker is working.
- To determine how well certain heart medicines are working.
- To get a baseline tracing of the heart's function during a physical exam, which may be used as a comparison with future ECGs, to determine if there have been any changes.

As you can see, this equipment is central to cardio diagnosis and treatment. Having the latest model to use in our hospital will allow faster, more accurate diagnosis of cardiac conditions, more effective treatment and ultimately, better patient outcomes.

Your contribution, no matter the size, will assist those recovering from cardiac surgery.

You can be part of something special by helping us today.

We have also included a Christmas card that we hope you can return to us by 16 December in the return envelope provided. Our staff go above and beyond each day and your message of goodwill this Christmas season will help them feel appreciated.

You can also go to our website www.helpstvincentsqld.org.au to make a gift or phone 1800 161 197. Your support is appreciated and needed.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year. May your kindness come back to you tenfold.

Yours sincerely



Malcolm Casey

Director of Clinical Services

St Vincent's Private Hospital Toowoomba

P.S. You can help grant a wish today and help purchase our needed ECG machines? Please make a gift when you return the Christmas card.

Click here to send a message of support to our staff this Christmas

helpstvincentsqld.org.au | 1800 161 197

To donate now,
please click here.

St Vincent's
Foundation
Queensland

2023

*Christmas
Appeal*

