What matters most to you?
“To laugh again”
Karen Liberman, patient

Diseases of the brain and mind, like stroke, dementia and depression, pose the greatest public health challenge of our time. They show no bias or mercy. They affect the very young and most vulnerable, parents, siblings, business and political leaders, medical professionals and seasoned war veterans.

The brain is the last frontier of medicine, the black box of the body. Sunnybrook leads efforts to understand how this most complex of organs works, and stops working, so we can restore health to our patients. Our approach to brain health is unique, our success unmatched and our potential limitless.
At Sunnybrook, we recognize that a healthy brain and mind contribute to an overall healthy body. That’s why our Brain Sciences Program brings together internationally recognized experts in psychiatry, neurology, imaging, pharmacology, surgery and geriatric medicine to offer comprehensive care found nowhere else.

The result is unparalleled leadership in brain health. We are the largest stroke centre in Ontario. We operate Canada’s largest mood and anxiety disorders clinic for teens. And, we are home to the largest ALS clinic in North America. Our research breakthroughs have global impact. We lead efforts to reverse the effects of Alzheimer’s disease and identify ways to keep future generations from developing bipolar disorder. Soon, we will be able to avert stroke with harmless sound waves. Preventing the coming epidemic of brain illnesses requires significant investment in the right people, equipment and facilities – at the right time. That time is now.

Karen Liberman is certain that she would not be alive today if it weren’t for treatment she received at Sunnybrook.

“As soon as I arrived, I knew I was in good hands. My physician, Dr. Levitt, was clearly a knowledgeable expert; I could tell at an intuitive level that he would never give up on me.”

Karen has come a long way since she first came to Sunnybrook with crippling depression. The treatment she received here brought her from the brink of suicide to feeling normal again. Now healthy, she’s helping others as the executive director of the Mood Disorders Association of Ontario.

“Every day of my life, I will continue to be grateful to Dr. Levitt and to Sunnybrook for giving me the care that gave me my life back.”

Karen Liberman, patient

In 1994, Roger and Maureen Parkinson moved from the United States to Toronto.

“We’ve had the opportunity to experience both health care systems and feel very fortunate to support the construction of Sunnybrook’s Brain Imaging Research Centre.

“The doctors at Sunnybrook are excellent at what they do. We’re thrilled to help give them the necessary tools to develop new imaging techniques that will identify the causes of disorders, and guide effective new treatments.

“Everyone benefits from supporting this kind of innovation. Patients worldwide will benefit from breakthroughs in the treatment of neurodegenerative disorders, like Alzheimer’s disease, discovered at this centre.”

Maureen and Roger Parkinson, donors

Advanced imaging technologies give experts at Sunnybrook unprecedented insight into the interconnected workings of the brain and the mind.

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**Investment Highlights**

Sunnybrook is here for you when it matters most. By investing in our Brain Sciences Program, you can be there for people who need us most.

### $3M Mood & Anxiety Disorders Program

Mood and anxiety disorders affect one in three people, making them the most common health issues facing Canadians. Every day, Sunnybrook’s Mood & Anxiety Disorders Program sets the standard of care: developing new treatment strategies, leading clinical trials, and training other care providers. We pioneered treatments for depression and anxiety that have produced real improvements in care for countless people worldwide. When other centres cannot help, they refer their patients to us.

To meet unprecedented and ever-increasing demand for mental health care, Sunnybrook will expand our clinical and research activities. Soon we will offer the nation’s fastest access to screening, discover ways to prevent youth at risk of developing bipolar disorder from ever becoming ill, and tailor treatment to the unique genetic makeup of each patient, so they can recover better, faster.

### $3M Stroke Program

Every 10 minutes someone in Canada has a stroke. A stroke kills part of the brain causing death or disability. That’s why Sunnybrook’s clinical and research activities focus on stroke prevention and physical rehabilitation. We are a Regional Stroke Centre and a site of the Heart & Stroke Foundation’s Centre for Stroke Recovery. New treatments designed at our hospital are paving the way to critical improvements in care that save lives. To continue to save and improve lives, we are investing to support new clinician-scientists who will drive discovery while training tomorrow’s leaders in the field.

### $3M Dementia Program

Sunnybrook is leading the fight against dementia. We’ve already developed the first test that predicts who will develop Alzheimer’s disease with 90 per cent accuracy. Our scientists are perfecting the use of stem cells to repair brain tissue damaged by these disorders. Next, we will focus on prevention to identify drug treatments that can delay the onset of dementia indefinitely. This work has the potential to reduce these frightening disorders into a class of manageable illnesses. With nearly 500,000 Canadians suffering from dementia, a figure set to double within a generation, the need to do more has never been more urgent.

### $12.5M Brain Imaging Research Centre

To give Canada a critical new edge in the battle against disorders of the brain and mind, Sunnybrook will build a state-of-the-art Brain Imaging Research Centre. Here, we will merge science and technology to open new windows on the brain. Brain imaging will help identify disease patterns and accelerate research to find the causes of brain disorders and develop the treatments of the future. We will look deeper into the brain to detect disease early, at its most curable stage. We will harness ultrasound to blast blood clots in the brain to prevent stroke. And, we will guide the delivery of medications directly to treat the source, not just the symptoms, of illness.
# Brain Sciences Program

**TOTAL GOAL**

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<tr>
<th>KEY INVESTMENT PRIORITIES</th>
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