



Spring 2015

Home Front

A Publication of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southeastern Michigan

It's Official!

It is official! The new Ronald McDonald House of Detroit, at 4707 St. Antoine, Suite 200, is officially open as of Wednesday, April 1, 2015. The first 15 families were greeted with open arms by staff and key volunteers. Upon entering the new House, families were amazed at the open floor plan, soothing colors and peaceful surroundings. On page four and five, you will find photos of our new common areas: kitchen/dining room, living room, lounge, playroom, media center and laundry room.



The Lehman Family – the first family at the new House (above) and our new lobby.

The House that LOVE Built

Thanks to our Major Investors and Campaign Chair, Teresa Saputo!

Our rebuilding project was a true labor of love; from the support of the DMC to our major sponsors and everyone in between. The financial support and guidance was crucial to our success.

The Detroit Medical Center invested \$3.45 of the \$4.3 million dollar cost of our new House. The RMHD invested the remainder and paid for all costs to furnish the House, which included the fixtures and appliances. Because of the larger House, new and expanded programs and additional operational needs, the RMHD has launched an expansion campaign – “Hearts, Hands and Home, Strengthening our Family Foundation” – to raise \$3 million to offset these costs.



The RMHD Expansion Campaign kicked off in mid-September 2014, chaired by RMHD Board member, **Teresa Saputo**. She and her team, guided by **Gary Dembs** (Founder, Non-profit Personnel Network and RMHD Expansion Campaign Adviser) worked tirelessly through the fall and winter months and have achieved great success in a short period of time. At the time of print, \$1.6 million had been raised in cash, pledges and gift-in-kind donations.

Special heartfelt thanks to Teresa and Gary for their tireless efforts with the expansion campaign.

We still need YOUR support! Please review the information in this newsletter on how to support the campaign. We have room and area sponsorships available at all levels.



Please Note: The enclosed donation slip and return envelope is part of our **Hearts, Hands and Home** fundraising appeal. Please remember the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit (RMHD) for your tax-deductible donation



Hearts, Hands, and Home — Strengthening The Foundation For Our Families



My favorite super-hero movie
High-tech media room



Home-cooked mac & cheese
State-of-the-art kitchen



Hugs from Mom & Dad
5 long-term stay rooms



Baths with Rubber Ducky
Private guest bathrooms



Fresh air and sunshine
Serenity Garden

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

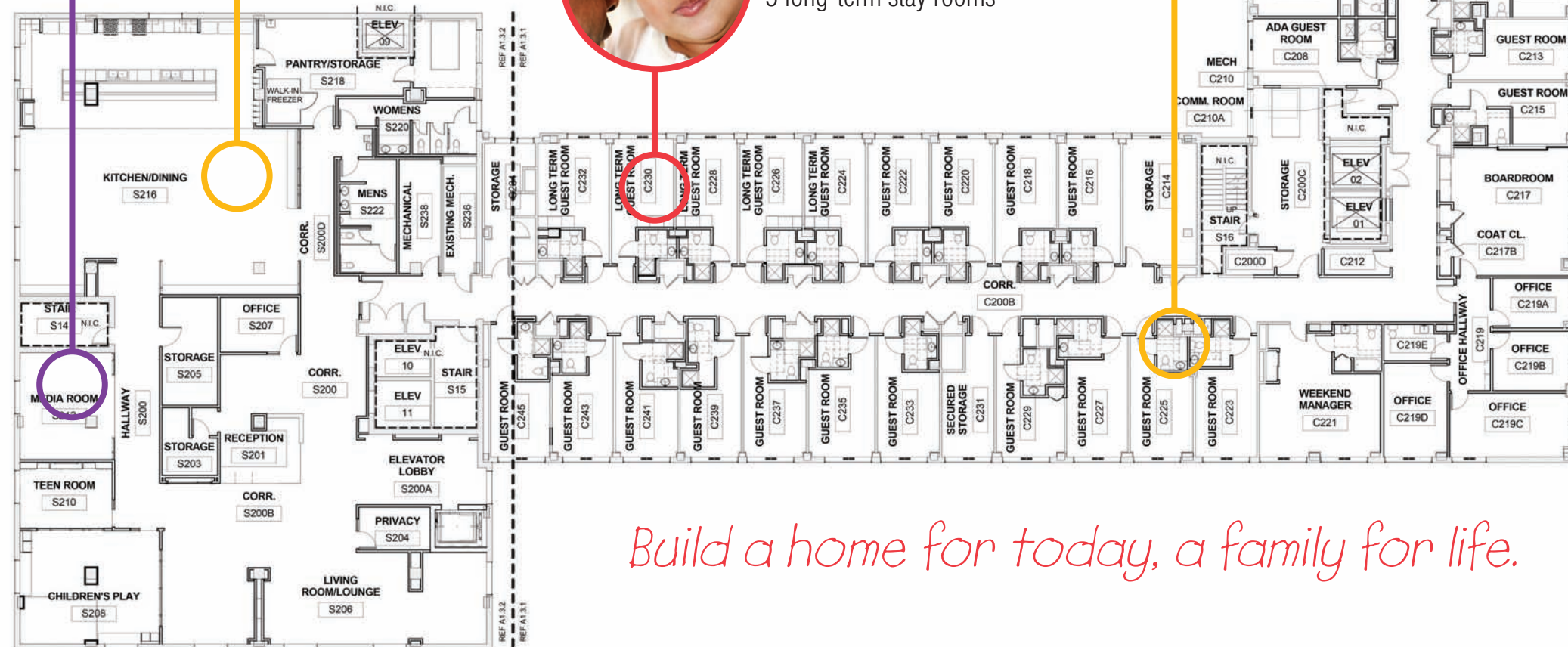


SERENITY GARDEN

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.



BIG HEARTFELT thanks to our major investors:

Art Van Furniture
The Rynne Akins Fund
The Carls Foundation
Children's Hospital of Michigan
Aimee Cowher and Gary Cone
Detroit Medical Center
Detroit Red Wings
Gary Granader
Greektown Hotel and Casino
Milt Greenman and Jenna Wright
Tom and Julie Haggerty
Hamilton Anderson Associates
Teresa & Rick Hernalsteen
Joe Kocur Foundation
Kraemer Design Group
Langenberg Family
LA-Z-BOY Furniture
Lingenfelter Family
Jennifer Litomisky & Val Newman
Meijers Corporation
MJS Packaging
Moroch
Narens Foundation
Nicholson Family
Paymasters
Kanu Popat & Family
Red Wings Alumni Association
Ronald McDonald House Charities, Global
Roncelli Inc.
Teresa and Bill Saputo
SEMMOA (Southeast Michigan
McDonalds Owner Operators)
Thad & Robin Szott
Village Green Apartments
Visions of Paradise
WDIV- Channel 4
Zara Creative

Introducing — The *NEW* Ronald McDonald House of Detroit



*The New Ronald McDonald House of Detroit.
Clockwise from upper left: Dining Room and Kitchen;
Playroom; Living Room; Bedroom; Media Room*

Very Special Thanks!

None of this could have happened without the love, support, guidance and direction from New House Chair, **Gary Granader**. There is not enough room to fully explain the wholehearted dedication, commitment, loyalty and love that Gary has given to the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit. Gary spent well over 18 months, laboring over every detail of the new Ronald McDonald House. His labor of love was not much different than that of his father, the late

Harry Granader who helped build the original House at 3911 Beaubien Street. Gary and Emeritus Board Member, **Frank Martin**, spent many hours on the new House project in early 2014. Big heartfelt thanks to Frank Martin for being part of Gary's team and helping to build the new Ronald McDonald House of Detroit. The new home is truly a beautiful sanctuary of peace and hope for the families and children served.

A Leader above the Rest

Special heartfelt thanks to **Deborah Virgiles** for her extended commitment as the RMHD President. Deborah, a McDonalds Owner/Operator, has been on the board of the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit for nearly 12 years (on, off and in different positions). Just this past term, Deborah expressed a deep interest in continuing her leadership role for another term and was granted that opportunity through a unanimous vote by the board of directors. Deborah is so

devoted to the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit, that she wanted to remain president until the new Detroit Ronald McDonald House was rebuilt and running.

She has served on many committees, including co-chairing a successful high tea event for the chapter. She has been tireless in her fundraising efforts and attends almost every function for the Detroit House.



Deborah Virgiles

Her devotion for the House is evident in her many hours of volunteerism and leadership.

Deborah has been tireless in her dedication and enthusiasm for the charity. She will remain president

until the end of 2015. We SALUTE Deborah Virgiles for her extraordinary commitment to our charity!

UPCOMING EVENTS *at a Glance*

May 16, 2015 (Saturday)

MOTHER'S DAY TEA

Royal Park Hotel, Rochester

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

May 30, 2015 (Saturday)

HEARTS, HANDS AND HOME

GALA @ ORCHESTRA HALL –

Grand Opening Event

5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

June 5, 2015 (Friday)

VINNI GOLF OUTING

Fieldstone Golf Club

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

June 18, 2015 (Thursday)

WINE IN THE NEW GARDEN

CELEBRATION @ THE NEW HOUSE

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

July 12, 2015 (Sunday)

McBIKERS – Boomers, Waterford

12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

July 18, 2015 (Saturday)

ESCAPE TO BELLE ISLE

5 and 10 K Run

Belle Isle, 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

August 13, 2015 (Thursday)

LINGENFELTER D-3 EVENT

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

September 12, 2015 (Saturday)

WHEELIN' FOR RONALD

Rocks and Valleys off road park – Harrison, 10:00 a.m.

October 3, 2015 (Saturday)

GOAH NOAH!

Stoney Creek Park, 9:00 a.m.

Call **313-745-5909** or visit us at **www.rmhc-detroit.org** for more details, to register or to sponsor one of these exciting RMHD events!

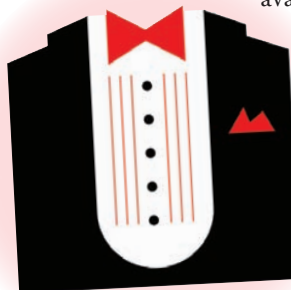
Summer Events in a Nutshell!

MAY 30th

At Home in the Heart of Midtown Gala – A Black-tie, Grand Opening Event

The Ronald McDonald House of Detroit will host a grand-opening gala on May 30 at Orchestra Hall, from 5 to 9 p.m., to celebrate the new House at 4707 St. Antoine in Detroit's Midtown.

The formal event will bring together friends, donors and supporters of the House to celebrate this landmark achievement. The gala will feature cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, live music, a strolling dinner and a brief program to recognize donors and dignitaries who were instrumental in the new House's concept, construction and opening. Tours of the new House, located on the second floor of the Hutzel Professional Building, will be provided via chartered van for guests from 5 to 6:30 p.m.



The event is also a fundraiser for the "Hearts, Hands and Home" expansion campaign. Tickets for the gala cost \$175 per person and \$325 per couple, and are available at rmhc-detroit.org/gala or by calling 313-745-5909.

"The gala is our way to thank donors for their gracious support and generous contributions over the years and especially during the renovation for the new House," said **Jennifer**

Litomisky, executive director of the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit.

"We want guests who attend the gala to also see the beautiful new House, which provides families with a home away from home while their children are hospitalized or receiving care."

JUNE 5th

14th Annual Vinni's Children's Charity Golf Outing

Over 140 golfers supported the 13th Annual Vinni Children's Charity Golf Outing this past year! The weather was perfect and once again, former RMH Board member and chair, Cary Adragna and his family broke all fundraising records with last year's event!



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



Gary Adragna and the 2014 Vinni's Children's Charity Golf Outing crew.

If you or your company would like to be a sponsor, there are all kinds of opportunities! Call the House @ 313-745-5909 for more details – OR check out our website: www.rmhc-detroit.org and register or be a sponsor!

More Upcoming Ronald McDonald House Events

JUNE 18th

International Cuisine – A Grand Opening Party in the Garden

This year we will celebrate our “Wine in the Garden” event with international cuisine and a special “community grand-opening” event. Food, drinks and desserts all donated by local restaurants and companies will highlight the event. Tours of our new “home-away-from-home” will take place during the entire event, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Don't miss this exciting community grand opening event! Tickets are \$60 per person. Call the House @ 313-745-5909 for more details – OR check out our website: www.rmhc-detroit.org and register, donate food or be a sponsor!



Volunteer Mary Okray (pictured in red and white), Chairperson of Italy in the Garden.

JULY 18th

Escape to Belle Isle!

Over 780 runners came out to support last 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 18th for this 7th annual event! Every year this event grows bigger and bigger and next race 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 last year! Call the House @ 313-745-5909 for more details – OR check out our website: www.rmhc-detroit.org and register or be a sponsor!

AUGUST 13th Lingenfelter D-3 Event – Dream Cars, Dream Cruise, Dream House Event



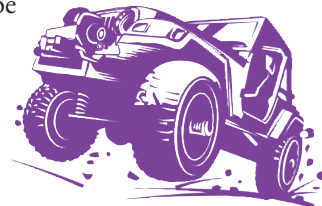
We will be hosting the D-3 Event again this year! Mark your calendars for Thursday, August 13th. Last year's event at the Lingenfelter car museum, netted over \$30,000 for the House. Over 200 guests enjoyed the collection that holds a variety of Corvettes, muscle cars, and exotics. Several vehicles in 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. Call the House @ 313-745-5909 for more details – OR check out our website: www.rmhc-detroit.org and register or be a sponsor!

SEPTEMBER 12th

Wheelin' for Ronald at Rocks and Valleys Off-Road Park

Szott Auto Group will be hosting its annual “Wheelin' For Ronald” on Saturday, September 12th.

The event will be held at Rocks and Valleys Off-Road Park located at 3407 E.



Mannsiding Road Harrison, MI 48625. For details about Rocks and Valleys refer to their website rocksandvalleys.com.

Registrations, donations and raffle items are still being accepted. Gates open at 10:00 am. Call the House @ 313-745-5909 for more details – OR check out our website: www.rmhc-detroit.org and register or be a sponsor!

OCTOBER 3rd GOah NOAH

Walkers, bikers and 5K runners please join us for a great cause – **GOah NOAH!**

Last year's GOah NOAH had close to 100 runners, walkers and bikers and we hope to have 200 participants this year!

We thank **Renee Sullivan**

and **Noah** for their wonderful support of the Detroit Ronald McDonald House! Call the House @ 313-745-5909 for more details –

OR check out our website: www.rmhc-detroit.org and register or be a sponsor!



RMHD Wish List... Make your donation today!

There are many ways you can help us provide a **home away from home** for families in need. You could prepare a meal for the families at the House or supply the House with non-perishable food items. Canned food drives are a wonderful gift to the House! And we always need new toys for children that stay at our House.

Remember, it is cash and gifts-in-kind that will help the families that stay at the Ronald McDonald House of Detroit. Look over the list below and see if you can help with any of these much needed items.

BIG ITEMS

- Microwave ovens

Bedroom/Bathroom

- Pillow protectors
- Queen and twin size mattress pads
- Clock radios
- Toilet paper, Kleenex®

Food & Kitchen Supplies

- Kuerig K-Cups
- Sugar, flour
- Cooking oil
- Canned soup (any brand or type)
- Paper plates
- Cups and glasses
- Plastic utensils
- Zip Loc® bags (all sizes)
- Plastic wrap
- Silverware
- Take-out containers

Bedroom/Bathroom

- Pillow protectors
- Queen and twin size mattress pads
- Clock radios
- Toilet paper, Kleenex®

Children's Stuff

- Newly released family DVDs
- Disposable diapers
- Portable cribs
- Strollers
- Legos®
- Educational toys

Cleaning & Laundry

- Dow® bathroom cleaner, Windex®
- Laundry and dishwasher detergent
- Fabric softener sheets
- Bleach (Color Safe Clorox®)
- Comet® cleanser, Pine Sol®
- Air freshener spray
- Air fresheners – solids
- Glade Plug-Ins® and sprays
- Carpet Fresh®
- Paper towels

Office Supplies

- Batteries – AA, AAA, C, D and 9 volt
- Light bulbs – sizes 60, 75, and 3 way
- Forever Stamps
- Avery® Labels 5160 or equivalent
- Copy paper
- Pilot Rolling Ball® pens – all colors
- Scissors, Scotch® tape, staples and Wite-Out®
- Permanent markers – Sharpies® all colors
- Colored file folders

Contact Jennifer Litomisky, Executive Director at 313.745.5911 for more information.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southeastern Michigan

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2015

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

Check out our website!

www.rmhc-detroit.org