

Rick Middleton
Rutland Medical Center appeal letter
February 2, 2012

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Ms. Margaret Edwards
Gorham Bridge Rd.
7D Templewood Ct.
Rutland, VT 05701-5607

Dear Ms. Edwards,

Working in a hospital has helped me realize it's the little things that can mean the most.

It's not always a high-profile piece of technology or an innovative new technique that can transform a patient. Sometimes, it can be something as simple as an exercise bike, or a word of advice, or a smile.

One of our patients, Mr. Bill Mullan, recently reminded me of this when he wrote to express his appreciation for our services. Like a lot of people, Bill is dealing with a "Catch-22": he needs regular exercise, but his body can't handle certain stressors.

As a sufferer of COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease), cardiovascular exercise is essential to keeping Bill healthy. However, knee replacement surgery made many of his favorite strengthening and conditioning exercises impossible.

Bill looked around for options, and then "a light went on upstairs," as he says. He remembered the Nu-Step recumbent bike in the Pulmonary Rehab unit on the hospital's third floor and began using it regularly.

"The Nu-Step machine is awesome," Bill writes. "It works the whole body but my legs are regaining strength safely. The two machines where you pedal with your arms in reverse have had dramatic effects on my upper body strength, which is needed to assist breathing when you have COPD."

"The NuStep machine is not readily available outside the hospital," he continues. "Whoever thought of bringing it into the Rutland Hospital is a hero to many of us. Thanks again for the services that our great hospital provides."

Resources like the Nu-Step machine are made possible by your generosity.

It's no exaggeration to say that philanthropy is vital to our mission. The charitable spirit of this community, combined with a long commitment to healthcare excellence, is building a rich legacy here in Rutland.

This legacy – your legacy – is touching the lives of everyone who enters our doors. You have helped make Rutland Regional Medical Center what it is today. Generous gifts from friends like you allow us to bring many services and technological advancements to our community, including a new linear accelerator and bedside monitors in our Intensive Care Unit.

Most importantly, your gifts give hope to patients and helps raise healthcare in our community to a new level of excellence.

The impact of charitable donations is evident in every aspect of the hospital's services. Donated dollars help us:

- provide excellent care for our patients
- maintain charity care programs for families in the community
- offer important continuing medical education for patients and medical staff
- obtain advanced technology that makes a lifesaving difference for thousands of patients.

Individual gifts, small and large, to Rutland Regional Medical Center make the healthcare experience better for patients, their families and our community.

Today, help us ensure excellence with your gift. Thank you in advance!

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Huebner
President

P.S. Your gift of any size helps us continue to provide great care for this entire region.
Can I count on you to support us today?