



## PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT

January 2017

### **Naomi House & Jacksplace receive generous donation from the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge No.9263**

On 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017 the Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Mike Wilks and the Worshipful Master of the Hants & Isle of Wight Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge, WBro. David Hilton, AsstGSwdB, visited Naomi House & Jacksplace to present a cheque for £7,500.

On receiving the cheque Paul Morgan, head of Fundraising for Naomi House & Jacksplace, said:

*“The support we receive from Masonic lodges locally is hugely important to our charity and we are indebted to the Hampshire and isle of Wight Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge for the support they have shown to local children, young people and families. As an illustration, £7,500 could fund ongoing counselling and bereavement support for two families who have lost a child at our hospices.”*

The Provincial Grand Master commented, *“The work of this Charity, which provides care and support for life-limited and life threatened children and their families, is dear to the hearts of all Freemasons who have been supporting the Charity since it was started at Naomi House 22 years ago and I know they will continue to do so.”*

Naomi House & Jacksplace are shortly to open world's first hospice Long Term Ventilation (LTV) Unit.



There are increasing numbers of children and adults who have tracheostomy tubes.

A tracheostomy provides direct access to the trachea through a surgical opening in the neck.

Some of these children and adults also require invasive ventilation. This entails attaching the tracheostomy tube to a ventilator that essentially breathes for the child or adult. For children who are tracheostomy ventilated their journey from acute hospital wards to the comfort of their home can be long and challenging.

Newly ventilated children require a care package to be built around their needs. This may include nurses, carers, education providers and physical adjustments to the family home.

Everyone involved in a child's care must be trained to deal with their unique set of needs. The average length of hospital stay from identification of the need for long term ventilation to discharge is **seven to nine months**.

During this time, a child will stay in the high dependency unit (HDU), paediatric intensive care or an acute setting within a ward of a major hospital. Family members who wish to visit will encounter the usual challenges faced when coming to a hospital: finding parking spaces, limited menu options and a lack of private areas. They will be faced by an acute ward, somewhere lacking the warmth and comfort of the family home.

Caring for a newly ventilated child in a hospital setting is extremely expensive, often as much as £1,000 per day.

Naomi House & Jacksplace know there is a better way. Our charity has the staff, the skills and will soon have the infrastructure to support our NHS colleagues in providing a better setting in which children can receive care while awaiting the creation of their care package.

Families can benefit from a caring and supportive environment in which to spend quality time with their child. The LTV Unit will offer a step down from the care given at hospital, and allow parents to take on some of the care for their children, preparing them to provide this at home with reduced intervention from medical staff.

The new LTV Unit will enable hospice staff to reach out to families with medically vulnerable children earlier in their journey, introducing them to the range of services available at the hospice. We can then assist families by bringing healthcare agencies together to build appropriate and stable care packages more quickly.

The LTV Unit will be built above the hospices and will comprise two fully equipped children's bedrooms, an emergency care room for breakdown in care packages, high quality accommodation for families and communal spaces for play and relaxation.

This service will transform the way in which newly ventilated children are cared for, and immediately improve not only their quality of life but that of their family too. The unit will open in the middle of 2017.

