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# Voluson Ultrasound Scanner generously funded for Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, thanks to MedEquip4Kids !

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| **Story Highlights**   * MedEquip4kids proudly funds Voluson Ultrasound Scanner for Maternity Unit * Official presentation was made on 9th June 2017 * This was enabled with generous support from The Zochonis Charitable Trust, Christine Stout and her team of supporters in memory of her son Jack Stout. |

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary receives a new Voluson Ultrasound Scanner for the maternity unit.

This was made possible by MedEquip4Kids, a Manchester-based charity specialising in fundraising for medical equipment and resources in children’s health. They raised the money for the much-needed Voluson Ultrasound Scanner with the generous support from The Zochonis Charitable Trust, Christine Stout and her team of supporters who are fundraising with her, in memory of her son Jack Stout.

The purpose of the machine is primarily to assist with liquor volume scans, an excellent indicator of pregnancy complications, including diabetes and placental **insufficiency.** On average it is used 4 to 5 times per day, approximately 30 times in a week. It is an essential part of the working day as it also provides immediate reassurance for patients who attend for heart monitoring.

A great example of the value of this equipment; A patient who had been in a breech presentation attended the ward to be induced. A few days previously she had a procedure to move the baby from breech to head presentation; however the ward midwife was unsure on the presentation on the patient’s arrival and was reluctant to start the induction. By using this equipment they were able to check immediately, and on finding the baby to be in the head presentation both parents and midwife were relieved and the induction was not delayed.

Angela Jordan, maternity nurse, says: *“*The impact for us on triage/maternity ward is a positive one and it is an essential and valuable piece of equipment we would struggle without”.

Sarah Suthers, Community Fundraiser at MedEquip4Kids,says : ‘We’d like to say a very special thank you to Christine Stout and team and The Zochonis Charitable Trust for their amazing support. Children and babies deserve the best healthcare and it’s crucial that all the right equipment and support are on hand to give them the best possible chance of a healthy future.”

This donation is the latest in long list of charitable support that MedEquip4Kids have made to Royal Albert Edward Infirmary.

They are now appealing for supporters to help raise money for The Rainbow Ward at Royal Albert Edward Infirmary. The ward has 34 beds and children often stay on the ward for a number of days or weeks depending on their condition. It is beneficial for children to have 24 hour parental support during their stay in hospital as it reduces the stress upon them leading to quicker recovery and discharge.

Currently there are only 12 bed chairs available so many of the parents who need to stay have to spend the night sat up in a chair. The bed chairs need to be hardwearing because of the frequent use and fully cleanable for hygiene purposes. The Ward Manager asked us to provide 10 extra Recondo Recliner Chairs to fill the need for more parent beds and help improve patient experience. We have now funded 2 beds and are fundraising for the remaining 8 required. The cost of supplying 8 Recondo Recliner Chairs is £9556.24

To support this appeal please contact Sarah on 0161 798 1600 or visit their website [www.medequip4kids.org.uk](http://www.medequip4kids.org.uk)

The organisation was set up in 1985 by a couple, after their daughter became seriously ill with meningitis and was treated at Booth Hall Children’s Hospital in Manchester, where she made a full recovery.

At the time, the hospital was unable to afford some vital items of equipment, so to show their gratitude to the hospital that saved their daughter’s life, the couple began fundraising for the equipment. Since then, MedEquip4Kids has raised over £20 million to care for around 128,000 children a year at hospitals across Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Cumbria, Lancashire, Yorkshire and beyond.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

1. MedEquip4Kids exists to improve healthcare for children and babies across the north of England by providing specialist paediatric equipment for hospitals and community health teams.

2. MedEquip4Kids was founded in 1985 and, to date, has raised more than £20 million.

3. To contact the charity, call 0161 798 1600 or email info@medequip4kids.org.uk

4. More information on individual projects at hospitals across the region are available via our website: www.medequip4kids.org.uk