



Fall 2014

Home Front

A Publication of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southeastern Michigan

A Home Away From Home...



...made
possible
by YOU!

We are about to embark on one of the greatest opportunities in the history of the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit. Our 2014-2016 Expansion Campaign will raise \$3 million to provide much needed support for our services, programs, and operations.

Thirty-five years ago, the 11th Ronald McDonald House in the country opened its doors in Detroit to be a “home away from home” for families of children hospitalized at Children’s Hospital of Michigan. Since then, we have provided thousands of families and children with desperately needed stability at a time when serious illness or injury has turned their world upside down. Families are able to live right by the hospital at the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit, so they can keep providing their kids with everyday acts of love: home-cooked meals, bedtime stories, hugs and kisses.

The Ronald McDonald House of Detroit, and the families we serve, need you to help ensure our future. Our ability to continue delivering the level of comfort and care needed by our families is dependent on your generous support. The Hearts, Hands, and Home Expansion Campaign will help us further our reach, greatly improve the experience we offer, and enhance the “home away from home” atmosphere that supports peace and healing.

Join us as we celebrate the light of hope that shines through our families during what are often their darkest times. Read the personal stories of our families to understand the life-changing impact the House provides. Then, we ask you to thoughtfully consider the level of support you can provide, and the impact your support can make.

Warmly,

Jennifer Litomisky
Executive Director

Deborah Virgiles
President, Board of Directors



Please Note: The enclosed donation slip and return envelope is part of our Fall fundraising appeal. Please remember the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit for your tax-deductible donation this holiday season.



Hearts, Hands, and Home

The Plan & Impact.

The new Ronald McDonald House of Detroit will continue to be a source of comfort and respite for the 1,500 families we care for each year. By expanding our services through this \$3M campaign, we hope to increase our capacity of caring in the following ways:



TECHNOLOGY



STAFFING



TRANSPORTATION



KITCHEN EXPANSION



ENDOWMENT



PROGRAM SUPPORT



SERENITY GARDEN

Our Ronald McDonald House will be expanding the number of rooms to 28, to meet the increased census numbers expected when Children's Hospital of Michigan expands. Enhancements will be made in technology, so that families can keep in touch with loved ones from around the world. A new Serenity Garden will be created. Families will have access to a much larger kitchen area. We will also be creating more space for volunteer activities, to accommodate the thousands of wonderful folks who have chosen RMH – Detroit, as a place to make an impact

Our Mission

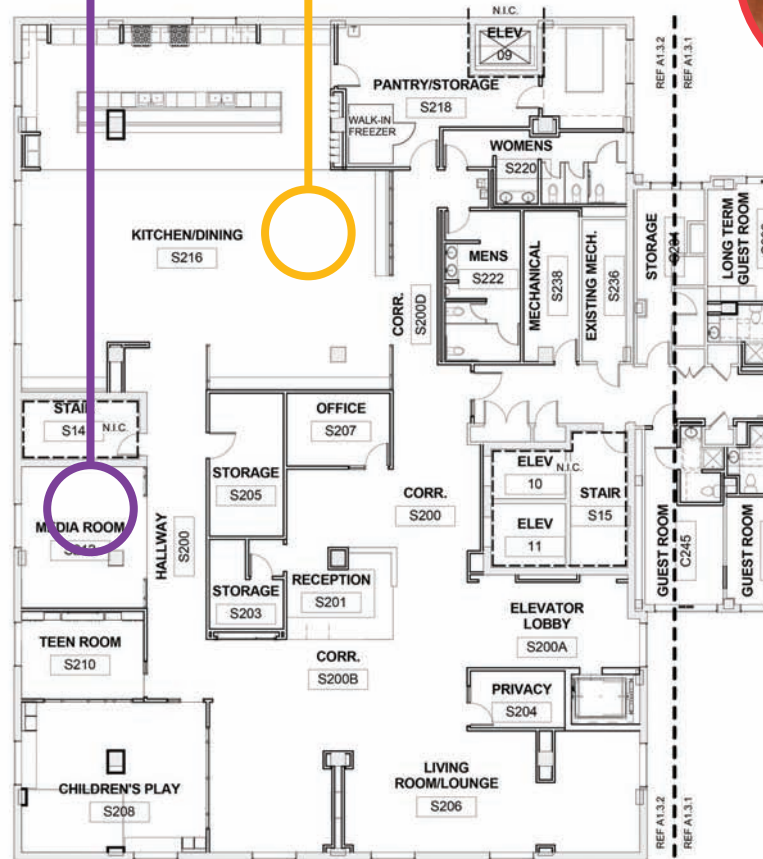
The Ronald McDonald House of Detroit provides an environment of love and kindness, and a support system to families during their most difficult time in life, when a child is receiving medical treatment at local facilities. It is a house upon entering, a home upon leaving.



My favorite super-hero movie
High-tech media room



Home-cooked meals
State-of-the-art kitchen



ie

nc & cheese

Private guest bathrooms

5 long-term stay rooms

Serenity Garden

3

Help Us Serve Our Families and Their Children During a Major Life Crisis.

Your generous support plays a critical role.

Please consider partnering with us to fulfill our mission in the following ways:

Partnership Opportunities Include:



Wish Partner

Guest Room Partnership
(28 available)

\$25,000 to \$100,000



Hope Partner

Guest Room Partner + Partnership
opportunity for one of the following:
Kitchen, Pantry, Teen Room

\$100,000 to \$250,000



Dream Partner

Guest Room Partner + Partnership
opportunity for one of the following:
Living Room, Board Room,
Serenity Garden, or Lobby

\$250,000 to \$500,000

For more information on any of these opportunities, please contact
Jennifer Litomisky at (313) 745-5911, or jlitomisky@rmhc-detroit.org.

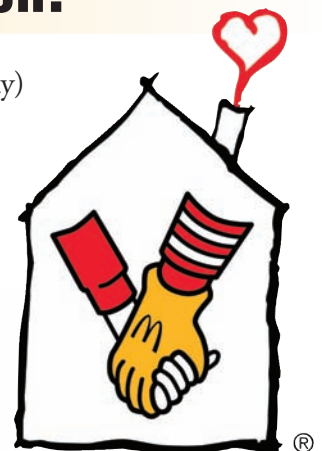
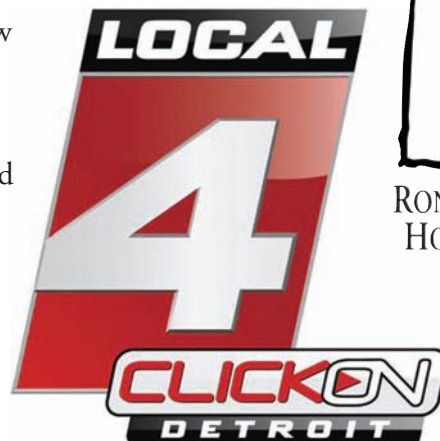
www.rmhc-detroit.org/grow

WDIV-Channel 4 and the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit team up for Cyber Monday Telethon!

Be sure to tune in to local Channel 4 (WDIV) on Monday, December 1st (Cyber-Monday) for the first ever, **Cyber Monday Telethon** to Support the *Hearts, Hands and Home – Strengthening the Foundation for our Families* – Expansion Campaign for the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit!

Supporters can call in from 4:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on **Monday, December 1st** to make an investment in the new House! Donors will also be able to make donations at the RMHD landing site: <http://golden.rmhc-detroit.org/grow/>

Additionally, the Ronald McDonald House will be featured during the WDIV Thanksgiving Day Parade! Be sure to watch the parade and learn more about the families we serve (through videos and interviews) and learn more about the new fundraising campaign!



RONALD McDONALD
HOUSE OF DETROIT

Thank You... to Our Major Donors!

- Art Van Furniture
- Bissell
- CBS
- Coca-Cola
- Detroit Yacht Club
- Dr. Pepper
- Ford Motor Company
- Georgia-Pacific
- General Motors
- Greenman Family
- Hansons Window – 1-800-HANSONS
- Home Depot – Lake Orion Store
- JC Plumbing
- Johnson Controls Inc.
- La-Z-Boy
- Lachinva and Loverich
- M and M
- McCann Foods
- ME Consultants
- Narens Family
- Quicken Loans
- Radisson
- Ronald McDonald House Board Members
- Southeast Michigan McDonald's Owner Association (SEMMOA)
- Southwest Airlines
- Szott Family
- UAW-Ford
- Wisner Electric

...and all of the donors, sponsors and volunteers who have given their time, energy and love to our charity!

UPCOMING EVENTS *at a Glance*

December 1, 2014

**WDIV CYBER-MONDAY
TELETHON (Local Channel 4)**
4:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

December 6, 2014

**HOLIDAY TEA @
THE TOWNSEND at the
Townsend Hotel, Birmingham**
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

June 5, 2015

VINNI GOLF OUTING

June 2015 (date TBD)

**WINE IN THE GARDEN
PREMIER EVENT**
Ronald McDonald House of Detroit

July 19, 2015

ESCAPE TO BELLE ISLE
5 and 10 K Run

July 2015 (date TBD)

McBIKERS

TBD

ANNUAL EVENT
Lingenfelter D-3 Event

Townsend Tea – December 6th!



The Ronald McDonald House of Detroit will host the **8th Tea at the Townsend** scheduled for **Saturday, December 6th** at the Townsend Hotel, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per adult and \$25 per child.

Every year over 90 guests join the festivities where there is a small auction and beautiful party gifts for each guest. There will also be appetizers, small bite desserts, and plenty of yuletide fun for those who attend the Tea at the Townsend benefit.

This event sells out every year, so those interested in reserving a spot at this holiday extravaganza should contact the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit at 313-745-5911.



If you or your company would like to be a sponsor, there are all kinds of opportunities! Call Jennifer @ 313-745-5911 for more details – OR check out our **website: www.rmhc-detroit.org** to register or sponsor the event.



Thank You – for your generous support of the Ronald

Italy in the Garden

Delicious Italian food, desserts and wine highlighted this final garden event at the current location of the House.

Mary Okray, chairperson of this year's event, secured all of the food, desserts and wine for over 100 guests. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful gardens of the Detroit Ronald McDonald House! Guests were entertained by T. J. Craven, who sang melodies from the 60's, 70's up to current day hits.



Volunteer Mary Okray (center), Chairperson of Italy in the Garden.

Special Thanks to our Donors!

DINNER SPONSORS

Absopure Water, *Plymouth*
Buddy's of Lakeside
Crispelli's, *Royal Oak*
Di Fratelli, *Shelby Township*
Giovanni's, *Detroit*
Levi Restaurants, *Detroit*
Picanno's, *Troy*
Potbelly, *Detroit*
Tre Monti, *Troy*
Villa Penna, *Sterling Heights*

DESERT SPONSORS

Holy Cannoli, *Rochester*
Just Baked, *Livonia*
Melting Pot, *Troy*

SNACK SPONSOR

Jays Chips

ENTERTAINMENT SPONSOR

T.J. Craven

PARTY FAVORS

Sanders & Morley Candy

Watch your spring newsletter for details of the 2015 Garden party! It will be at the new Ronald McDonald House gardens in June!

Escape to Belle Isle!



Over 780 runners came out to support this year's **Escape to Belle Isle**, 5K and 10K run to benefit the House!

Runners from toddlers to seniors converged on Belle Isle on July 19th for this 7th annual event! Every year this event grows bigger and bigger and organizers **Jenna Wright** and **Milt Greenman** hope to hit 1,000 runners for the next race! This is a new event for the House and it netted close to \$10,000 this year!

Grab your running shoes and join us next year!

Lingenfelter D-3 Event – Dream Cars, Dream Cruise, Dream House Event

This first time event at the Lingenfelter car museum, netted over \$30,000 for the House this past August! Over 200 guests enjoyed the collection that holds a variety of Corvettes, muscle cars, and exotics. Several vehicles in the Collection are among the rarest automobiles in the world, including a Bugatti Veyron, an Enzo Ferrari, and a Lamborghini Reventón. Big thanks to Ken and Kristen Lingenfelter for hosting this event. Watch for details on the 2015 D-3 Event!



Executive Director Jen Litomisky and D-3 Event Chair, Joe Danley

McDonald House of Detroit at these FABULOUS 2014 Events!

12th Annual Vinni's Children's Charity Golf Outing – **Another Record Set!**

Over 140 golfers supported the 12th Annual Vinni Golf Outing this year! The weather was perfect and once again, former RMH Board member and chair, **Cary Adragna** and his family broke all fundraising records with this year's event!



Big THANKS to our lead Vinni Golf Outing Title Sponsors **McDonalds SEMMOA!**

Thanks to our other sponsors this year: **Coca Cola; USA Today; Dr. Pepper; McCain Foods; Pepsi Bottlings; Jaguar; Outback Steakhouse; Group Associates; Take 2 Authentics; Papa Joe's; Nino Salvaggio, CK Diggs** and many more!

Mark your calendars for next year's Vinni Golf Outing – Friday, June 5, 2015

If you or your company would like to be a sponsor, there are all kinds of opportunities! Call Jennifer @ 313-745-5911 for more details – OR check out our website: www.rmhc-detroit.org for future updates.

McBiker Event

McDonald Owner/Operator, Peter Donaghue and his wife, Nancy, hosted their annual ride in Waterford, Michigan. This event had a great turnout despite some nasty weather!

Big thanks to **Peter and Nancy Donaghue!**



Dream Cruise!

Big Thanks to **Bill and Teresa Saputo, Jessica Saputo, John Perras** and **Dave Perry** for their fundraising efforts for the Detroit Ronald McDonald House during the 20th Woodward Dream Cruise. This year the Saputo family, with the help of many other volunteers raised close to \$5,000!



Greektown Casino-Hotel's 6th Annual Charity Golf Outing



Greektown Hotel and Casino hosted its 6th annual charity golf outing to benefit local nonprofits that instill skills in Detroit area youth. The event was held on August 25th, 2014 at the Detroit Golf Club. The event raised over \$200,000 which was split

between the Rhonda Walker Foundation, Don Bosco Hall and our Ronald McDonald House of Detroit.

As part of this generous donation, Greektown Hotel and Casino will name a room at the new House in 2015.

Big kudos to everyone at Greektown Hotel and Casino!

6 Years Cancer Free – Celebrating Noah!

Walkers, bikers and 5K runners all joined together for a great cause – **GOah NOAH!**

Supporters came together to not only raise funds for the Detroit RMH, but to celebrate Noah who is 6 years cancer free.



Last year's event had over 200 runners, walkers and bikers and this year's event was equally successful!

We thank **Renee Sullivan** and **Noah** for their wonderful support of the Detroit Ronald McDonald House! Watch your mail for next year's exciting GOah NOAH!



RONALD McDONALD
HOUSE CHARITIES
OF SOUTHEASTERN
MICHIGAN

3911 Beaubien Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48201

Address Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BIRMINGHAM, MI
PERMIT NO. 136

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southeastern Michigan

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

2014-2015

OFFICERS

Deborah Virgiles
PRESIDENT
Lenny Williams
VICE PRESIDENT
Tom Haggerty
TREASURER
Melvin Jones,
SECRETARY

BOARD MEMBERS

Aimee Cowher
Gail Gotthelf
Gary Granader
EMERITUS
NEW HOUSE CHAIRMAN
Yvonne Haddix
Teresa Hernalsteen
John Jackson
Scott Langenburg,
M.D.
Steven Lick
Kyla Marcial

Joel McCormick
Kathrine Miller
Bill Moran
Teresa Saputo
Errol Service
Thad Szott
Tim Turcyn
Rebecca Walsh
Jenna Wright
Kelly York

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Harry Granader *IN MEMORIAM*
Ginny Hayes
Jack Hertzler
Dr. Jimmie Leleszi
Dan Levitsky
Frank Martin *EMERITUS*
Mary Pat McDougall
Mary Renkiewicz
Barbara Wachler
Jerry Young

EMERITUS

Alan Frank
John G. Levy
Paul Pellerito

RMHD STAFF

Jennifer Litomisky
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Linda Porter
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
Jackie Kennedy
HOUSE MANAGER
Irma Hudson
RESIDENT HOUSE MANAGER
Mike McCoy
*SPECIAL EVENTS AND
HOUSE MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR*
Jeannine Monkowski
DATA ENTRY MANAGER
Tim Cowley
ACCOUNTANT

Do you Like us?



Follow us on our **Facebook Fan Page**
at **Ronald McDonald House Charities
of SE Michigan**. Be sure to press
the LIKE button to keep up on events,
stories and House updates!



And don't forget to
follow us on **Twitter**
at **RMHC Detroit**.

Check out our website! **www.rmhc-detroit.org**