

Around the House Spring Happenings 2018



The Jordan Hackett Foundation donated proceeds from the 15th Annual Race for Jordan!



Baird made the most adorable sack lunches for our families!



The Nashville Predators rookies baked cookies for our families as part of their development camp.



McGuire Management Group prepared multiple dinners for our families at the House.



Youth Ministry at Dickson First United Methodist Church cleaned and organized around the House.



Trecia Martin, a supporter of the Nashville Ronald McDonald House, helped celebrate the House's 27th Birthday!



Sherwin-Williams painted our shed and did other paint touch-ups around the House!



Families celebrated the 4th of July by grilling hotdogs and burgers and playing games.



The Barton family donated wishlist items to celebrate their son's first birthday who is recovering from a recent heart surgery.

Give back to our House while having fun with your friends and coworkers at these upcoming Events



5k & Kathy Dungan 1-Mile Fun Run

Saturday, September 15*: Hundreds of participants will be hustling to the finish line during the 8th Annual Hustle for the House 5k & Kathy Dungan 1 Mile Fun Run, Presented by Jackson with Race Day Sponsor Dell Nashville. Registration is open for this family friendly, certified and chip-timed course which starts and finishes at the House. Register now before the early bird special ends: \$25 for the 5K or Spirit Runner, \$15 for the 1-Mile Fun Run, and you can bring Fido along for just \$10!



Monday, October 8*: The 23rd Annual Golf Ball Tournament will be held at the prestigious Hillwood Country Club. Golfers will enjoy a golfer gift, on course refreshments as well as breakfast, lunch, and cocktail reception with dinner and a silent auction.



Friday, November 2*: The 3rd Annual Music City Sporting Clays Tournament in association with Kids and Clays Foundation will be held at the Nashville Gun Club. Registration includes ammunition, exclusive shooter gift, a delicious lunch, and a cocktail-awards reception with dinner and a silent auction.

*We are seeking sponsors, golfers, runners, marksmen, silent auction items and committee volunteers for these events.

Outside Fundraisers are for Everyone!*

RMHC of Nashville is honored to be the beneficiary of community events organized by individuals, schools and businesses. These fundraisers help us care for families while they focus on their seriously ill or injured child.

***If you're interested in planning an event with RMHC of Nashville as the beneficiary, we'd love to hear from you! Give us a call or visit our website for details.**

Wednesday, August 15: The 23rd Annual Music City Classic will take place at the Hermitage Golf Course with a 1:00pm shotgun start, put on by the Nashville Station employees of Southwest Airlines. Visit <https://birdeasepro.com/musiccityclassic> for details.

Saturday, September 15: The 4th Annual Dash for Derek 5k Fun Run/Walk will begin at 9:00a.m. at the Cumberland County Community Complex in Crossville, TN. Learn more at www.facebook.com/dashforderek5k.

Friday, September 21: The Associate General Contractor's 9th Annual BBQ in Red Shoes Cook Off will be held at Nissan Stadium and opens to the public at 11:30am. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/BbqInRedShoes/> for more information.



Ronald McDonald House Charities®
Nashville

House Notes

SUMMER 2018

A Communicative Publication of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Nashville, Tennessee, Inc.

The Long Wait is Over, Gretlain Has a Healthy Heart!

Gretlain Quinones and her family began the journey from Ooltewah, TN to the Nashville Ronald McDonald House in April 2018 when the 11-year-old, needed a new heart. Born with an atrioventricular septal defect (AVSD), and in and out of the hospital since she was 6 months old, Gretlain has endured a tough road. She has overcome endless hurdles but always dreamed of doing normal childhood activities that her heart couldn't handle, like gymnastics and swimming. After prescribed medications and pacemakers failed, Gretlain was finally put on the transplant list and she and her family moved into the Nashville Ronald McDonald House where they could remain close to the hospital.



The Quinones family has been collecting pull tabs throughout their stay.



The Quinones family going home after an 83 night stay.

While hoping for a new heart to become available, Gretlain focused on drawing, listening to music, and playing ping pong in the game room. On May 17th, the Quinones' telephone rang in the middle of night with the news that a heart had become available for their daughter. The Quinones family rushed to the hospital for the next step in Gretlain's journey. The transplant was a complete success and while Gretlain spent the following weeks recovering in the PICU, the Ronald McDonald House provided a place where her parents and sister could grab a hot meal, wash clothes and get some rest. A few weeks later, Gretlain was released from the hospital, but needed to remain close to her medical team for monitoring. It was during this delicate recovery time period Gretlain became closer to the Ronald McDonald House family. She spent her days playing Uno with the House staff, decorating cupcakes with the Nashville Predator's rookies, collecting pull tabs and making friends with Sadie, the House therapy dog. While the road has been difficult for the Quinones family, thanks to your support they found their "home-away-from-home" at the Ronald McDonald House.



"Just us girls." Gretlain visits with Sadie and the staff at RMHC.

We are very happy to report that Gretlain's journey now continues back at home in Ooltewah where she is getting excited about her 12th birthday party and also getting ready to start going back to school again this coming Fall. Recently, Gretlain and her mom stopped by the Ronald McDonald House to visit while in town for a check-up. When she was asked what she wants for her birthday, Gretlain replied, "I want to visit the Ronald McDonald House!"



One highlight of Gretlain's stay was being selected as the "All Star Kid of the Game" at the Nashville Sounds Game along with her little sister, Gretmary.

Hustle For the House

Saturday,
September
15, 2018
7:30 a.m.



For More Information and to Register: 615-343-4000 or www.rmhcnapville.com/event

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Nashville

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Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Nashville is one of 365 Houses and 245 Family Rooms worldwide. The House provides shelter, emotional support, understanding and a home-like environment to families during their time of need. Please help continue the caring!

OUR HEARTS REMEMBER

MARCH 2018 · JULY 2018

Throughout the years, families come to us in search of hope and support when their child faces a medical crisis. For many, miracles happen, but for some, the journey ends. We remember them all as they remain a part of our history and forever in our hearts.

Dylan Cucinella

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If you are interested in making a donation In Honor or In Memory of someone special, please visit our website: www.rmhcnashville.com and click the donate button near the top of the web page.



Happy 25th Work Anniversary to Kaye!

Kaye Slater celebrated her 25th year as the House Manager this past June! She has dedicated herself to improving the lives of families with critically ill children and has a true passion for helping each family that walks through our doors. Kaye came in on her 25th work anniversary to find her office covered in foil and pictures from the past 2 decades hung everywhere and simply said "I love this place"! We love you, Kaye, and can't imagine this place without your patience, kind heart and joy! ♥



ADOPT A ROOM



For 133 nights, Brandy and Greg Miller made our House their "home away from home" while their son Tristan was being treated for Adrenal Insufficiency in a local hospital. The new Adopt A Room Program gives families like the Miller's a place to stay when they need it most.

Every year, more than 500 families find themselves at our front door because they are seeking lodging while their children receive top-notch healthcare in a Nashville area hospital. The Adopt A Room Program ensures that the bedrooms at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House are beautifully kept, operated and maintained for families who need a comfortable place to stay while their child is receiving medical treatment. Your adoption for one year will help cover the costs associated with maintenance and upkeep of your sponsored room, ensuring it is always available for the families that stay with us each night. You could be directly supporting up to 15 families each year, guaranteeing their room will always have necessities like a comfortable bed and clean linens. Your sponsored room will require updating at times and your support will help make that happen.

Families are asked to donate \$15 per night to stay at the Ronald McDonald House. However, no family is ever turned away due to inability to pay. On average, 54% of the families cannot afford to donate \$15, resulting in more than \$180,000 in uncollected room revenue. Adopt one of our 29 standard bedrooms for a \$5,500 annual sponsorship or one of our 3 extended stay suites for a \$7,500 annual sponsorship. Based on our average length of stay (27 nights), Adopt A Room Sponsors directly affect the lives of many families each year who will call this room "home" while their child is receiving medical treatment at a Nashville area hospital.

We will recognize the difference you are making on each families' lives by providing the following benefits:

- Recognition plaque
- Invitation to tour the House and see the impact you are making
- Photo presentation of your adopted bedroom
- Your name/logo highlighted on our website and social media platforms
- Inclusion in a news release highlighting your support
- Recognition in one of our House Notes Newsletters
- Tax deductible receipt
- Use of our logo on your print and online materials
- First right of renewal at the end of your commitment

Join us as an Adopt A Room Program Sponsor now and further YOUR impact for families like the Miller's! This exclusive group of Adopt A Room Program Sponsors is invested in our families, our House, and the goal of turning a time of uncertainty and fear into comfort and support. We are excited to announce we already have two sponsors for the Adopt A Room Program; they are: HCP and the Jordan Hackett Foundation! We appreciate your support! ♥

For more information please visit www.rmhcnashville.com/adopt-a-room/ or contact Amy Southard, Director of Development, at 615-343-4000 or amy@rmhcnashville.com.

Thank you for standing by Reagan during her darkest hours so that she could go on to build a bright future!

When Reagan's mom, Danielle Roberts, was asked about her time at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House she replied saying "RMHC will always have a special place in our hearts. The idea of what RMHC does for people is great, but until you have truly experienced the overwhelming love of this place and it's volunteers, you can never understand. We were at our worst and far from home. We spent countless hours at the hospital and drug ourselves into the House at late hours for a short nap until we started it all again the next day. There were always home cooked meals and clean towels. It was our resting place in such a desperate time. We will forever be grateful!"



Your generous donations have allowed the Nashville Ronald McDonald

House to provide a "home-away-from-home" for the Roberts family while their daughter, Reagan Grace, received the critical care that she needed after being born 6 weeks early with Hydrocephalus (excessive accumulation of fluid in the brain). Reagan has endured 3 shunt related surgeries since birth and has experienced many developmental delays due to her condition. She did not sit up until she was 17 months and couldn't walk unsupported until she was 3 1/2 years old. But, thanks to many hours of physical and occupational therapy, Reagan is now a happy 7 year-old who is looking forward to starting first grade. She loves anything and everything sweet, watermelon, doggies, baby dolls and her big sister! Each year, the Roberts family makes the two-hour trip from Hartselle, Alabama to Nashville for Reagan's annual checkup and they always return to the House with donations from their friends and family. ♥

Love Letters – From Our Families ♥

"My family and I are incredibly thankful for our time spent at RMH while our son was at Vanderbilt for surgery. It was very heartwarming to see so many volunteers working together to make sure the families there were as stress-free as possible. We will make sure to always keep RMH at the front of our minds when we make our charitable donations and volunteer our time in the future. Thank you again!" – Alexis Bennett from Chattanooga, TN

"You guys are awesome! I can't thank you enough for allowing me to stay there and be close to my son. He is almost 3 years old now!" – Miranda from Altamont, TN

"This is the best place you and your family can be while your loved one is in the hospital or having to stay close to the hospital for treatments." – Sara Ann Schwader from Hohenwald, TN

"Through the years, I stayed here with my family while my younger brother went through surgery after surgery at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. It was a place that was comforting. Thank you so much. Now that I live in Nashville, I hope to find a way to give back. Our needs were always met, and I hope that others will find that it's true for them, too." – Tabitha from Nashville, TN



Join in on the fun for the 14th Annual Pull Tab Collection Challenge!

Schools, businesses, and groups of all kinds are invited to participate in the 14th Annual Pull Tab Collection Challenge taking place August 3rd until November 9th. All participants are welcome to attend the Drop Day Celebration at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House on the morning of November 16th! We will have hot chocolate while each group dumps

their collected pull tabs into the dumpsters to be weighed and recycled. Last year, over 41,900 students from 81 schools from across middle Tennessee, southern Kentucky and northern Alabama took on the challenge of collecting the most aluminum tabs from cans that can be recycled with all proceeds benefiting RMHC of Nashville. Over 6,294 lbs. of pull tabs were collected and we need your help to make this challenge even bigger! This contest is a fun way to involve groups in a philanthropy project that encourages a simple way to give that collectively adds up to a large donation for RMHC of Nashville. Visit our website for more details and start collecting those pop tabs today! ♥