Ronald McDonald House Charities®
Central Indiana

HEART & HEARTH

SUMMER
2020



MEET THE DOCKS

P.14

HOW THEY WENT FROM BENEFICIARIES OF GENEROSITY TO GIVERS

THE FAMILY THE HOUSE BUILT: THROUGH ADVERSITY, THE BIRTH OF A NEW FAMILY AT THE HOUSE. P.04

STORIES FROM OUR HOUSE

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Ronald McDonald House Charities®
Central Indiana

HEART & HEARTH SUMMER 2020

A magazine for friends of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Indiana

ABOUT HEART & HEARTH

Heart & Hearth is published twice annually by RMHCCIN. Our mission is provide a supportive home away from home for families of children receiving medical care at Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health and other area hospitals, and to champion programs that improve the health, education and well-being of children.

On the Cover:
The Dock family with their pets Sammy and Moxie. Photo by Silvertouch Photography

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THE SCHOFIELD FAMILY

After receiving the heartbreaking news of our daughter's AML diagnosis, our family was mentally and physically exhausted. The worries of the day and camping out in the ICU waiting room only added to the exhaustion. Fortunately, our social worker was quick to point us to the Ronald McDonald House (RMH). As we walked to the RMH, we felt the weight of the world upon our shoulders. When we walked into our room, we fell onto the bed and we actually slept, hard. It was the first time in a long time that our minds were at peace. A soft bed was just one blessing of the Ronald McDonald House. We could share many more stories with you; how the House kept our home-schooling family together, how we never had to worry about where our children would sleep at night, how we always had hot meals, how our daughter in the hospital got to see her siblings every day, or how grandparents could come and stay when our daughter needed both parents to help her get through a tough night. We were able to have somewhat normal days and even made good memories during a terrible time because of the RMH. No one ever expects to end up at Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health, but we are so thankful that the Ronald McDonald House provides a *home away from home* when needed. To the volunteers, staff and donors we want to say a heart-felt thank you!

With Love,
The Schofield Family

THE FAMILY THE HOUSE BUILT

It's common for a family to arrive at the Ronald McDonald House with little more than the clothes on their back and the change in their pockets. Often these families have just faced life-shaking news that their child is seriously ill, and in need of immediate care. Leaving behind their family and friends, facing what can be a long and terrifying trip to Indianapolis, parents arrive at their child's bedside in a raw emotional state. They're exhausted, scared, and feeling isolated from their network of support.

Many of a family's needs are quickly apparent – they need a place to stay that's close to their child, they need meals to keep them going, and some coffee to help them start their day doesn't hurt either. And for families staying at the House days, weeks, or longer, they need things like access to additional services like complimentary laundry supplies and facilities. But just beneath the surface lies the greater need – the need for social and emotional support, opportunities for rest and respite, and a place to seek out normalcy and healing.

Louise Johnson and Derek Schmitz knew before their son Anthony was born that he would need immediate heart surgery. As much as possible, they anticipated his condition and what the next steps would look like. But after his birth and successful heart surgery, a genetic screening indicated a condition they did not anticipate – SMA (Spinal Muscular Atrophy) Type 1. SMA Type 1 is a rare, progressive, and life-threatening genetic disease that causes the decline of motor functions like breathing, swallowing, or speaking. Overall, 68% of children with SMA Type 1 die before their second birthday and 82% die before their fourth. Facing what would be a lengthy hospitalization, Louise found a new home in the Ronald McDonald House, while Derek returned home to care for Anthony's brothers, ages 7, 11, and 16.

It was a difficult decision, but it made sense for the family. Derek needed to continue to work, and the kids needed to continue with school. But for Louise, it meant being alone and away from family during the week. She recounts, "When I first came here, I didn't want to talk to anybody. I was scared. I was nervous. I was alone." She

Louise Johnson stands bedside with baby Anthony as he battles health challenges stemming from SMA.



Anthony Johnson in his room at Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health..

would face heart-wrenching text messages from her sons – "Is Anthony coming home?" "When will you come home?" "Is Anthony still alive?"

"It's common for families to be shaken to the core when they arrive. They're facing so many unknowns, and being alone and away from the support of their friends and family only compounds it," says Karin Ogden, CEO. "Even with the strongest families, the challenges of caring for a sick or injured child can tear them apart. Knowing this, we surround families with as many opportunities for nurturing, social and emotional support, and normalcy as we can. Even the design of the House supports bringing families together."

What started as seeing other parents passing through the hallways of the House became an opportunity to bond and develop new, lasting friendships. Through grief and celebration, a circle of strangers evolved into a new support system for Louise. The "RonDon Family" was born. Louise looks back, "I've made family here. I have a built-in support system. That was kind of surprising to me when I saw the rooms and why everything was in a communal area. This is a chance for you to meet with probably the only people that can know, that understand."

The House stands symbolic of the relationships that have developed within the "RonDon Family." Bonds are nurtured through play, activities, and shared meals. "We played games with the other kids. We played (Nintendo) Wii with them, and

"Just beneath the surface lies the greater need – the need for social and emotional support, opportunities for rest and respite, a place to seek out normalcy and healing."

hide-and-seek, which got a little crazy. We all ate dinner together. We meet every night for dinner no matter what, whether it was a good day at the hospital or a bad day. That's just the one time that we knew we could all get together at the same time."

This circle of friends has discovered they are not just neighbors in the House, but at the hospital as well. It means sharing medical experiences, seeing and learning from what other parents have gone through. "We've all been to visit each other's children in the hospital. One family that just lost their child, their son's room was right next to Anthony's room," Louise recalls. "For a while, we thought Anthony was going to get a trache (tracheostomy); two other moms had already had to have traches with their babies, so they invited me to come to their rooms and see their babies to get a feel for what I was going to go through."

Shortly before New Year's Eve, baby Anthony was the recipient of a gene therapy treatment called Zolgensma to treat his SMA Type 1. At $2.1 million, it was an expensive treatment; Louise encountered many obstacles seeking to have it approved by Medicaid. She credits the process for bringing her "out of her shell," transforming her from a quiet and reserved individual, to an outspoken advocate for her son. The treatment isn't a cure, but Louise remains optimistic. She's looking forward to returning home, and "just holding him."

When the time comes for Louise and Anthony to head back home to their family in Evansville, the "RonDon Family" will continue. "I'm the only person that lives down south in Evansville, everybody else lives up North, so I don't know how we'll see each other again. But, we'll make it work." While it will be a cause for celebration for Anthony to go home, the devastating reality is that not everyone in the "RonDon Family" will be so fortunate. Through their grief, they persist.

"One of the families that just lost their little boy, I go over to their apartment and have dinner with them. They don't want to move back home (from an apartment in Indianapolis) until all of our kids have left the hospital. I wake up every morning with a text from them asking how Anthony's doing."

Sometimes the grieving process brings families back to the House, albeit in different ways. Gareth and Alysen Shields lost their baby, Corinne, in August of 2018 to the same disease Anthony fights today – SMA Type 1. They too, were supported by a Ronald McDonald House, one located in Chicago. In memory and celebration of what would have been Corinne's birthday, the Shields family makes an annual visit from Carmel to the Indianapolis Ronald McDonald House to serve breakfast to Houseguests.

With Corinne at Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, it meant Gareth and Alysen had to move to the city from Carmel, away from their support system of family and friends. Staying at the Ronald McDonald House near Lurie, Gareth was able to continue working part time, remotely from his room. Back home, Gareth and Alysen's parents took solace knowing they were being well cared for by the Ronald McDonald House. For Alysen, the House is a familiar place – her parents and siblings were able to stay at the Indianapolis Ronald McDonald House when she was a baby, receiving cardiac surgeries at Riley. "Our parents found comfort in knowing not only was their granddaughter being taken care of, but so were



The Shields family serves breakfast to families at the House every year on Corinne's birthday.

their kids. They knew Gareth could still work, he had a warm bed and food as needed. It helped give them peace knowing we were in good hands when location made things more difficult," Alysen shares.

Gareth, Alysen and their family continue to spread awareness about SMA through Corinne's story. Sharing a meal with guests at the House allows them to celebrate her story, as well as, support families who are struggling.

"We know what it is like to be away from home, worried about your child and the last thing you do is focus on yourself or the simple things like sleep, eating, etc. The House was able to take care of those things and it will always be a huge blessing. Our family is forever grateful for the comforts they provided for us and being able to help others in a similar situation means a lot to us. We were always thankful for the good food, sweet smiles and genuine care that came with the people making and serving meals for us."

To learn more about SMA, visit CureSMA.org. The organization hosts the annual Cure SMA Walk-N-Roll in support of SMA research and awareness.

Coming together over a warm meal means finding normalcy, solace and respite from the stresses of hospital life. Even though meal groups have been temporarily suspended, you can still impact families by arranging delivery of a warm meal from a local restaurant. Contact Marci Corbin at mcorbin@rmhccin.org if you would like to help.

- ADAM LOWE



Iaria family and staff helped serve our families.

NURTURING FAMILIES IN DIFFICULT TIMES

When the COVID-19 pandemic reached Indiana, our House was quick to respond. Volunteer shifts were temporarily suspended, alongside service groups and meal groups – all of which are cornerstones of how we serve our guest families. With meal groups no longer able to come into the House to prepare meals for our guests, we faced a new challenge of how to feed the families staying with us. Many answered the call, including generous donors and sponsors, as well as local restaurants. One of those restaurants was Iaria's Italian Restaurant – an Indianapolis favorite since 1933.

For Matt Iaria, the timing was impeccable. His wife's workplace had just reached out about the restaurant helping families in need, and as chance would have it, a day later his phone rang – a call from Ronald McDonald House. Matt explains, "We were glad to help and lucky enough to be in a position to feed families not as fortunate as us. It brought a renewed sense of the term hospitality to us and the other company involved."

The importance of hot meals for families facing long days at the hospital was made even more personal for the Iaria family. Matt's two-year-old nephew was at Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health this spring receiving chemotherapy for brain cancer. The decision was a cinch, and Iaria's provided meals for 30 people on five separate nights throughout April.

- ADAM LOWE

YOU CAN HELP...

pay their kindness forward. As local restaurants and businesses reopen, give them a visit. Share your good experience with friends and family. Special thanks to the following restaurants for their support during the COVID-19 pandemic (through April 2020):



Volunteers from Sycamore Services

OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE ESSENTIAL

Normal and *essential* are terms we are hearing a lot with the changes brought about by COVID-19. It has made us wonder what life is going to be like and even if not deemed *essential* by the government, the absence of people, event and places in our lives have forced us to reconsider what essential means. During a recent discussion with Karen Campbell, one of the founding volunteers of the House, it brought to light for me that *normal* is a state that is constantly changing. *Normal* in 1982, when the House first opened, was very different from *normal* when the south wing opened, more than doubling the size and services we were able to provide.

Mirroring the way we will begin re-opening to new families, the House originally opened in stages. In 1982, it was just the north wing and consisted of 25 rooms. We were pioneers and the first House in Indiana. To make it feel more like a home rather than a hotel, families were encouraged to interact with one another both by establishing a communal setting for cooking and eating and by not putting televisions in individual rooms.

The other word we've all heard a great deal lately is *essential*. With just one wing, the first and only employee for almost seven years was a house manager. She lived on the premises and had weekends off. Volunteers were *essential* to managing weekend shifts and helping solicit donations.

One thing that has been *essential* since the beginning is the support provided by volunteers. From founding volunteer Judy Monnier's initial efforts to find individuals and grow group volunteering opportunities, to the committed groups we have today like Sycamore Services, we know that we could not do the work we do without the support of volunteers.

We are once again opening the House in stages. *Normal* operations have changed with the times and we will continue to adapt to whatever new *normal* lies ahead of us. Our mission of serving families with sick or injured children is *essential*. We know to do this work, volunteers have been, and always will be, *essential* in our ability to fulfill our mission and care for our families. We can't wait to have our volunteers back. Not only do we need their help, but we miss their smiling faces.

-MARY FRIEND



MEALS THAT HEAL

Our House families enjoyed home-cooked meals prepared by the following volunteer groups from November 2019 - April 2020. For more information or to sign-up to volunteer, visit www.rmhccin.org.

100 Black Men Beautillion Militaire Program
A Cut Above Catering
Abbvie
ACES
Aegis Worldwide
Allegion
Allen Family
Alpha Delta Pi at Indiana University
Alpha Phi Omega-Tau Omicron
Alpha Xi Delta Alums
American Family Insurance
Amerifirst Home Mortgage
Amethyst St Alumni/ Top's Auto Clinic
Ancient Landmarks #319
Tiffany & Ryan Anderson and Bruce & Alyssa Joray
Andrew V. Brown Student Council
Anthem
Edgar Ayala
Ball and Worley Families
LeAnne Barta
Bayada Pediatrics
Beech Grove City Schools
Beecham Lifegroup
Beta Sigma Phi
Big Brothers/Big Sisters
Blessed by Brian
Bloomington South Dance Marathon
Mike and Suzanne Boatwright
Shanti Boodhoo
Elizabeth Bowen
Brebeuf Jesuit
Brownsburg High School DECA
Buffalo Wild Wings
Burns Family
Café 251
Campus Classics
Campus Kitchen
CarMax
Carmel High School Helping Hands
Carmel Middle School
Carrier Corporation
CARS-Child Adult Resource Services
Sherrie Castanon
Celestial Chapter #1
Central Indiana Christian Singles
Century 21 Scheetz
CG Church of Christ
Katie Chamness-All for Ellie
Chapel Glen Church of Christ
Charity Church
Cheesecake Factory
Mary Christman and Friends
CHS Helping Hands
Church of Christ
CICS
Clements Family
Clif Bar Indy Bakery
Colby and Cate's Charities Jr. Board
College Park Church
Annette Coulumbe
Courtyard Marriott Airport
CR Richardson
Creek Life Group
Cutler Ridge Youth Group
Daleville Junior/Senior High School
Maggie Daniels
Danville Christian Church
Delta Delta Delta - Franklin
Delta Delta Delta - Indianapolis Alumnae Chapter
Karlene and Josh Drake
Dulcie Holcomb
Denise Dya
Aaron and Shelby Eicher and Family
Eli Lilly and Company
Emmanuel Church
ESA
Everstream
F.R.O.G. Ministries/ Gracepoint Church
Faith Church
Family Life Assembly
FCCLA South Newton
In Memory of Tyler Shaffer-Feed the Families
Feed My Sheep Ministry
Feed the Families in memory of Tyler Shaffer
Figment II DBA McDonald's
Filbert Family
Fishers High School
Former Soccer Folks
Foster, Pike & Associates
Franciscan Health Indianapolis-Cardiac Care Unit
Franklin Central HS Key Club
Freels
Friendsgiving Family
Gate Church
Gebke Family
Geico
Geist Christian Church
Girl Scout Troop 4111
Girl Scout Troop 4999
Girl Scout Troop 2053
Goddard School Avon
Graber Family
Graham Family
Greater Shephard MB Church
Greencastle HS Key Club
Grimble Family
Haugers and Williams
Helping Hands
Laurie Henry
Heritage Environmental Services
Herron Family
Hibner Cuddle Crew
Crystal Hinson-Miller
Jeri Holmes
Alan Holt
Hornet Park Elementary
Hyatt Place-Hyatt House Indianapolis
Iaria's Italian Retaurant
IBD Research Team/IU
Independent Adult Day Care Center
Indiana State Bar Association
Indianapolis Bar Association
InSource
IREM Heroes for the House
Isa Martinez Pizza
IU Dance Marathon
IU Dance Marathon - Hospitality Committee
IU Med Peds Residency
IU Period Engagement Council
IUH Office of Clinical Education/Center for Physician Education
IUK Nursing Students
IUPUI Academics for Civic Engagement
IUPUI CRC-Jags for Service
IUPUI FYS
IUSD-Pediatric Department
Jack's Pack
Emma James (Emma Strong)
Jedele Enterprises-McDonalds
John Knox Presbyterian Church
Christin Johnson
Jonathan Byrd's Hospitality and Restaurant
Juenemann Family
Kappa Kappa Gamma - Butler University
Knights of Peter Claver Ct and Council 97
KONE Inc.
Lake and Moore Families
Anne Lammert and Family
Lawrence Kiwanis
Lindberg Family
Lindsey, Kathy and Family
Live Like Harris
Livingston Family
Love like Aidan Kerry
M Accounting
Maple Knoll Apartments
Marion Co 4H Junior Leaders
David Mason
Kristen Mennen
Midtown Church
Melody Miller in memory of Tyler Shaffer
Seth Miller and Family
Mohommed Moalikyar
Mooresville High School Key Club
Mount Olive Country Chapel
Mt. Pleasant Christian Church Mom's Group
Mt. Zion Baptist Church
MUCOM
Myers Lifegroup-Lebanon Christian Church
NAMily
National American Miss
National FFA Organization
Jennifer Nemoseck
New Hope Christian Church Deep and Wise
New Light Baptist Church
Northview Church
Karin and Dale Ogden
Palley Family (Baer Necessities)
Papa Johns
Passageways
Pearcrest Properties LLC
PepsiCo
JoAnna Peters
PNC Bank
Ellen and Fritz Poffenberger
Pre PA Club at IUPUI
Price Vision Group
ProLink
Purdue School of Nursing
Purity 51
Rainey Family
Ray Family
Riley Pediatric Residents
Riley PPCU/Chick Fil A
RMHCCIN Young Professionals Board
Roche Diagnostics, Corporate Accounts
Roncalli HS
Jill Rose
Marissa Rucker
Laura Russell
Ruth's Chris
St. Malachy School Brownies
Salesforce
Samples
Second Helpings
Seip Family
In Remembrance of Tyler Shaffer
Smitha Sharma
Randy Shields
Marilyn Sleppy
Smith/Dale Families
Sonnefield/Lloyd Families
South Boone Church of Christ
Southeast Indy Kiwanis
Southport High School
Southport Presbyterian Church
Southport United Methodist Church
Southwest Airlines
Speedway Girls Basketball
Speedway Tri Kappa
SSPOM
Catherine and Ron Stiver
Julie Strohmeier (IEC)
Sweet Family
Taxi
Terhune Realty
Ternes Indiana, Inc.
Michael Tharp
Alan Thompson Family
Leora Thompson
Timmy Global Health
Total Restoration
Trader's Point Girls Group
Tri Kappa - Fishers
Tri Kappa - Tipton Chapter
Turner Family
United Methodist Church
United Methodist Women of St. Mark's Church
University of Indianapolis Cheerleading
University Tower Council
Leisel Urbanski
Anitha Vani with Friends
Amber and Chris VanZyl
Syna Vohra, Ankur Sakhuja, Shruti Sakhuja
Emi Voller
Williams Randall
Walters Family
Wapahani Culinary Arts Class
West 10th Dental Group
Westfield HS Dance Marathon
Whiteland Community HS National Honor Society
Rhonda Williams
Wing Experts
Women in Science House
Marisa Wright and Family
Stephanie Yott



EVENTS UPDATE

At the RMHCCIN, we find ourselves researching new ways to host our special events for the remainder of 2020. We are working vigorously to reimagine and plan events that allow our supporters the chance to come together, support and celebrate our mission, whether that is in person or virtually through the magic of technology. Events are a key element to keeping the House running as they provide about $343,000 in funding to offset operational expenses each year. This equates to 3,430 nights for families to get a good night's rest, nice meal, warm shower, and the fellowship of other families.

COVID-19 has unfortunately caused us to have to cancel, re-schedule and re-tool all our events in order to keep guests, employees and families healthy and safe. We look forward to 2021 with hope that we can once again host our guests and sponsors at Brunch & Blingo in March and the Swing for Kids golf tournament in June.

TASTE GALA 2020

We are transforming our annual Taste gala into a virtual master class tasting experience offering sessions that explore craft beer, wine, bourbon and a sweet treat. Guests can purchase an at home party pack, complete with tasting samples and other goodies sure to create a fun evening for friends while you support the House. As our planning progresses, we will continue to share the details of how you can participate.

While this year's event will look and feel a little different, we are still planning to provide everything you expect from Taste. Events will be held the first two Thursdays and Fridays in November.



DROP OFF YOUR TABS

Due to the pandemic and the ongoing health and safety challenges it has left in its wake, we have decided to cancel this year's Pop Tab Drop. Because of the event's 14 year strong tradition, this was not a decision we took lightly.

We invite all of our pop tab collectors to drop off their collections at our Larry "The Can Man" Van Ness Pop Tab Garage at the Ronald McDonald House located at 435 Limestone Street in Indianapolis. We have contactless drop-off and plenty of space for you to unload quickly and safely. If you have more than one million tabs, please contact us ahead of your drop off.

Riley Hospital for Children is a proud supporter of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Indiana.

Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health and Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Indiana have been working together since 1982 to provide care and support to children and their families.

Riley Hospital for Children
Indiana University Health

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A FAMILY'S CYCLE OF GIVING

▶ *The Dock family with their pets Sammy and Moxie.*

We all have a perception of ourselves. Many, like Noah and Emily Dock, always viewed themselves as "the givers." From high school forward, they both have been committed to helping others through volunteerism. A financial planner and a nurse respectively, both felt it was important to support causes through financial contributions, despite being relatively early in their careers. But when their daughter Evelyn was born 18 months ago, their role shifted from "givers" to beneficiaries of the generosity of others.

It was discovered in utero that Evelyn had a condition called Bronchial Atresia that resulted in a tumor growing where the left lung should be. The best place for delivery would be Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, so the Dock's made plans to go there in advance of the delivery. They initially were living in pricey corporate housing, but after the birth were able to move into the Ronald McDonald House of Greater Cincinnati, putting them less than 10 minutes away from their newborn daughter.

They were overwhelmed with the kindness and support that can be found at RMHs across the world. The idea of having a hot meal prepared and waiting for you after a long day at the hospital moved Noah to tears. And even though they were lucky enough to have a stable and robust support system, they discovered the sense of community that RMH creates. The other families at the House could truly understand what they were experiencing and provided a sense of community and network of support.

As they were preparing to go home, Noah was committed to paying it forward. Just weeks after they returned to Indianapolis, Noah joined the RMHCCIN Young Professionals Board and now is the Chair. To celebrate a milestone in Evelyn's life, they hosted a fundraiser on Facebook to raise money for Ronald McDonald House in lieu of gifts.

On May 4, 2020, the Dock family welcomed their newest member: Isadora Louise. They are settling in and doing well!

- STACY CLARK







"RMH gave us a community of people that were going through similar circumstances - people we could relate to when we were away from our friends and family."

FIDELITY DONOR ADVISED FUND (DAF)

In addition to sharing their time and advocating for support from friends and family, the Docks choose to support RMH through their Fidelity Donor Advised Fund (DAF). There are many advantages to establishing a DAF and supporting organizations, like Ronald McDonald House, with a grant from the fund.

Why Donors Use DAFs

- Easy to establish and can offer greater tax benefits
- Easy to use – online access for grant recommendations
- Gifts are tax deductible as donations to public charities; earnings are exempt
- Fund advisor receives recognition just as with a direct gift – or can choose to give anonymously

RMHCCIN is grateful for the support of donors like the Docks who make it possible for us to provide a home away from home to families in need. If you have a DAF through a commercial organization like Fidelity Charitable, Schwab Charitable or Vanguard Charitable or a private community foundation, you can make a significant impact for our families. When you make a DAF grant to RMH you provide families with:

- A home away from home near a sick or injured child
- Warm meals, free laundry services, and hot showers,
- A sense of community, connection and emotional support in tough times

Consider making RMHCCIN the beneficiary of your DAF account. By naming RMH as the successor beneficiary of your donor advised fund account, you are helping families heal.

Round-Up for RMHC!

Every time you Round-Up for RMHC you can help provide families with hospitalized children something of real value - hope and healing. Even the smallest of donations can make a big difference.

Next time you're at McDonalds, ask to Round-Up for RMHC!



BENEFITING RMHC®

SHOP THROUGH **AMAZON SMILE**

Do you shop online at Amazon.com? If so, you could help support RMHCCIN at no cost to you, all with the click of a button. Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support RMHCCIN every time you shop.

Simply visit www.smile.amazon.com, log in using your existing Amazon account, and select Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Indiana as your charity. A portion of the purchase price will be donated to RMHCCIN. Amazon will prompt you to use Amazon Smile in the future, and you can even bookmark the link.

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

NEW FUNDRAISING TOOL TO SUPPORT THE HOUSE

Supporting the House is easier than ever with our new online fundraising platform. Whether you're celebrating a special occasion, honoring the memory of a loved one, or you're looking for a way to fire-up your corporate team about giving, we've put together a user-friendly way for you to start your own fundraiser for the House. Best of all, it works with all your favorite social media accounts.

To set up a fundraiser:

- Visit rmhccin.blackbaud-sites.com/
- Select the type of fundraiser you want to create and click "Start Fundraising"
- Share your fundraiser on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, via email and more.

Questions? Email Adam Lowe at alowe@rmhccin.org.





TOP 10 WISH LIST ITEMS

Thousands of families come through our doors each year. As you can imagine, our supply of snack foods, cleaning supplies, toiletry items and more dwindles quickly. It's only through the support and generosity of our community that we are able to provide a comfortable space and home-like atmosphere for our families. The items listed below are things we are in constant need of:

- Laundry Detergent
- Disinfectant Wipes
- Paper Towels
- Lysol Disinfectant Spray
- Windex
- Hand Sanitizer
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Protein Shakes
- Protein/Breakfast Bars
- Pudding Cups

2019
COMMUNITY REPORT



A YEAR IN REVIEW:

5,513
FAMILIES SERVED

18,876
SLEEP OVERS
AT LIMESTONE HOUSE

1,690
SLEEP OVERS
AT RILEY HOUSE

OUR FAMILIES SAVED
$3.4 MILLION
IN OUT-OF-POCKET
LODGING & MEAL EXPENSES

89%
OF FAMILIES LIVE MORE THAN **AN HOUR AWAY**

49,661
TOTAL
DAY VISITS TO RILEY HOUSE

MORE THAN
5,300
VOLUNTEERS

12.5
NIGHTS
AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY

OUR ***HOME AWAY FROM HOME*** PROVIDED:

3,633	116,523	37,132	1,460
LOADS OF LAUNDRY	**CUPS OF COFFEE**	**SHOWERS**	**MEALS**

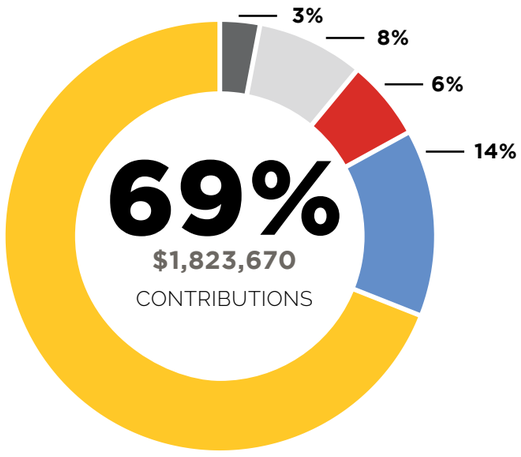
2019 IN NUMBERS

ASSETS, LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

TOTAL ASSETS	$12,022,399
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	$76,721
TOTAL NET ASSETS	$11,945,678

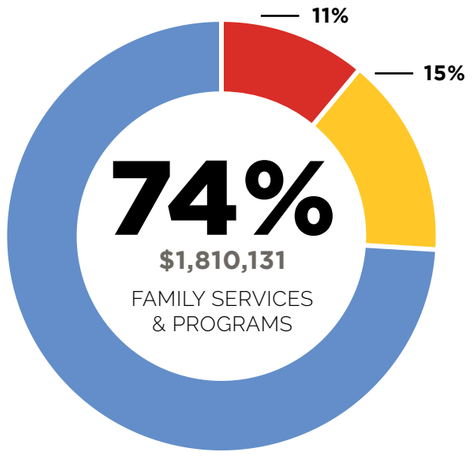
SUMMARY OF REVENUE

GUEST ROOMS	$79,664
GIFTS THROUGH PLANNED GIVING	$225,910
VALUE OF IN-KIND DONATIONS	$163,951
OTHER & NET INVESTMENT INCOME	$373,095
CONTRIBUTIONS	$1,823,670



SUMMARY OF EXPENSES

ADMINISTRATIVE & MANAGEMENT	$261,262
COMMUNITY RELATIONS, AWARENESS & FUNDRAISING	$363,999
FAMILY SERVICES & PROGRAMS	$1,810,131



CONTRIBUTED REVENUE BY SOURCE

GENERAL GIFTS	69%	**SPECIAL EVENTS**	5%	**GRANTS**	3%	**MCDONALDS** *(RMHC & Related)*	2%
BEQUESTS	6%	**DIRECT MAIL**	7%	**OUTSIDE EVENTS**	8%	**POP TABS**	<1%

COMMUNITY GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Indiana recognizes the importance of continuing education and the expenses associated with obtaining a college degree. To assist with college finances, RMHCCIN awarded $5,000 scholarships to the following local high school seniors. The scholarship recipients were selected based on their academic achievements, community involvement and financial need.

Additionally, RMHCCIN extends its reach to the broader community by awarding grants to other 501(c)(3) local charitable organizations and programs that directly improve the lives of children. Beneficiaries of RMHCCIN grants are local organizations that have demonstrated an ability to respond to the needs of children and their families in a definitive, hands-on manner, yielding measurable results.

Both of these programs are funded solely by Central Indiana McDonald's restaurants and not through donations made to RMHCCIN. We are very proud of the impact we have been able to make. However, in order to more closely align with our organization's strategic plan, and to return the focus to our core programs, RMHCCIN has decided to conclude both the Community Grants and Scholarships programs effective April 27, 2020. We recognize our final awards for the 2019 and 2020 program years here.

2019 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Emmanuel Alvarez
Elkhart Memorial H.S.

Elias Becerra
Washington H.S.

Megan Castrataro
Avon H.S.

Cora Conatser
Delta H.S.

Rachel Culver
William Henry Harrison H.S.

Chris Durham
Pike H.S.

Kristy Huang
Greencastle Senior H.S.

Stephanie Lingenfelter
Whiteland Community H.S.

Madeline MacKinnon
Homeschool

Alexis McClure
Westfield H.S.

Jessica McColpin
Franklin Community H.S.

Tatum Neal
Clinton Prairie JR-SR H.S.

Addison Reckard
Kokomo H.S.

Samantha Roger
Carmel H.S.

Hannah Schafer
Hamilton Heights H.S.

Bryce Smith
North Putnam SR H.S.

Kristina Standish
Eastern JR & SR H.S.

Isha Sura
Center Grove H.S.

Elyssia Wellington
Danville Community H.S.

Jillian Zurcher
Tri-West Senior H.S.

2020 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Ali Barber
Washington H.S.

Emily Betz
Frankton Jr-Sr H.S.

Sarah Boudaia
Ben Davis University H.S.

Alexander Gordon
Shortridge H.S.

Macee Hamilton
Rivet Jr-Sr H.S.

Michaela Lambert
Delta H.S.

MaKenzie Parsons
Washington H.S.

Liam Price
Center Grove H.S.

Ron Underwood
Bloomington H.S. South

Sheltann Waller
Palestine H.S. (IL)

2019 COMMUNITY GRANT RECIPIENTS

Brown County Enrichment for Teens Association
Camp to Belong
Christamore House
John Boner Neighborhood Centers
Lutheran Child and Family Services
RightFit
School on Wheels
Terre Haute Boys & Girls Club

2020 COMMUNITY GRANT RECIPIENTS

Financial Empowerment Through Education
Hear Indiana
Noble, Inc.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

FOUNDER'S CIRCLE $20,000 +

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE $10,000 - $19,999

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE $5,000 - $9,999

Anthem • Barnes & Thornburg LLP • Community Foundation of Howard County • Daviess County Relief Sale • Dorsey Foundation • ERMCO • FedEx • The Forest Fund • Frenzel Family Charitable Lead Trust • GIO - McDonald's Restaurants Indy • Haddad Foundation • Heritage Environmental Services • Indiana Chemical Trust • Indiana Farm Bureau Wings of Hope • Klosterman Baking Company • McOpCo • Niagara Bottling • Nordstrom, Inc. • Nugent Foundation • PMI Tape • Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc. - Anderson • Steel Dynamics, Inc • TCC Gives • Valeo Financial Advisors • VMS Biomarketing • XL Industrial Services

SUSTAINING CIRCLE $2,500 - $4,999

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CORNERSTONE SOCIETY

The Cornerstone Society recognizes individuals who have included RMHCCIN in their estate plans or a planned gift. These generous arrangements that name RMHCCIN a beneficiary of a planned gift or estate plan provide RMHCCIN with much needed support for the future.

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Orville and Dorothy Asher
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Opal D. Baker
Ruth Barlow
Jean R. Berger
Angenieta Biegel
Alma Ruth Booker
Roy Borgmann
Wilma Bray
Brian Brunner
Doris Carlin
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Sweet Pea Foundation
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Alicia Schulhof and Patrick O'Connor

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MEET THE BOARD: RANDY SHIELDS

We're proud of our board, and we want you to meet them! In each issue of Heart & Hearth we will introduce you to one of our esteemed board members. Please meet Randy Sheilds. He is a McDonald's Franchise Owner and Operator and has served on the RMHCCIN board for eight years. He started his tenure as chair this past March.

While at Eli Lilly and Company in the 90s, running the St Louis office as the Sr. District Field Sales Manager, Randy and his wife Linda made a prayerful family decision to change their lives. Their parents were aging, and they also wanted to move back to Indianapolis. "We really liked Indy. We had deep family and friend 'roots' and we were looking for a family business that we could enjoy and possibly pass on to our children in the future. The McDonald's brand ended up being that opportunity!"

Randy now owns multiple McDonald's restaurants in the Indianapolis area and enjoys being involved in the communities around them. "One of our greatest joys has been being a part of the Ronald McDonald House, working with our tireless staff and volunteers who represent us all so well, every day! It is an honor to serve on the Board!" Randy is particularly fond of visiting staff and volunteers, as well as the families we serve. Like many, the holiday season is Randy's favorite time at the House.

As Board President, Randy plans to:

- Work closely with our CEO, staff, fellow board members and volunteers to ensure the safe return of staff and families post COVID19,
- Explore possible future locations to accommodate a greater number of families and bright future for the House, and
- Increase awareness of the House and our programs in the community to increase financial sustainability.

IT'S MISSION FORWARD FOR FAMILIES

Challenging times, an unprecedented situation, the new normal - these are all phrases that have become embedded in our lexicon during the first months of 2020. It has been a frightening situation, full of unknowns, where news changes by the day, if not by the hour.

What strikes me is how this describes the daily lives of the families we serve at the Ronald McDonald House. It's an unprecedented situation for parents to learn their newborn is facing a life-threatening condition. Waiting on a heart-transplant is the new normal for a young man living in one of our apartments. Challenging barely scratches the surface for a parent facing the grief of losing a child.

During the pandemic, I've found myself filled with hope seeing communities come together, families re-prioritizing and finding new ways to bond, and people looking out for one another. For all the fear and grief, there is hope, compassion, service, and kindness.

We have continued to serve families throughout the first half of 2020 and are earnestly preparing to adapt to the new challenges we will face in the months and years to come. The Ronald McDonald House will look different – we're adopting social distancing, taking on vigilant health and sanitation measures, and finding new ways to provide programing while following science-based guidelines developed by industry experts.

What won't look different is our mission – to serve families with sick children, to give them a place to find respite, joy, and hope.

As we progress into the latter half of 2020, take your time. Take care of yourself, your family, and friends. We hope you continue to find ways to give to the House, through time, treasure or talent. When you are ready, we'll be ready to welcome your generosity.

The pandemic may ebb and flow. But for families at the Ronald McDonald House, there will always be a need for love, compassion, hope, and joy. And that McDonald's coffee helps too!

All my best,

Karin Ogden

KARIN OGDEN
Chief Executive Officer





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ANYONE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT NOW MORE THAN EVER

The impact of COVID-19 has been felt across the world, and Ronald McDonald House is not immune to its effects. Following the guidance of our global headquarters and the expertise of local hospitals, we are working to safely re-open our House. We are excited to phase back into our mission of serving families, keeping them nearby and giving them a bit of respite as they care for their hospitalized child.

Illness, surgery and accidents don't wait. Your support is critical to keeping the House going now and being ready in the days to come for those who need us most.

Please consider supporting our families when the time is right for yours. Please use the enclosed envelope to show your support or give online at **www.rmhccin.org**.

