

Around the House Fall & Winter Happenings



Risk Placement Services presented RMHC of Nashville with an astounding donation of over \$85,000 during their Top Performers Sales Meeting!



Instructors at the Nashville Fire Department Training Academy gave TVs to RMHC in honor of Chief Training Officer Commander Scott Lively.



Women of the National Roofing Contractors Association brought breakfast for our families.



The AGC Construction Leadership Council of Middle TN made an impressive donation from their BBQ in Red Shoes.



Dash for Derek donated the proceeds from their annual race and golf tournament.



Ronald McDonald Associate Board members decorated a Christmas tree and served dinner in the Family Room.



Nashville MGMA presented RMHC of Nashville with a donation at their MGMA Holiday Luncheon.



Leslie and Emma Goad had an ice cream party for families to honor Easton on the anniversary of his death.



The Vanderbilt University Men's Golf Team volunteered their time at the Ronald McDonald House.

Mark Your Calendars for These Important Upcoming Events...



5K & Kathy Dungan 1-Mile Fun Run

Saturday, September 14*: The 9th Annual Hustle for the House 5K & Kathy Dungan 1 Mile Fun Run will start and finish at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House. Hundreds of participants will be hustling to the finish line to support our programs. Registration is open for the family friendly, dog friendly, certified and chip-timed course is \$25 for the 5K or Spirit Runner, \$15 for the 1 Mile Fun Run and Fido for \$10!



Monday, October 14*: The 24th Annual Golf Ball Tournament will be held at Governors Club. Golfers will enjoy a golfer gift, on course refreshments, as well as breakfast, lunch, a cocktail reception with dinner and a silent auction.



Friday, October 25*: The 4th Annual Music City Sporting Clays Tournament in association with Kids and Clays Foundation will be held at Nashville Gun Club. Registration includes ammunition, exclusive shooter gift, a delicious lunch, and a cocktail-awards reception.

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

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.**

Friday, May 3: Josie Mazzo Children's Charities 13th Annual Golf Tournament will be held at Greystone Golf Club in Dickson, TN with a portion of the proceeds to benefit RMHC of Nashville. Visit www.josiemazzo.com for more information.

Saturday, May 4: 16th Annual Race for Jordan will be held rain or shine at Cordell Hull Dam in Carthage, TN. Register for the 5K Run/Walk or the Kids 1 Mile Fun Run at jordanhackettfoundation.org.

Wednesday, May 9: Big Rigs for Little Kids Golf Tournament will be held at the Hermitage Golf Course. Organized by members of the Tennessee Trucking Association and always a great event with registration available at tntrucking.org.



Ronald McDonald House Charities®
Nashville

House Notes

SPRING 2019

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

Tune In and Donate to the LifePoint Health Calls for Kids Telecast!

Tune in Saturday, April 6th from 6 to 9 p.m. as WZTV Fox 17 hosts the 29th Annual LifePoint Health Calls for Kids Telecast. On-air personalities from Fox17 will host the Telecast and help us reach our goal to raise \$125,000. The three-hour Telecast will include both live and taped interviews with families, donors and community supporters, as well as several video segments that will give viewers a closer look at our House and Family Room and the many ways we help families of critically ill children.

The Telecast is the biggest opportunity to highlight our mission, the families who benefit from our programs, and the companies, individuals and organizations that fund our programs each year. The money raised helps support the 36-bedroom Ronald McDonald House and the Ronald McDonald Family Room located in Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt. These programs have provided over 15,400 families with all the comforts of home at the Nashville House and more than 417,079 individuals who have visited our Family Room.



You can be a part of this event by pre-raising funds as a VIP, donating online at www.rmhcnapville.com or by tuning in on April 6th and calling 615-322-7900 or 866-766-9933. Companies, groups or individuals can also become a "Minute Match" Sponsor and agree to match one to 25 minutes of the Telecast with donations of \$1,000 per minute.

For our supporters who are outside the Fox 17 broadcast area, you can go online and watch the Telecast live on www.Fox17.com. You can also follow us on

Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (@rmhcnapville) for all the latest updates! Don't forget to tune in and hear the stories of the children and their families who call our House their "home-away-from home" during such a stressful time in their lives. We sincerely hope that you'll keep us in your heart by continuing to help RMHC of Nashville in "keeping families close." ♥

Meet two of the families we're highlighting on this year's Telecast...



Madalyn Kircher and her mother, Krista, from Decatur, AL, made our House their home while the 8-year old recovered from a liver transplant. Diagnosed with liver disease, Alpha One Antitrypsin Deficiency, at birth, they hoped for the best, but their fears came true when doctors realized Madalyn's liver wouldn't continue functioning at a high enough rate. After years of hospitalizations, invasive procedures, surgeries and tests, Madalyn received a new liver!



In May 2018, 11-year-old, **Skylar Graves**, was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor and multiple tumors down his spine. Skylar and his grandmother, Martha, from Scottsville, KY, stayed at the House for over a month while Skylar received radiation treatments and Skylar lit up the House with his positivity and faith. This brave boy lost his hard-fought battle on November 28, 2018.

Calls for Kids

Saturday,
April 6,
2019
6-9 p.m.



DONATE TODAY BY VISITING: <https://rmhcnapville.com/event/calls-for-kids-telecast/>

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

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Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Nashville is one of 368 Houses and 250 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

NOVEMBER 2018 • MARCH 2019

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 Back

Addalyn Collins

Skylar Graves

Alexis Murray

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.



Remembering Frank Chalfont

Longtime Ronald McDonald House Charities of Nashville supporter, Frank Chalfont, passed away on January 15, 2019. Serving as a volunteer, Board Member, former McDonald's Owner/Operator and one of the founders of the Music City Golf Tournament, Frank diligently volunteered his time and services to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Nashville. He was one of the founders of The Music City Golf Tournament, which helped underwrite the funds to build the Nashville Ronald McDonald House back in 1991, enabled us to adopt our therapy dog, Sadie, and has been one of our highest-grossing annual fundraisers since its inception. Frank had a deep love for children and his dedication to RMHC of Nashville touched many lives. Frank will be deeply missed by all of those who loved and knew him. Please keep the entire Chalfont family in your thoughts during this difficult time.

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 \$1,800,000 per year, and 100% of our program and operational funding is raised through the community from individuals, corporations, private foundations and organizations.

Because there are so many ways to invest in our programs, we've highlighted a few different ways to give to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Nashville, starting with these options:

Adopt A Room

This Program gives families a place to stay when they need it most. 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. 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. 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. Please visit our website (www.rmhcnashville.com/adopt-a-room/) for more information about this program, including the ways we will recognize the difference you are making on each families' lives.

We are grateful for our 2019 Adopt a Room Sponsors, including: HCP MOB, Johnson Family, Jordan Hackett Foundation, Josie Mazzo Children's Charities, In Memory of Mikayla Honeycutt, Pinnacle Financial Partners, and the RMHC of Nashville Board of Advisors. We appreciate your support!

Corporate Partnership

Whether it's through monetary gifts, in-kind donations or volunteering, our corporate sponsors are a vital part of helping us deliver comfort and care to children and their families. We tailor partnerships to meet the goals of each corporate donor, while also meeting our mission of providing the comforts of home to families with sick children. Not only do corporate partners help fund our programs and services, they give RMHC of Nashville the gift of their time, products and expertise.

Legacy Planning

With your big heart and a little planning, you can help us bring hope and help to sick children and their families for years to come. The power to strengthen and keep families together is in your hands. Here are several ways you can help through planned gifts: Donate gifts of stock; Include us as a beneficiary of your will / retirement policy/ insurance policy.



Stay tuned for renovation and expansion updates in our next edition of House Notes!

Follow us at @RMHCNashville on social media for an inside look!

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

Two Stays, One House, Many Blessings



Kaelyn's mother, Maxie reflected on this time saying, "To have a place where you have everything you need during such a tough time is such a blessing."

At the Nashville Ronald McDonald House we witness children who defy life's greatest challenges and 13-year-old, Kaelyn Mullins, from Elkhorn City, KY, is doing just that with grace and strength. Staying at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House for the second time in her short life, Kaelyn brings joy to the staff with her afternoon visits that usually include a handcrafted gift! Recently, she brought us a picture of the pet shop she aspires to have one day.

Shortly after Kaelyn was born in 2005, doctors discovered that she had a birth defect called Pulmonary Atresia, meaning her pulmonary valve didn't form in the womb and blood wasn't circulating to her lungs. Kaelyn was brought to Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt via LifeFlight and was



immediately placed on the heart transplant list. The Mullins family checked into the Nashville Ronald McDonald House in June 2005 to stay close to Kaelyn and after 5 long weeks they received the life changing phone call that a heart had become available.

While they were eager to get their daughter home to Kentucky after her transplant, it was crucial that Kaelyn remained close to the hospital as she recovered. The Mullins family checked in to one of the extended stay suites at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House where they remained for 84 nights, so doctors could keep a close eye on her



progress and make sure her body wasn't rejecting the new heart. In April 2018, just a month shy of Kaelyn's 13th birthday, the Mullins' received devastating news that the stomach issues Kaelyn had been experiencing was Neuroendocrine Carcinoma, an adult form of colon cancer that had spread to her liver. The Mullins family would again be making the 7-hour trip to Nashville for treatment at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital where she received her heart transplant and received the majority of her medical care since birth. Her treatment

plan included 6 rounds of chemo to be administered every three weeks, as long as her little body was able to handle the intensive treatments. After her first chemo treatment and an hour before they were discharged, a room became available at the House. To add to the irony, when the Mullins family was shown to their room, they realized that it was the exact same room they

stayed in the first time in 2005. "We were exhausted and in shock and once again on the steps of the Ronald McDonald House, but knowing we had a place to call home was a huge blessing from God", Maxie shared.

Kaelyn and her family have been at the House for 165 days so far this trip. "There are no words to describe how wonderful this place is," said Maxie and Kaelyn added, "my favorite part of the House is visiting with Sadie and all of you (the staff and volunteers)." Kaelyn has finished her last scheduled chemo treatment and is waiting to hear what doctors determine should be the next step of her treatment. Kaelyn continues to charm and inspire everyone she meets and the Nashville Ronald McDonald House is grateful to be a place of comfort during her journey. ❤️

Love Letters – From Our Families

"We have been very blessed to be able to stay at the RMH. It has made a less than pleasant experience easier. I have twins in the NICU and don't have to worry about where I will sleep and most days a meal is donated which is great after a long day, to have a home cooked meal. I have not had to worry about laundry; they always have snacks and a little pantry and they have an exclusive breastmilk fridge for moms. They have a kid's room to enjoy, when my big kids come to stay on the weekends, they have a fun area to enjoy while here. RMH has been a blessing to my family and we are all forever grateful. Thank you!"

– Alyssa from Bowling Green, Kentucky

"In 2014 we spent Thanksgiving at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt. Our son was admitted early that morning after being transported by ambulance from 2½ hours away. They took him into surgery and we went to look for food. We were exhausted and scared to death, not really knowing what the outcome would be. Someone at the hospital directed us toward the Ronald McDonald Family Room and told us they had food there. That was an understatement. They had prepared a Thanksgiving dinner for families with patients in the hospital. My husband and I stood in line and cried at the generosity of these people who gave up their holiday to help us. I will never forget the kindness of those people."

– Susan from Wickliffe, KY

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