

OUR FRONTLINE WORKERS ARE RELENTLESS IN CARING FOR US. NOW WE'RE CARING FOR THEM.

YOUR COVID-19 UPDATE

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your overwhelming generosity in support of the [Courage Fund](#). To date, more than 700 donors have rallied to ensure St. Michael's has what it needs, right when it needs it, to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic. It just goes to prove that while our lives may have changed dramatically, Toronto's relentless spirit of compassion remains strong. We – and the entire St. Michael's Hospital team – are grateful.

And remember, if you haven't already donated, you can help ensure our courageous frontline health-care staff have what they need to care for all of us through this crisis by giving to the [Courage Fund](#).

In fact, legendary philanthropist and St. Michael's steadfast ally Peter Gilgan has stepped up with a challenge for all Torontonians. Donate to the [Courage Fund](#), and all gifts will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$3 million. This is a rare opportunity to double your impact and at the same time ensure that St. Michael's can meet the escalating demand for COVID-19 testing and outfit the hospital with the medical equipment and technology it needs to treat the anticipated influx of COVID-19 cases.

Our donors really are an unstoppable force! Just this week, the Foundation's [Research Innovation Council](#) also rose to the challenge. This remarkable group of philanthropic leaders, who are passionate about discovery, quickly came together to fund a breakthrough COVID-19 research project. With support from RIC, Dr. Sharmistha Mishra, an infectious disease physician and mathematical modeller, will design [data-driven and population-specific strategies](#) to flatten the COVID-19 curve in our local communities. RIC is proving once again that donors have a chance to impact some of the most pressing health issues of our time.

To learn more about all our COVID-19 funding priorities, and how you can help, please see our [Case for Support](#), or reach out to us at info@stmichaelsfoundation.com.

At St. Michael's, CAN'T is simply not in our vocabulary. Because of you, we will stop at nothing to defeat COVID-19.

On behalf of everyone at St. Michael's Hospital Foundation, I wish you, your families and all those in your community a Happy Easter. Happy Passover. And Ramadan Mubarak. May you take this special time to connect with loved ones, near and far, until we're all able to be together again. Keep safe and healthy.

Sincerely,



Lili Litwin
President, St. Michael's Hospital Foundation

[DONATE >>](#)

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Facts from the Frontlines

Facts from the Frontlines is a podcast series featuring St. Michael's world-leading experts who speak to us about the COVID-19 pandemic. Here are the latest episodes.



COVID-19 and the homelessness crisis.

The closure of the community centres and meal programs and the restrictions around maintaining physical distance are compounding the stresses on people who are homeless. The cost of doing nothing about homelessness and accepting the status quo has never been more starkly apparent. Will COVID-19 force us to change how we deal with this pressing issue? Dr. Stephen Hwang, Medical Director of MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions, talks about the challenges and what St. Michael's scientists are doing to end chronic homelessness.

[LISTEN TO PODCAST >>](#)



Virtual care from the family health team.

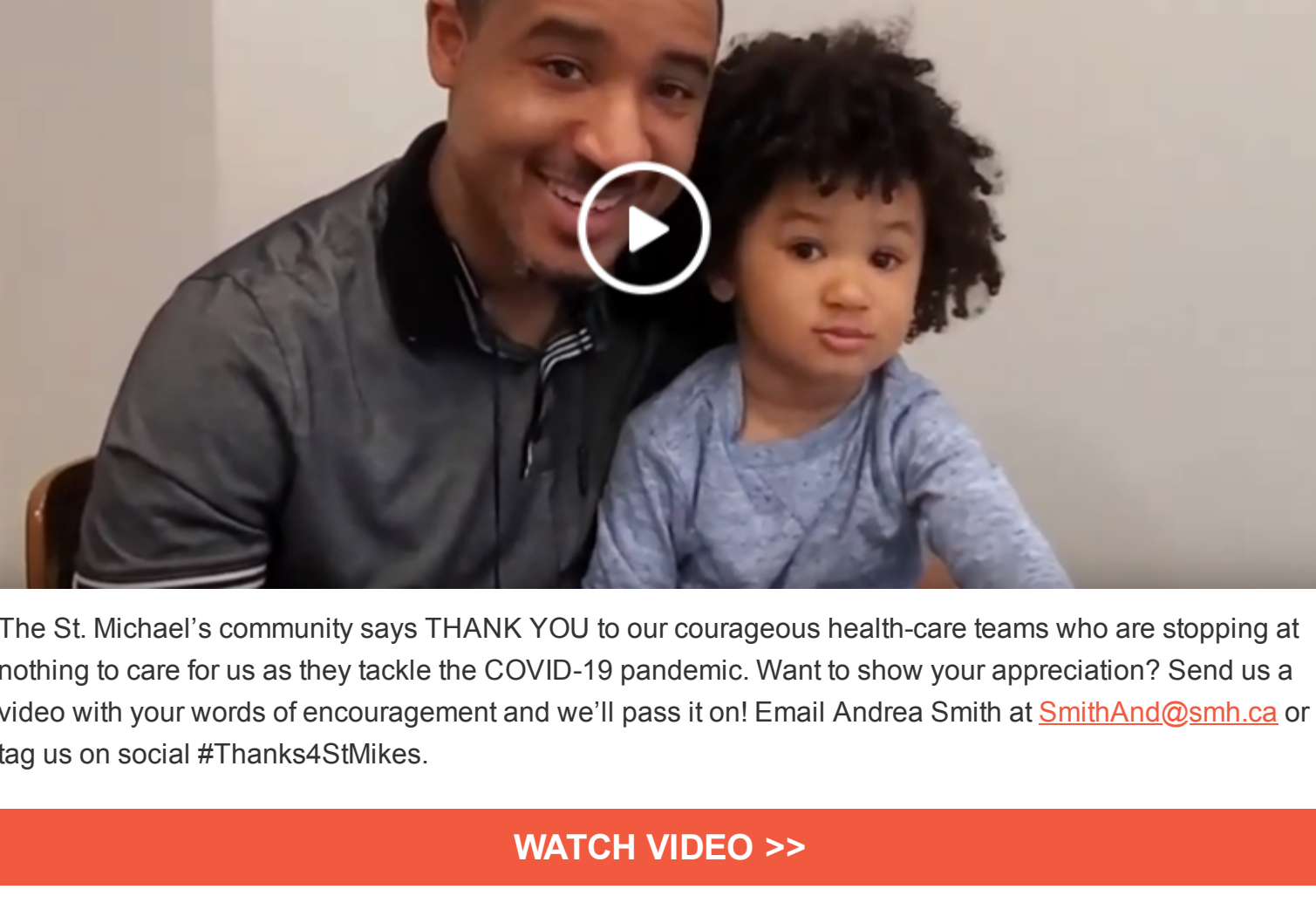
How is family practice changing in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic? Dr. Karen Weyman, St. Michael's Chief of Family and Community Medicine, and Linda Jackson, St. Michael's Senior Clinical Program Director for Primary and Community Care, talk about how the hospital's six family health team clinics are protecting patients, health-care providers and the community by conducting patient visits by phone or video conferencing wherever possible.

[LISTEN TO PODCAST >>](#)

Check out all the episodes on our new Soundcloud channel.

[LISTEN TO ALL FACTS FROM THE FRONTLINES PODCASTS >>](#)

#THANKS4STMIKES



The St. Michael's community says THANK YOU to our courageous health-care teams who are stopping at nothing to care for us as they tackle the COVID-19 pandemic. Want to show your appreciation? Send us a video with your words of encouragement and we'll pass it on! Email Andrea Smith at SmithAnd@smh.ca or tag us on social #Thanks4StMikes.

[WATCH VIDEO >>](#)

#KIDS4STMIKES



Have your kids or grandkids create a card with a message of thanks that can be given to a hospital worker! They can decorate it any way they like. And if you are able to (and no pressure, the card itself is amazing), include a small gift card for coffee or tea, books or music. We will pass the cards on to those staff who have done something above and beyond in their relentless efforts to keep our community safe.

To get involved, contact Fiona MacAlpine at MacAlpineF@smh.ca.

[CONTACT US >>](#)

IN THE NEWS



Flattening the GTA Curve: St. Michael's Dr. Sharmistha Mishra wins RIC funding for COVID-19 project

With support from donors, Dr. Sharmistha Mishra, an infectious disease physician and mathematical modeller, will design data-driven and population-specific strategies to flatten the COVID-19 curve in our local communities.

[READ MORE >>](#)



Study finds new medication can significantly block early stages of COVID-19 in engineered human tissues.

St. Michael's Drs. Art Slutsky and Haibo Zhang are part of an international team that has proven a drug soon to be tested in clinical trials is a useful antiviral therapy for the novel coronavirus.

[READ MORE >>](#)

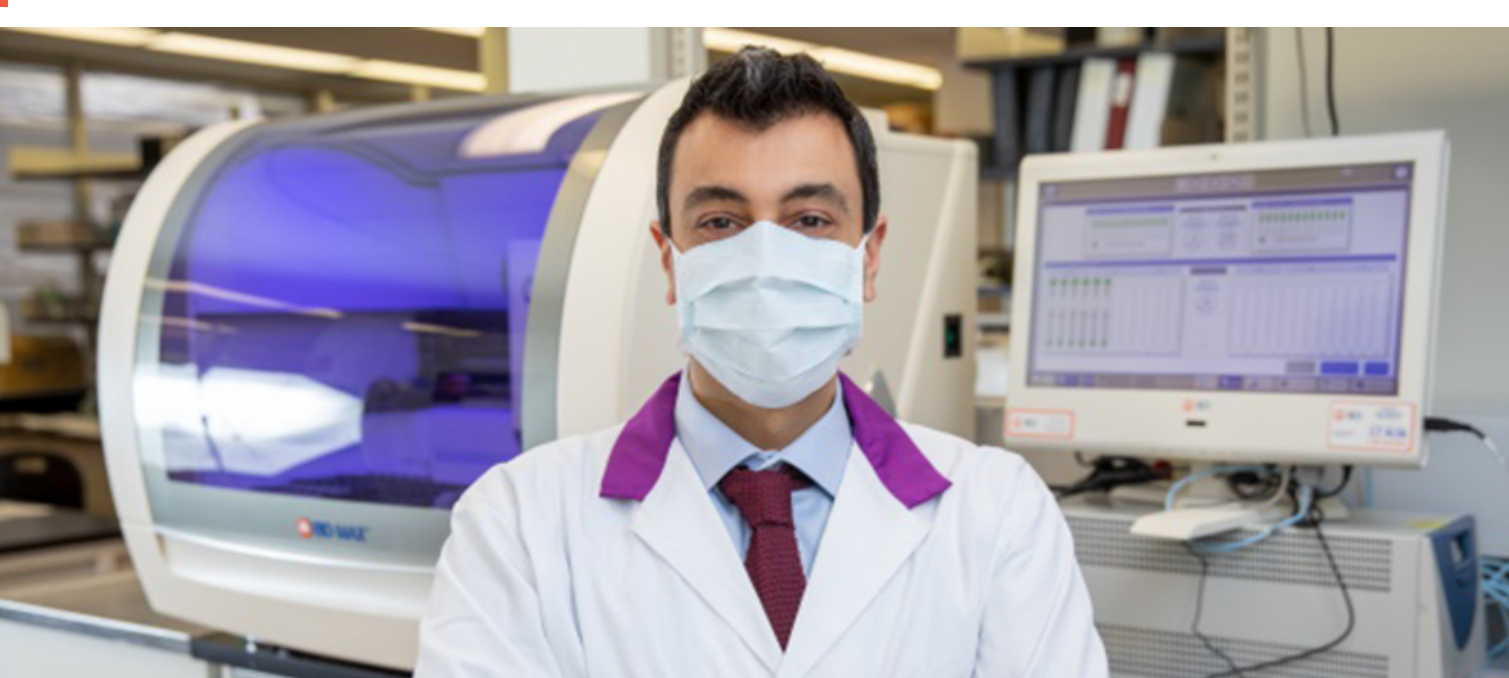


Coronavirus ventilators: Why one machine is pivotal in the battle against COVID-19.

"What you're doing with a ventilator, in general, is to try and buy time so the body can heal itself," explains Dr. Art Slutsky, one of the world's top experts in mechanical ventilation and acute lung injury.

[READ MORE >>](#)

HOW YOU CAN HELP



DONATE TO THE COURAGE FUND

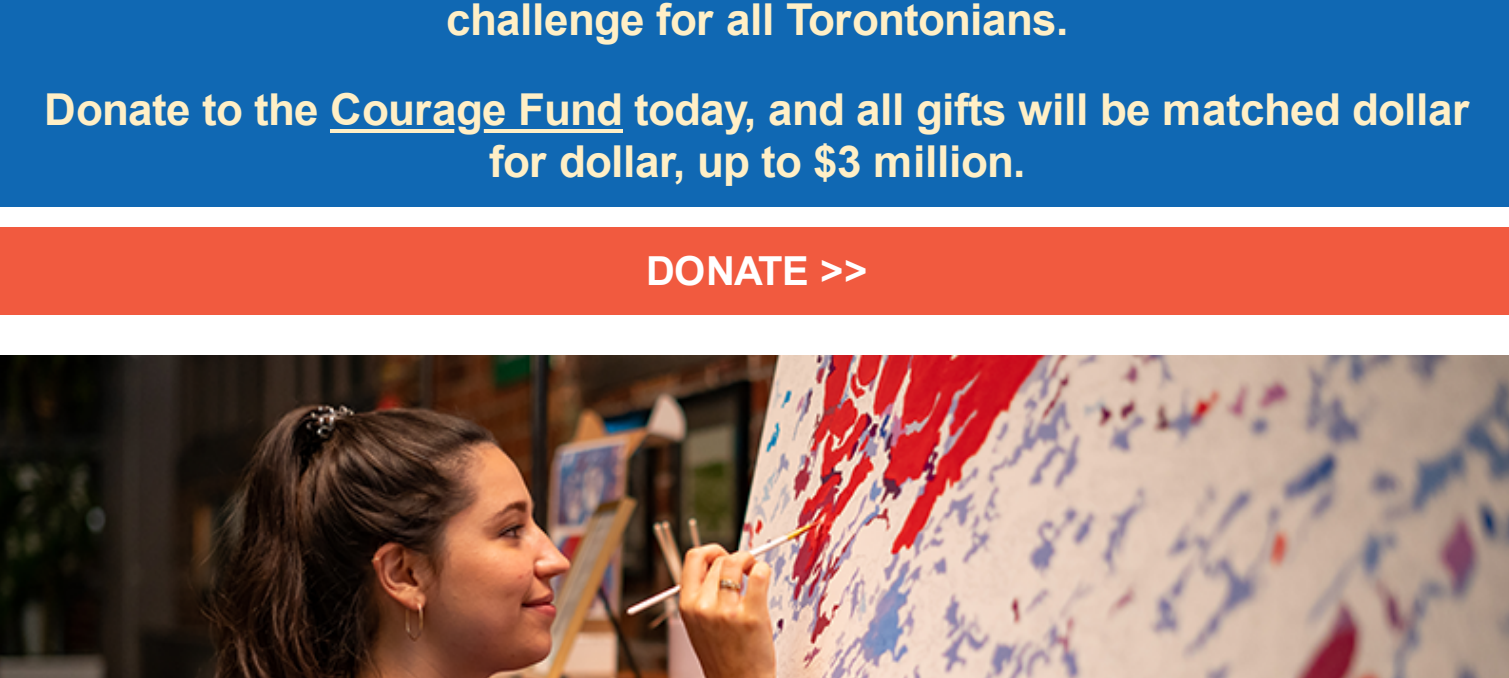
In the face of COVID-19, our health-care teams are being called upon like never before.

Dr. Ramzi Fattouh is one of our courageous frontline staff at St. Michael's. He's a clinical microbiologist who is using a new machine that speeds up testing for COVID-19. And he's working relentlessly to keep everyone in our community safe.

Legendary philanthropist Peter Gilgan has stepped up with a challenge for all Torontonians.

Donate to the [Courage Fund](#) today, and all gifts will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$3 million.

[DONATE >>](#)



Start your own courage fundraiser.

If you'd like to start a fundraiser for your own in support of St. Michael's Hospital, and rally your network to help us tackle the COVID-19 pandemic, please contact [Navaz Mistry](#) at [416.903.5382](tel:416.903.5382), or click below.

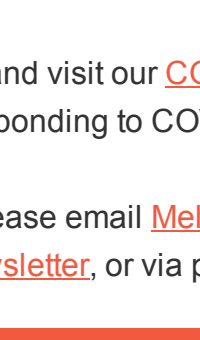
[START A FUNDRAISER >>](#)

STAY UPDATED

Follow our social channels ([@stmichaelsfdn](#)) and visit our [COVID-19 information page](#) and unityhealth.to for regular updates on how St. Michael's is responding to COVID-19.

If you have any questions about COVID-19, please email [Melanie Anderson](mailto:Melanie.Anderson@stmichaelsfdn.com) and we will do our best to answer them on our [website](#), through our [newsletter](#), or via podcasts featuring special guests.

[CONTACT US >>](#)



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f t i y i n

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