



Around the House

Halloween at the House! Both staff and families dressed up to play games and trick-or-treat around the House on Halloween.

Fall Happenings 2016



Participants of the Golf Ball Tournament on Oct 10th enjoyed a gorgeous day golfing and raised over \$50k for RMHC of Nashville.



Employees of Southwest Airlines proudly presented the house with a check for \$11,000 as a result of their Music City Classic Golf Tournament.



The Goad family from Red Boiling Springs, TN donated \$5,000, the proceeds from the Easton Goad Foundation's SK Run.



Kindergarten students from St. Bernard Academy donate books and a Wish List items each month throughout the school year.



The Boyd family, who stayed at RMHC of Greater Cincinnati while Briana had surgery, donated pull-tabs and items from our Wish List



Students from Fayetteville College of Cosmetology Arts & Sciences set up a full beauty salon in the basement to pamper some very deserving ladies.



Lennon and Maisy Stella, stars of the hit TV show "Nashville", stopped by RMHC of Nashville to meet families and tour the House.



Employees of HCA built new storage shelves for the House as part of HCA's Community Day!



Asher & Nicholas Eby and Noah Parks set up a lemonade stand to raise money for the House to honor Jason Huff, a classmate who passed away this summer.



Ladies of Nashville's Community Baptist Church prepared a delicious dinner for our families.



Employees from HCP MOB, Inc. donated food and cleaning products from our House Wish List.



The PCMH group from BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee cleaned the playground and baked treats for our families.



The Lunch Bunch provided lunch in the Family Room to all families who have children in Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt.



RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES® NASHVILLE

House Notes

FALL 2016

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

Home for the Holidays

Grayson West is an energetic, chatty, sweet two-year-old boy from Harriman, TN who is battling leukemia. In late 2015, Grayson's parents noticed he had abnormal bruising and sore joints for an active child his age. On April 28, 2016, after bloodwork, a bone marrow aspiration, a biopsy, and a spinal tap, Grayson was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML). Grayson was in need of a bone marrow transplant, so he started chemo therapy that very day and was eventually matched with a donor. When this happened, the West family packed their clothes and came to Nashville so Grayson could receive the transplant at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt.



Left: Grayson holds his baby sister, Jada "McClaire" who was born while the family was staying at the House Above: Grayson, Jada and their mom, Amber West, head back home for the Thanksgiving holiday.

For families like Grayson's, we are always excited for them to be home for the holidays. For some families that isn't going to be an option this holiday season. Please consider giving to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Nashville to support the many families who we will serve throughout the holiday season and the entire year.

The Nashville Ronald McDonald House and the Ronald McDonald Family Room at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt help seriously and chronically ill children by offering a place for parents and family members to relax, refresh and experience the comforts of home while staying close to their sick child. Most importantly they can keep their families together and receive support from other

families who are facing similar challenges, which can be especially important during the holidays.

Did you know while we ask families to pay \$15 per night, we never require payment and more than 90% of families are not able to pay anything at all towards their stay? That's why we count on you, our friends in the community, to support our programs so we can continue providing the comforts of home regardless of families' ability to pay and stay in our House or visit our Family Room.

Please take time to read over the following page that explains a few of the many ways you can give to RMHC of Nashville. Our Holiday Wishlist is also included on the back page. With your help, you can light up the lives of families like Grayson's.♥

Our Holiday Wish List – Can You Help Make Our Wishes Come True?

Imagine being away from home during the holidays and facing the critical illness of a child. Please think of the families we serve who will be calling our House their "home away from home" during the holiday season.

FOR OUR FAMILIES

Photo albums
Journals
Jewelry (preteens/teens)
Lotion gift sets
Perfume gift sets
Gift cards (fast-food restaurants, Target, Walmart, Dollar General, iTunes)
DVDs (PG13, PG, G)
Infant socks/booties
Rattles
Baby toys

Bottles

Infant receiving blankets
Baby dolls (from all cultures)
Toys (ages 2-10)
Sports equipment
Art supplies
Craft sets
Diapers (sizes NB and 1)
Premie clothing
Infant clothing
Socks
Gloves
Winter hats
Scarves

FOR THE HOUSE

Pillow protectors
Microwaves
Flat screen TV with built in DVD player (20 inch)
Trash bags (all sizes)
Laundry detergent
Paper plates
Plastic cups
Dryer sheets
Box fans
Vacuum cleaners (bagless)
Crib sheets

Paper Towels

Electric can openers
Hand-held Kitchen Aid can openers
Ping Pong paddles and balls
White wash cloths
Dish towels, dish rags and pot holders
Rubber mats for inside the tub
Standard size pillows
Alarm clocks with radio
Silverware

Microwaveable & Dishwasher-Safe Ceramic cereal bowls

Gift cards (Lowes, Home Depot, Walmart, and Target)
FOOD ITEMS
Cereal
Canned Meals (soup, chili, etc.)
Easy Mac
Individually packaged sweets (Little Debbie's, cookies, etc.)
Individual bags of chips

NOTE: ALL GIFT ITEMS ARE TO BE NEW ITEMS ONLY. Thank You!

For More Information: 615-343-4000 or rmhcnashville.com

Calls for Kids

Saturday,
April 22,
2017
7-10 p.m.



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Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Nashville is one of 362 Houses and 215 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!

IN MEMORIAM

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2016

Addison Basham
Evelyn Braswell
Gabby Brown
Allison Henderson
Jesse Knowles
Oakleigh Roberts

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.



You might remember **Cresence Kennedy**, our Summer *House Notes* cover girl. Cresence is currently receiving care at **The Children's Hospital at TriStar Centennial** and we wish Cresence and her family all the best during this holiday season.♥

Don Williams Creates Endowment to Benefit House



"I watched my wife labor with a disease and she didn't let that stop her from serving the families at the House. Her absence will not prevent her from helping families in need."

– Don Williams

Don Williams, loving husband of the late Nancy Williams, has recently created the Nancy Vaughn Williams Endowment for Family Housing to benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of Nashville. Nancy was a dedicated volunteer at the House for over 17 years and she inspired others with her commitment to making the children and families feel comfortable. Though she suffered from Parkinson's Disease for 32 years, service to others was one of her greatest gifts. Kaye, RMHC of

Nashville House Manager, remembers Nancy as a staple of the House: "Nancy gave from the heart, and her reward was to see children happy, loved and their basic needs met. It was never about her, she just loved children and our mission in serving families!"

Don created this endowment to underwrite the cost of families staying at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House. "My goal is to honor Nancy's commitment to families by continuing to grow the endowment and by encouraging others to help fund the future of RMHC of Nashville through endowments." The William's endowment will allow the Nashville Ronald McDonald House to continue to provide love, support, and a place of comfort for many years to come.

If you have already made or plan to make a planned gift to RMHC of Nashville, please contact us so we can include you in the Children's Legacy Society. We respect that some donors prefer anonymity and invite you to let us know about your plans on a confidential basis. Knowing your plans to help families of critically ill children helps us plan wisely for the future.♥

Why Your Donation Matters

Your gift to RMHC of Nashville allows us to "keep families close" by providing essential resources and a "home away from home" for families of critically ill children receiving inpatient or outpatient medical care at Nashville area hospitals.

Our annual budget is more than \$1,300,000 per year, and 100% of our program and operational funding is raised through the community from individuals, corporations, private foundations and organizations.

There are many ways you can help us help families in need, and we appreciate every donation! You can donate online to our various programs at www.rmhcnashville.com or by mail at **Ronald McDonald House Charities Nashville, 2144 Fairfax Avenue, Nashville, TN 37212**. If you have questions or want more information, feel free to contact us by phone, at **615-343-4000**, or via email at info@rmhcnashville.com.

Because there are so many ways to invest in our programs, we highlight different ways to give in each of our *House Notes* newsletters. Below are these three options:

Make a Gift and Make a Difference!

There are many ways to invest in our programs, and planned giving is a great way to make a more significant gift than you can ever imagine, without sacrificing income or security for your own family! Below are several ways you can help us serve families of seriously ill children through planned gifts:

- Donate gifts of stock
- Include us as a beneficiary of your will / retirement policy / insurance policy

Giving Tree

Honor or remember someone special by adding a leaf to the Giving Tree in our House. For a donation of \$250 or more, you can honor or remember a loved one with an engraved gold leaf that will be placed on our hand-painted Giving Tree as an ever-present tribute. You can support our program by filling out the online *Giving Tree Donation Form*. Below is the link: rmhcnashville.com/donate

S.O.S. Sponsor

S.O.S. stands for "Stock Our Shelves." Sponsors support the Ronald McDonald Family Room outside the Pediatric Critical Care Unit at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt by providing a \$500 donation to underwrite one month of snacks, beverages, and supplies for the more than 2,500 individuals who visit our Family Room each month. As a sponsor, your name will be displayed in the Family Room as the "S.O.S. Sponsor of the Month."

Dillard's Cookbook Gives 100% of Proceeds to RMHC



Cooking and entertaining are a little more meaningful knowing you are helping keep families together. Dillard's is offering an exclusive, hardbound Southern Living Cookbook that is filled with more than 200 recipes with great decorating ideas.

By purchasing this custom edition cookbook for just \$10, you give children the best gift of this holiday season - their families. Cookbooks may be purchased online at www.dillards.com or in your local Dillard's store and profits benefit local RMHC Chapters in Dillard's markets.♥



Sadie Would Like to Thank Her Sponsors!

Sadie, our 11-month old "Pawsitivity Officer" has adjusted well to life at RMHC of Nashville and is dedicated to providing snuggles, kisses and love to all of the children and families staying with us. We would like to give a BIG thank you to The Music City Golf Committee who allowed us to use proceeds from the 2016 golf tournament to pay for Sadie and her training at Ultimate Canine. We would also like to thank the veterinarians at Brentwood Veterinary Clinic for providing her with the best care as well as to Caleb and all of the friendly staff at Pet Supermarket #293 in Bellevue for providing all of Sadie's food. Sadie has been a wonderful addition to our staff and it wouldn't be possible without all of these wonderful sponsors!♥

Mark Your Calendars for these Upcoming Events for the Whole Family!



Friday, March 2017*: The much-loved Triple Sip (formerly known as d'Vine Selections) Wine Tasting will be held this coming Spring. We will offer tastings of wine, craft beer and spirits and will have some tasty bites as well. Keep a look out for the event date and ticket information on our website and in future newsletters!



Saturday, April 22, 2017*: Don't miss this live television event that will begin with a week of giving on Monday, April 17, hosted by many of Fox News' caring talent and some very special guests. A week of giving will conclude with a live broadcast from 7-10 p.m. from the Nashville Ronald McDonald House. We raise more than \$125,000 annually through this event and hope this year is the biggest and best yet! Contact us for sponsorship and volunteer opportunities today!

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

Results Are In, the Pull Tab Challenge was a Huge Success!

We had an incredible celebration on Friday, November 18th, to mark the end of the 12th Annual Pull Tab Collection Challenge! More than 30,000 students from 77 schools from all over middle TN, southern KY and northern AL participated in the contest. A total of 103,961.8 ounces (that's 6,498 pounds!) of pull tabs were collected!

Congratulations to both Jacy H., winner in the individuals category who collected 5,040 ounces, and King's Daughters' School from Columbia, TN, winner in the schools category. All students taking part in the challenge received a free ice cream cone coupon and the winners were given a free lunch from their local McDonald's restaurant. If you didn't participate this year, don't worry, we collect pull tabs year-round, so you can bring them to the House anytime. For more about the program, please visit our website.♥

Inaugural Music City Sporting Clays Tournament Was a "Blast"!



Almost 100 shooters took part in our Inaugural Music City Sporting Clays Tournament in association with Kids and Clays Foundation on October 28th at Nashville Gun Club. Shooters were able to enjoy the ever popular Crazy Quail game in addition to the exciting exploding targets game out on the course. This tournament raised over \$40,000 for RMHC of Nashville to ensure another year of providing essential resources and a place to keep families and their sick children together during a critical time in their lives. We are so grateful to the Sporting Clays Committee as well as all who participated and support RMHC of Nashville! Please mark your calendar to join us for the 2nd Annual Tournament at the Nashville Gun Club on Friday, October 27th, 2017!♥

Third Party Events

Third party events are hosted by companies, organizations and individuals in the community who select RMHC of Nashville as the beneficiary for events they organize.

***If you're interested in planning a third party event, we'd love to hear from you! Give us a call or visit our website for details.**



Saturday, February 11, 2017: The 4th annual Hot Chocolate 15K/5K. Chocolate is a central theme in the race and expo as all runners receiving hot chocolate at the finish line! If you cannot participate as a runner, please consider volunteering on race day or at the expo. For detailed race information, please visit the Hot Chocolate website at hotchocolate15k.com/Nashville for information on participating and volunteer opportunities. We'll see you at the start line!

To Give a Gift: 615-343-4000 or rmhcnashville.com

For More Information and to Register: 615-343-4000 or rmhcnashville.com