

State-of-the-art, lifesaving Cardiac Care... without a trip to Boston.

Traditionally only large teaching hospitals in metropolitan areas have performed cardiac catheterization. But in 1990 the Massachusetts Department of Public Health chose Lowell General Hospital – the first community hospital to be selected in 17 years – to perform this lifesaving examination.

During catheterization a flexible, hollow tube is inserted into a large vein in the groin, and threaded through the circulatory system to the heart. The cardiologist injects tiny amounts of marker dye through the catheter into the vessels and chambers of the heart. Sophisticated

video and x-ray cameras take a succession of pictures which the cardiologist can use to locate blockages in coronary arteries or damage to coronary valves.

Through your generous contributions to the Annual Fund and the Centennial Fund, we have been able to bring a highly sophisticated level of cardiac care to Merrimack Valley residents. To commemorate the Hospital's 100th anniversary in 1991, The Centennial Fund raised the \$1.5 million for a new catheterization lab with state-of-the-art equipment.

