

## Around the House



RMHC of Nashville accepted a generous grant from the Nashville Predators Foundation. This grant enabled us to purchase TVs for each of our 36 bedrooms.



Executive Director, Liz Piercy, accepted a donation from Martin Brower Dickson employees on behalf of RMHC Chattanooga, RMHC Knoxville, RMHC Memphis, and RMHC of Nashville.



In memory of their son, Noah's, 9th birthday, "Team Noah" delivered two van loads of wish list items.



Neighbors & Lamar Family going home with their baby, Kainan, after 99 nights at the House.



Author JT Jester shared his personal journey staying at a Ronald McDonald House as a child and generously gave a donation to the Nashville House.



Craft Body Scan made a delicious breakfast for the families staying at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House.



Officers from the Metro Nashville Police Dept. came to RMHC of Nashville to spread joy with families.



The kindergarten class from St. Bernard Academy donated trash bags and other needed items to the House.



News 2 interviewed our House Manager, Chelsea, about the importance of the themed House coffee bar.

## Mark Your Calendars for these 2023 Signature Events!

We are excited for the return of our Signature Events this year, and hope that you will join us! Please save the dates and we look forward to seeing you this fall!

**Hustle For the House**

**GOLF BALL**

**MUSIC CITY SPORTING CLAYS**

**Saturday, September 16\*:** We look forward to lacing up our shoes for the 13th Annual Hustle for the House 5k & Kathy Dungan 1-Mile Fun Run presented by Jackson with Race Day Sponsor Dell Technologies! Join this family-friendly and dog-friendly community event benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities of Nashville! To register, please visit our website.

**Monday, October 9\*:** The 27th Annual Golf Ball Tournament will be held at The 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 27\*:** The 7th 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, lunch, and a cocktail-awards reception.

### Upcoming events benefiting RMHC of Nashville\*\*

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.

**Sunday, August 20: Par-Tee for the House** hosted by the RMHC of Nashville Associate Board will take place Sunday, August 20, 2023, from 11AM - 2 PM at Topgolf Nashville. Gather your friends, coworkers, and family for an awesome afternoon putting your swing to the test, bidding on unique auction items, and raising essential funds FORE our House. Event registration & sponsorship opportunities available at [rmhcnashville.com](http://rmhcnashville.com)

**Friday, September 22: The 9th Annual Pull for Kids Sporting Clay** hosted by Josie Mazzo Children's Charities will take place on Friday, September 22 at Cross Creek Clays in Palmyra, Tennessee. Learn more at [joseimazzo.com](http://joseimazzo.com).

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

\*\*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.

For More Information or to Give A Gift: 615-343-4000 or [www.rmhcnashville.com](http://www.rmhcnashville.com)



Ronald McDonald House Charities®  
Nashville

# House Notes

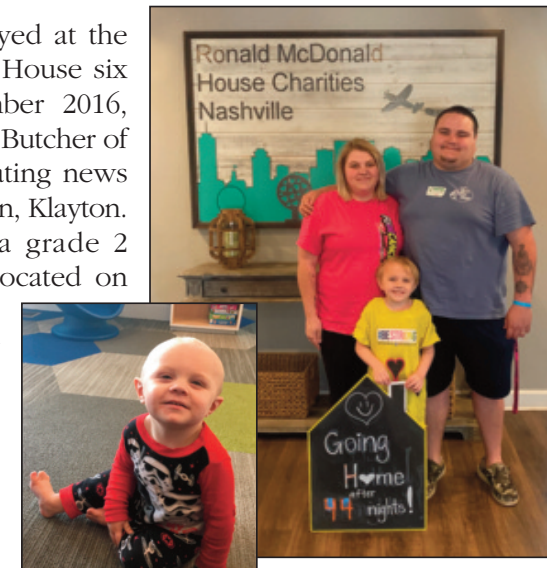
SPRING & SUMMER 2023

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

## A Home for "Klayton's Krew"

The Butcher Family first stayed at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House six years ago. In early December 2016, young parents Kody and Lori Butcher of Pulaski, TN received devastating news about their nine-month-old son, Klayton. Klay was diagnosed with a grade 2 Ependymoma brain tumor located on his brain stem that was spreading to his spine. They were immediately rushed to Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt to remove his tumor, however, cancer cells still remained in his body.

Living 75 miles away from the hospital, the Butcher Family checked into the Nashville Ronald McDonald House in May of 2017 for Klay to begin daily radiation. During their first stay,



Left: Klay during his 1st stay at The House in 2016. Above: The Butcher Family going home after their 44-night stay in summer 2023.



Emmi & Klay Butcher celebrating their birthdays at the Nashville House.

they spent a total of 49 nights. While Klay fought against a brain tumor, he continued to achieve childhood milestones. From meeting new friends to learning how to walk, the Nashville House became their "home-away-from-home".

In 2023, the Butcher Family again received devastating news after an MRI. Klay was diagnosed with another brain tumor. Returning to Nashville for treatment a second time, the Butcher Family stayed at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House, along with a new little sister, Emmi. Their journey back to the House brought the Butcher

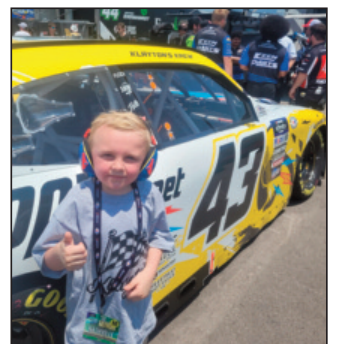
Family comfort, knowing they would be taken care of while Klay underwent surgery to remove the tumor as well as 30 days of radiation.

During their most recent 44-night stay, Klay and the rest of the Butcher family celebrated milestones with the staff and families staying at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House. Klay celebrated his seventh birthday, along with sister Emmi's fourth; they enjoyed a night out at a Vanderbilt Baseball game; Klay and Emmi played games with the House staff; they even enjoyed meeting Metro Police Dept. officers and testing out the sirens in the police vehicles; and every morning, Klay enjoyed feeding the fish! To celebrate the end of his radiation, Klay and his

family were able to enjoy a VIP experience at the NASCAR Xfinity race at the Nashville Superspeedway.

"Klayton's Krew" was written on NASCAR Driver Ryan Ellis' car to highlight Klay and his loyal supporters!

Klay is now enjoying his summer fishing and getting ready for first grade. As he continues to go back and forth to the hospital for checkups, the Nashville House will remain a "home-away-from-home" for the Butcher Family. As mom Lori put it, Klay loves being at home but misses "the girls" at RMHC. The Butcher Family expresses their deep gratitude by thanking everyone at the House for the hospitality and support they have received. ❤️



Klay celebrating the end of radiation with NASCAR Driver Ryan Ellis in summer 2023.

**Hustle For the House**

September 16th • Register online: [www.rmhcnashville.com](http://www.rmhcnashville.com)

13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL



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Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Nashville is one of 380 Houses and 265 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 2022 – MAY 2023

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 each of them as they all remain a part of our history and forever in our hearts.

<b>David Wainwright, Jr.</b>	<b>Ryland Bryant</b>
<b>Ocean White</b>	<b>Emmett Defils</b>
<b>Devonte Parrish</b>	<b>Braezyleigh Burgess</b>
<b>Isla Tobin</b>	

If you are interested in donating In Honor or In Memory of someone special, please visit our website: [rmhcnashville.com](http://rmhcnashville.com) and click the donate button near the top of the website.

Additions to Our Family



**April Rainey** has joined the RMHC of Nashville staff as our Volunteer Coordinator! April and her family have lived in the Mount Juliet area for twenty-five years. She loves reading, decorating her house for holidays and spending time with her two teenagers. April is thrilled to be a part of the RMHC of Nashville family and looks forward to meeting past volunteers and welcoming new volunteers!

Ways to Support RMHC of Nashville

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 care at Nashville area hospitals. Our annual budget is more than \$1.8 million a 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 to support our programs. Highlighted below are a few options to support RMHC of Nashville.



Adopt one of our 33 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 [rmhcnashville.com/adopt-a-room](http://rmhcnashville.com/adopt-a-room) for more information about this program, including the ways we will recognize the difference you are making in each families’ lives. We are grateful for our current Adopt A Room sponsors, including: Adam & Alexa King, An Anonymous Donor, Danner Foundation, HCA Foundation, Healthpeak Medical Office Properties, Hermoine & Glenn Nelson Foundation, In Honor of Anna Hinson Hulan, Jordan Hackett Foundation, Joseph & Dolores Wozniak, Nathaniel Carter Irrevocable Trust, Raymond James, RMHC Board of Directors, and In Memory of Steve Travis. Adopt A Room supporters are invested in our families, our House, and the goal of turning a time of uncertainty and fear into comfort and support. We appreciate all Adopt A Room supporters!



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. You can support our program by filling out the online Giving Tree donation form at [rmhcnashville.com/donate/GivingTree](http://rmhcnashville.com/donate/GivingTree).

Legacy Planning

With your big heart and a little bit of 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. You can support families through planned gifts such as donating stock and/or including RMHC of Nashville as a beneficiary of your will, retirement policy, or insurance policy.

For more information about donating please visit [rmhcnashville.com](http://rmhcnashville.com) or contact Rachel Jones, Development and Communications Director, at 615-343-4000 or [rachel@rmhcnashville.com](mailto:rachel@rmhcnashville.com)

To Give a Gift: 615-343-4000 or [www.rmhcnashville.com/donate](http://www.rmhcnashville.com/donate)



Hot Off the Griddle...

For the first time in over three years, the Nashville Ronald McDonald House is inviting volunteer meal groups back into the House! We are accepting a limited number of in-person volunteer meal groups to cook and serve meals for families in our House. Even while our House was closed to visitors over the past three years, volunteer meal groups continued to support families and provided 1,155 meals! Providing a meal allows families to focus on their sick children in the hospital and have one less thing to worry about during such a critical time. Learn how you can participate in our meal program at [rmhcnashville.com/meal-program](http://rmhcnashville.com/meal-program).

Here are some of the ways you can participate in providing a meal for families staying at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House.

**Cater a Meal** – Place an order at the restaurant of your choice and have it delivered to the House.

**Homecookin’** – Cook up a delicious homemade recipe for our families and drop it off at the House during your scheduled meal date and time.

**Sponsor a Meal** – Make a donation to the “Taste of Home” program and we will take care of the ordering & delivery! There are designated costs allocated for each meal: Breakfast is \$200, Lunch is \$250 and Dinner is \$300.

**Gift Card Donation** – Provide a meal by donating fast food and restaurant gift cards in any amount for single-family use. You can mail them or drop them off at the House.

**Dump ‘n’ Go** – Provide a meal for our families by purchasing the ingredients for a slow cooker recipe, dropping the ingredients off at the House, and the staff will take care of the slow cooker meal. Visit our Pinterest page full of fun recipes!

Let’s “Do The Hustle” Again!

The 13th Annual Hustle for the House 5k & Kathy Dungan 1-Mile Fun Run presented by Jackson with Race Day Sponsor Dell Technologies will take place on Saturday, September 16, 2023. Last year, we had over 540 participants and sponsors raised over \$63,000 to benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of Nashville! You don’t want to miss out on supporting families this year. Join us!

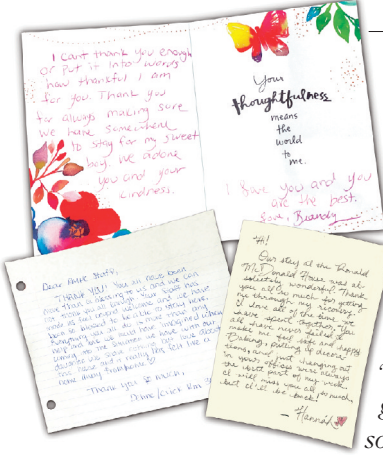


Early Bird Registration is open now through July 30. Registration info and sponsorship opportunities are available at [rmhcnashville.com](http://rmhcnashville.com).

Your participation in the Hustle for the House supports the Nashville Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Family Room by touching the lives of hundreds of families with critically ill children receiving care in Nashville.

Love Letters from Families

The Nashville Ronald McDonald House serves as a home-away-from-home for families during their most challenging times. Our mission is to provide families with the essential resources and comforts of home while families care for their sick child. This work would not be possible without the love and generosity of our donors, volunteers, and community members who support the families staying at the House. Families are so grateful to be able to put all of their time and energy into caring for their children. Below you will see “love notes” of gratitude from families who have recently stayed at the Nashville Ronald McDonald House.



“Thank you all for giving us a place so we could be close to our son. We will cherish ever minute we had for the 29 days of his life.”  
– Wainwright Family who stayed 30 nights

“Thank you for all your kindness in such a hard time.”  
– Runk Family who stayed 50 nights

“I can’t say enough how much of a relief a normal bed, washing machine, not having to worry about if we’ll be able to eat, and more have been for us while being away from home.”  
“We get emotional every time we talk about or think about this amazing organization! RMHC Nashville is truly amazing and a place we will forever want to share and give to as they have given to us.”  
– Dehne Family who stayed 70 nights

“We had our baby girl at 25 weeks. Before this, we were very unfamiliar with Ronald McDonald House. We came to the House 5 days after our sweet girl was born. They [the staff] were so accommodating and supportive. Everything about this place has been a blessing. This is such an amazing organization that everyone should support it if they have the means to do so!”  
– Moore Family who stayed 117 nights