



Ronald McDonald House®  
New York

2017 Annual Report

# Table Of Contents

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A Letter from Our President & CEO .....	2
Board Members .....	3 - 4
Donor Spotlight .....	5 - 6
Ronald McDonald Family Room New York Year In Review .....	7
Staff Spotlight .....	8
2017 International Reach .....	9
Family Support Services Year In Review .....	10
2017 House Impact .....	11
Programs Year In Review .....	12
Family Spotlight .....	13 - 15
Programs Spotlight .....	16
Volunteer Spotlight .....	17
Volunteers Year In Review .....	18
Donor Impact .....	19
Spaces Donated .....	20
2017 Highlights .....	21 - 22
2017 Donors .....	23 - 26
Financial Statements .....	27 - 28
Celebrity Corner .....	29 - 30



## Dear Friends,

This past year has been transformative. As we continue to expand our reach and give back to the New York City community, we opened our first Family Room at NYC Health + Hospitals/Kings County last year, and served over 1,000 families as the only Ronald McDonald Family Room at a public hospital in the country. We have served nearly 45,000 individuals through our Happy Wheels Coffee Cart, launched in 2015 at the Hospital for Special Surgery. In late 2017, we celebrated the grand re-opening of our House with a new capacity of 95 rooms following a two-year renovation. 2017 was an important year in the legacy of Ronald McDonald House New York.

In order to accommodate our House expansion project, it was necessary to decrease our resident population significantly. Today, we are happy to say the House is once again filled at full occupancy, and on any given night we could have nearly 400 people staying with us.

We provide an immeasurable resource for children and their families from around the world. In just the last six years, families from 53 countries have stayed at the House. The New York House is the one of the largest in the Ronald McDonald House system of more than 360 houses globally, and it remains one of only two houses in the network with a distinct focus on pediatric cancer.

We continue to closely engage with our 16 partner hospitals and other organizations. Each of our six post-transplant suites are now occupied. Prior to our expansion, these rooms did not exist. Today, they are the only such transplant suites in New York outside of a hospital and provide a critical space for families to live together while their child undergoes a period of isolation that may last months at a time.

Our physical footprint has expanded. Moving forward, so too will our services. Ronald McDonald House New York remains committed to providing the very best family-centered care that allows for meaningful experiences for families in medical crisis. To that end, we have developed a “seamless circle of support,” in which all of our teams and stakeholders work collaboratively to meet the needs of our diverse population. Our innovation team is hard at work, leveraging technology to ensure that no matter where our families come from, or where they are on their journey, they will receive the very highest level of exemplary support and be able to take full advantage of the multitude of opportunities the House offers. We are so proud of all we accomplished together over the past year. We are even more excited about the opportunities moving forward.

Our renovations have positioned the House well to align with the most current advances in pediatric cancer care. This allows us to focus on our mission at the House both now and for the future, while furthering our role as a leader in the community. And it helps get us to the next level of growth and impact, including leveraging our brand and further growing our corporate and strategic partnerships.

Ronald McDonald House New York really is one of its kind. Thank you for your support and commitment.

Sincerely,



Harris Diamond,  
*Chairman of the Board*



Ruth C. Browne, SD,  
*President & CEO*



**A Letter  
From Our  
Board Chair &  
President  
& CEO**

# Board Members



Photo credit to Charles Manley

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**Emily Blavatnik** has always valued community and the importance of giving back. She had been aware of the House for many years before she became involved with the annual Kids Fun Run. Each fall, her children would raise money through their school and then race in Central Park. The mother of four would cheer them on. Mrs. Blavatnik began to fund the event. By 2014, she had become the title sponsor. "I always want to lead by example for my children," Mrs. Blavatnik says. She recalls her children coming to the Fun Run and seeing their family name on the banner. "They have gotten a very early exposure to philanthropy," says Mrs. Blavatnik. She is proud to have raised children who care for the world as much as she does.

Mrs. Blavatnik felt deeply for the families at Ronald McDonald House New York. "As a mother," she says, "I just thought about what it must be like to be the parent of a sick child and how painful that must be." She contemplated how it must feel to be a mom so far from home, stuck in New York and separated from family and support systems. It was almost unfathomable. Though she doesn't remember when, exactly, it happened, Mrs. Blavatnik soon found herself thinking, "The Ronald McDonald House does so much for the children and families, but we need to do something for the moms."

When she talks about the impact that initial thought has had, Mrs. Blavatnik is open and engaging, but also very modest. "I'm asked how I came up with all this," she laughs, "but there's really not a big story there." She envisioned a place where a mom could get her nails and hair done, even just relax and stretch a bit. She generously provided funding to build a space and run a program. "It's just evolved, really with no thanks to me," she says, "The team at the House just took my idea and ran with it and developed it."

Today, the Blavatnik Family Foundation Wellness Center provides myriad wellness programs and services for caregivers all year round. Although she would be fine claiming little credit for bringing the Wellness Center to life, Mrs. Blavatnik has been involved every step of the way. Initially she had thought about helping the moms; now, she thought, "What about the dads?" She recognized that there are so many dads at the House who are not able to work and live their lives as normal. "Get a treadmill in there," she said, "We need a place for dads to work out and get it all out." As the program has grown, dads now account for around half of all visitors.

The Blavatnik Family Foundation Wellness Center opened in 2015 as a space where caregivers could take part in activities and wellness treatments to lessen their stress and forget about illness. Each Thursday afternoon, Mrs. Blavatnik's friend Michele, a personal trainer, would arrive to provide neck and back massages. She was among the first practitioners to get involved with the center. "She was a game changer," Mrs. Blavatnik says. And it's true; Michele's list filled up quickly every week. She began to bring an additional practitioner to meet demand. Following the success of Neck & Back Massage with Michele, parents began to pop in regularly to see what was going on. New programs were introduced; in 2018, there are daily, weekly, and

**Donor  
Spotlight**

even quarterly programs. Over time, the Blavatnik Family Foundation Wellness Center grew far beyond a physical space. It is now at the very heart of the House community.

"There is something about that space that brings people together," says Mrs. Blavatnik, "There's something about that room that screams, 'Come in here, be healthier, be happier.' I hope that when parents come in there, they can feel hopeful."

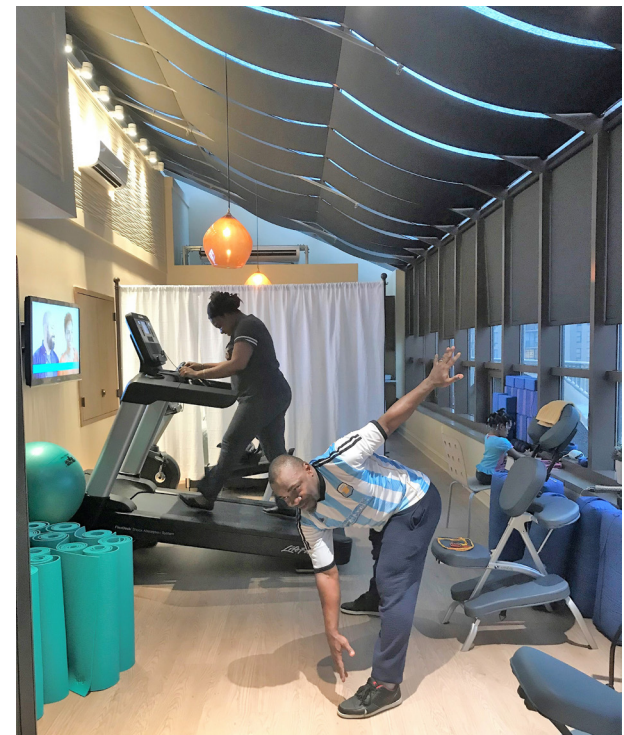
Every day, countless moms and dads visit the 11th floor to use the treadmill, yoga mats, and exercise equipment. They come to sign up for treatments like Reiki and massage. As the popularity of certain programs grew, particularly Neck & Back Massage with Michele, parents would show up well before their scheduled appointments. While waiting, they would enjoy a cup of tea and talk about their ups and downs together. This informal support group became a weekly program, Tea & Talk, which now meets every Thursday. Today, parents come to the Wellness Center not just for its services, but also for each other. This is where they choose to come together. The children have their Playroom. Parents have the Penthouse floor.

Mrs. Blavatnik has visited her eponymous center regularly and met a number of families. She admits that it can be hard to hear sad stories from the moms and dads she meets, but she recognizes how important they are. "Talking and sharing your story is so therapeutic," she says, and she is proud to have created a space where these conversations can happen.

During one of her recent visits, she spoke with a couple whose son had undergone a bone marrow transplant. The family was staying in one of the new post-transplant suites. Both parents were wearing masks. "This mom told me that she has so much support in the House, and camaraderie, and other parents going through the same thing," she recalls, "and moving back home to an isolated area, she didn't know what her next few months would look like. She said how much the House did for her." For Mrs. Blavatnik, this mother represented so many of the moms that she had first set out to help four years ago.

"They say that when you give, you get back so much more," says Mrs. Blavatnik, "I have gotten back so much more." Each time she comes to the House and talks with the parents, she sees what a difference she has made. Mrs. Blavatnik continues to throw her two cents in and offer suggestions like adding a juice bar, or making smoothies, and incorporating walks outside. The team at the House has been very receptive. For the parents who use it on a daily basis, it is difficult to imagine the House without the Wellness Center. Every day, this is where they gather, where stories are shared and new memories made.

Nearly four years ago, Mrs. Blavatnik had the simple thought, "We need to do something for the moms." That thought has led to the cornerstone of a community. "The impact of my gift keeps on giving," Mrs. Blavatnik says, "I just think the House is an unbelievable place. I feel blessed that I was able to help make it an even better place."



# Ronald McDonald Family Room New York Year In Review

Ronald McDonald House New York unveiled our Family Room at NYC Health + Hospitals / Kings County in January 2017. The Family Room is a space for caregivers in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), and Pediatrics departments to relax, unwind, and refresh before returning to their child's bedside. Our dedicated staff and volunteers keep the atmosphere warm and welcoming. Coffee and tea are brewed fresh throughout the day. Healthy snacks and refreshments are always available. Visitors can lounge by the television while they do their laundry. Every day, the Family Room gives caregivers some time and tools to take care of themselves.

Over the course of its first year, the Family Room served over 1,000 caregivers. We also established several programs. We had a Mother's Day celebration, introduced the Family Room's Summer Reading Program, hosted the Welcome Back to Fall Backpack Giveaway, rolled out the Family Room Breakfast and Lunch To Go Program, and hosted the Family Room Pediatric Luncheon. We also celebrated National Nurses Week. All of these fantastic programs and activities would not be possible without the help and support of the Family Room volunteers and donors.







**Wini Cudjoe**, *Director of Operations*

**Describe your 25-year journey with the House.**

I have held just two roles at the House. I started as the House Evening Manager, then began as Director of Operations in 2005. These experiences have given me the perspective of seeing the House as much more complicated than it appears on its surface. The most important thing I have learned is that it is always about the people, our families. The families need the House, but the House needs the families just as much. They make us who we are. It truly takes a village.

**How have you seen the House evolve over the years?**

Vivian Harris, our founder and first House president, had a unique vision for supporting families with children facing pediatric cancer. Each subsequent president has continued to build our platform, though the root of why we are here remains the same. Our current President & CEO Ruth Browne is an incredible leader and has set the stage for us to continue our legacy.

**What is your favorite room in the House? Why?**

In the past it was room 304; the sunlight in that room was just right – tranquil and peaceful. Today my favorite is room 406; as one of our six new post-transplant suites it reflects new opportunities for the House to uniquely support post-transplant families. But every room signifies something tangible for our families – hope.

**How has the House impacted you?**

I learned my values from my parents and my family life is built around a solid foundation, including my siblings. That support has allowed me to dedicate a lot of time to keep the House to the standard that it deserves. My husband, Herve, and my son, Worthy, are my true pillars. Ultimately, it's not the impact we have on our guests' lives, it's the impact they have on our lives – it is truly one of the greatest rewards of working here.

**What is your favorite memory of working here?**

There are so many, it would be impossible to pick one! In the early days, kids created movie sets and practiced movie productions – that has always stayed with me. We cook Thanksgiving at the House every year, but one year that stands out is when all staff and volunteers dressed up as pilgrims. It was magical. Holiday season at the House is always special for our families across faiths as they are far away from home and separated from loved ones. Everyone wants to make a difference during that time of year. The NYC Police and Fire Departments are special heroes to the House – they work with us all year bringing smiles to the kids' faces, but go far beyond during the holidays. So many policemen and firemen have gone on to become lifelong ambassadors for the House.



# Ronald McDonald House New York served families from **29** countries in 2017



## United States - All 50 States

Puerto Rico  
Virgin Islands  
American Samoa  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Guam  
Marshall Islands  
Northern Mariana Islands  
Palau

Argentina  
Bangladesh  
Brazil  
Canada  
Cayman Islands  
China  
Colombia  
Côte D'Ivoire  
Croatia  
Dominican Republic

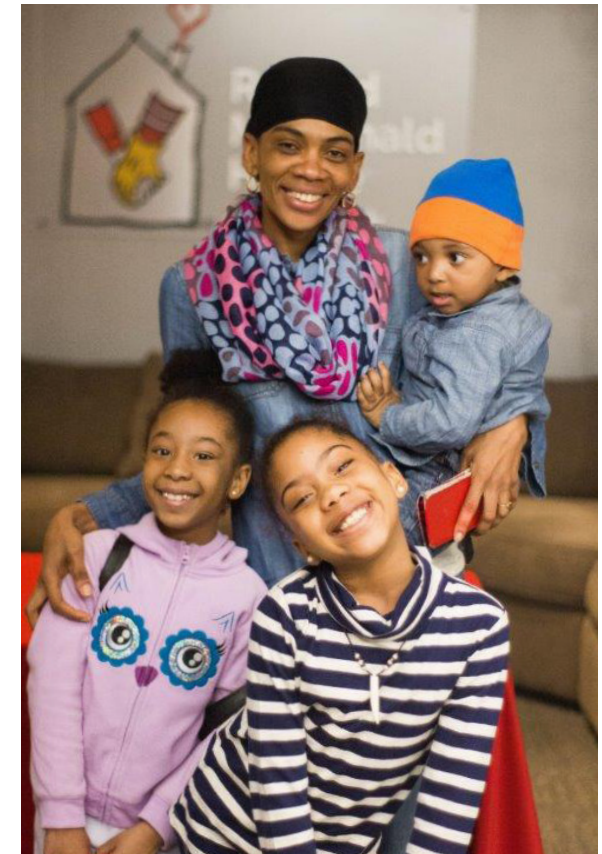
Ecuador  
India  
Iraq  
Ireland  
Italy  
Jamaica  
Mexico  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Poland

Russia  
St. Vincent and  
the Grenadines  
Singapore  
Slovakia  
Spain  
United Arab Emirates  
United Kingdom  
Venezuela

## *Family Support Services* Year In Review

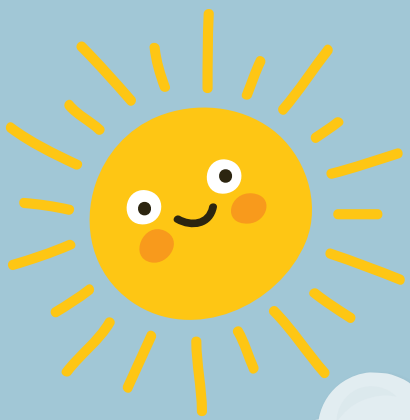
Family Support Services provides resources and support for all families staying at Ronald McDonald House New York. It is our goal to meet every family who walks into our House and help guide them throughout their journey. The Family Support Services Team is dedicated to providing a seamless circle of support for our families through our Bedside, Navigation, and Support programs. Within these programs, we are able to help families acclimate to their new surroundings while advocating and providing emotional support and resources to families within the House and at the hospital. The team provides a diverse calendar of supportive activities including weekly parent, child, and sibling support groups. We have also implemented a workshop and training program for families regarding topics on grief and coping, legal aid, financial counseling, stress management, and much more. Family Support Services not only offers support to individual families, but also plans and manages quarterly Family Resource Nights, Annual Pajama Night, weekly cultural excursions throughout New York City, and other special events.

Another section of Family Support Services is Reservations and Hospital Partnerships. Over the last year the Family Support Services Team has re-engaged with our 8 partnering hospital systems and their medical teams. In our efforts to increase occupancy, our team has worked tirelessly to meet with over 164 Health and Hospital professionals such as social workers, nurses, doctors and other medical staff members. Through our partnership with the Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA), we have developed a strategic plan to increase awareness of the House while learning about hospital trends. When working with partnering hospitals and GNYHA, we have established new relationships with third-party organizations for additional support to our families. Our team has had the opportunity to learn about clinical trials and how that may impact our occupancy. We are particularly excited about our growing relationship with transplant organizations to help our families who are staying in one of our six post transplant suites. The Family Support Services Team is incredibly excited to be a part of the seamless circle of support serving our families and building hospital and community partnerships.



*Photo credit to Ginelle Cabrera*

# Family Support Services



Ronald McDonald House New York

## 2017 House Impact

**1,801** individuals received one-on-one time with the Family Support Services Team

**116** pairs of happy feet in our bilingual playgroup

**50** chefs baked **600** cookies

**984** smiling faces at **29** Great Days

**11,972** Nights

**190** caregivers relaxed with reflexology

**610** hugs shared

**1,615** Families

**11,962** cups of coffee served

**350** mad scientists created over **50 gallons** of slime

## Programs Year In Review

In 2017, we continued to review and refine our multitude of programs with a focus on education and adventure. English as a Second Language instruction helped caregivers from all over the world gain language skills that helped them better communicate with their child's medical team and each other. Happy Feet, our bilingual educational playgroup, connected with toddlers in English and Mandarin. The Weird Science program responded to demand and made slime approximately a million times, and our MICRO Museum taught our scientists all about snails and other slimy creatures that live among us.

We were especially proud to partner with the New York Public Library (NYPL) to bring a rotating, curated library to the House, right here in our Playroom. This capsule collection is primarily for caregivers, but we work closely with the NYPL to edit selections for our resident population on a monthly basis. This month, in response to population trends, we have a variety of children's books in Mandarin and young adult fiction in Spanish.

When we talk about adventure, we have to talk about Great Days. Last year, we introduced a series of Great Days trips designed for whole families to experience together. Great Days proved immensely popular and we were glad to extend the program year-round, beyond our traditional six-week summer window. In 2017, Great Days welcomed 980 family members from the House and Hospital Outreach program to spend days in the sun at country clubs and beach clubs, take in private screenings of movies (before they hit theaters!) and meet the stars, craft away at Craft Studio, and also make, bake and decorate cookie dough at DŌ, Cookie Dough Confections, among other amazing trips. Families from the House and Hospital Outreach program also joined together for our incredible quarterly events like Wizard of Oz! 2017 was a wonderful year for Programs and we look forward to bringing fun to even more families this year.



Programs



## *The Ramsay Family Story*

Music brought the Ramsay family together. On a typical Sunday morning in Whitfield Town, Jamaica, Kenroy sat in church as he did every week. On this day, when the choir sang, he heard one voice through all the others. This is how he first met Melissa. "Her voice is one in a million," Kenroy smiles. He fell in love with her voice long before they had even spoken to one another.

In 2004, Kenroy and Melissa were planning a going away party for Melissa's good friend who was travelling back to England. "What Mel didn't realize," Kenroy says, "is that it was really going to be an engagement party." A cake unexpectedly arrived. As Melissa lifted the lid, she was shocked to see a cake with an engagement ring in the center and delicately frosted words "Will You Marry Me?" She said yes. Nine months later, Melissa and Kenroy married.

On May 17, 2010, Joshua was born. He arrived two weeks ahead of schedule, after doctors failed to find a heartbeat and Melissa underwent emergency surgery. Kenroy smiles but shakes his head, "Even before he was born, the challenges were there." He remembers looking at his wife on the hospital bed and worrying they would lose their child.

Joshua entered the world with his hands gently tucked beside his head as though he was sleeping. He was breathing. Kenroy and Melissa's fear gave way to joy; their son was healthy. Kenroy looks back on Joshua's early years fondly. "It was just fun," he says, "As you see him now, he was always on the go. That has always been him."

In March of 2014, Joshua suddenly slowed down. Kenroy recalls his son appearing sickly. He developed flu-like symptoms and got an x-ray the next month, which suggested he had pneumonia. Joshua was given antibiotics and his parents dutifully filled his prescriptions. Yet, he did not get better and in late June, he developed lumps on his arms and legs. On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Melissa and Kenroy took him to the hospital and a blood test was administered. Joshua was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. Kenroy and Melissa were devastated. "Our feeling at first was that we were going to lose our child," Kenroy says, "Growing up where we live, cancer is always related to death soon after."

After five rounds of chemotherapy and treatment, Joshua achieved remission in February of 2015. At the time, Kenroy says, "We thought, 'that's it. The cancer is gone. He is healed.'" Joshua attended his follow-up appointments every three months and was progressing well enough that they were then extended to every six months. Well again, he was back to his old tricks and energetic as ever. Kenroy and Melissa welcomed a second son, Joshawn, the next year. Joshua immediately took to the role of protective big brother. The Ramsays were happy to put illness behind them and focus on building a happy, loving family. But in late December of 2016, Joshua began experiencing flu-like symptoms again. His pediatrician soon recommended another blood test and shortly after called to confirm the bad news that Joshua had relapsed.

"It was not the answer you want to hear. It wasn't the conversation you want to entertain," Kenroy says, "It was a reality we would have never thought would occur." The cancer had come back even more aggressive. A bone marrow transplant was recommended. "Such procedures are not done back home in Jamaica," Kenroy explains. The Ramsay family would have to seek help outside the country. Their hospital in Jamaica sent an official referral to other hospitals all over the world. Kenroy points out the last line typed on the sheet of hospital letterhead: As you know, he will not survive with the treatment we are able to offer him here.

NYU Langone accepted the referral and the two parents had to decide which one of them would bring Joshua to the United States. Without a family support network, Kenroy knew that for whichever parent decided to go, it would be a 24-hour job. He insisted to his wife, "That parent will be me." Without hesitation, Kenroy sacrificed his job. Father and son landed in New York in late February of last year.

Kenroy admits the situation can be frustrating, "There are days when he starts crying, and I think maybe he is hurt and ask, 'Joshua, what's happening?'" Joshua replies, "I just miss my mommy and my baby brother." It was in June that Kenroy got a call from his wife: his youngest son had just had a seizure. Kenroy recalls his devastation vividly. "I cried bitterly," he says, "I was crying because I felt so helpless. I could not help my child. I was nowhere near. I was miles away." Kenroy never wanted Joshua to worry. He kept his anguish at having two children in the hospital to himself, only feeling relief when his younger son was well again.

He stayed stoically at Joshua's bedside until he was discharged. One month later, they checked into Ronald McDonald House New York. Joshua was then readmitted at NYU for the next five weeks to undergo chemotherapy. When remission was achieved, Joshua transferred to Memorial Sloan Kettering for more intensive chemotherapy ahead of his bone marrow transplant. Kenroy kept his son brave, even as he himself was constantly confronted by the fact that he could lose his son.

Whatever fears Kenroy had, he kept hidden from his son. Joshua would go to bed very late each night. It was only then, when his son was asleep, that Kenroy would allow himself to cry. Joshua's bone marrow transplant was performed on September 1, 2017 and he remained in-patient for two months. Kenroy spent his days running back and forth between House and hospital to make his son a cup of soup, or an egg, whatever else he needed. Joshua returned to the House on Halloween and remained isolated in his room until mid-December when his counts improved. Cautiously, Kenroy could allow his son to go down to the Playroom and see his friends. He could also start getting visitors again, and he wanted one every day.



Just before the holidays, Melissa and Joshawn arrived for a three-week stay. Even though Joshua knew they were coming, when he woke up and saw them in the room, he said, “Mommy? Baby brother?” and promptly pretended to faint. Kenroy admits that Joshua can be dramatic. The visit was bittersweet, with the knowledge that they only had three weeks together. But in that time at the House, the Ramsay family was reunited.

“It is one of those privileges we will always cherish,” Kenroy says, “They came, and we never left. As beautiful as Manhattan is, we stayed at the House. We just wanted that bonding experience together.” The Ramsay family would move from their room to the Playroom, to the Blavatnik Wellness Center and the Dining Room, but not once did they leave the House. They had everything they needed here. Joshua reveled in being big brother to Joshawn. When Joshawn would trip or fall, Joshua would be the first to pick him up again.

The Ramsay family celebrated the holidays together. The boys met Santa on three separate occasions. They had many gifts to unwrap on Christmas morning. And on New Years, Kenroy laughs, “We celebrated New Years with the volunteers about four or five hours before New Years.” Then they stayed up until midnight with other families to watch the ball drop on television. It was a night that speaks volumes about just how special the House can be, and just how much the families take care of one another.

Kenroy cannot overstate the importance of the House during those three weeks when he, his wife, and two sons could come together as a family. Kenroy remembers, “Mel and I, there were moments when we cried together, and we would keep it from Josh. And we had moments where we would come together, and even though Joshua would mumble the words, we would pray together and express our faith together. The House provides that opportunity.” Kenroy only laments that there is not a House in Jamaica. So many parents and caregivers are left without the resources he feels blessed to have been given. Unlike him, they don't have a place to take a shower or get a meal. “They need a Ronald McDonald House,” he says.

Music continues to be a driving force in the Ramsay family. Kenroy wrote a song, “Beautiful,” about his son's medical treatment last fall. He joined a choir of cancer patients and caregivers he met at the hospital. And, most recently, he wrote a new song specifically for Ronald McDonald House New York. “I feel so much a part of this organization,” he says. He will record the song in a professional recording studio next month. Joshua and other children will sing the chorus.

Kenroy recalls a day his family spent together this winter, before his wife and youngest son left. Melissa was thrilled to come down to the music room and hear the Ronald McDonald House New York song for the first time. Joshawn and Joshua played the drums. Kenroy and Melissa sang together. “Even though this situation may be frustrating, and disheartening,” Kenroy says, “This place provides a space to let it all out, refresh a little, and think less of the problem.” As the Ramsay family brought Kenroy's song to life that day, it was nothing short of beautiful.





# Programs Spotlight MICRO Museum

## What is a MICRO Museum?

MICRO museums take everything that is great about big, traditional museums, and shrink it down into these beautifully designed, carefully curated six-foot-tall boxes. Because they're small but mighty, MICRO museums can reach people who might not be able to visit a big museum, and become a real part of the community.

The first museums in MICRO's fleet are science museums. But they're not your normal science museums! At MICRO our team of designers, engineers, storytellers and scientists see science as this lens that lets you understand the world around you in a unique new way.

## How many MICRO Museums exist?

So far there are already two MICRO museum 'series'. In the Smallest Mollusk Museum, our slimy sidekicks, the mollusks, take you on a whirlwind tour of the last 650 million years of life on Earth. And in the Perpetual Motion Museum, you go on an adventure in physics that zooms from the Big Bang all the way to the outer edge of the universe. We've installed MICRO museums all over New York, and we're just about to begin partnering with hospitals too.

## What made you decide to do the Smallest Mollusk as the first MICRO Museum?

Humans think mollusks are weird; their bodies are boneless, they're covered in slime. Horror films are full of mollusk-inspired aliens with tentacles and armored shells. In the Smallest Mollusk Museum we wanted everyone to get to know these aliens better. The more you learn about snails, oysters and clams, the weirder the mollusks get... but everything else begins to feel weird too, including us humans!

Visiting the Smallest Mollusk Museum lets you explore how much we all share - for example, the same gene that determines which way a snail's shell swirls is also involved in which side of your body your heart is on. You can explore the holographic aquarium, see skin camouflage in action, and discover how an octopus's brain is spread out over its head and its eight wiggly arms. Pretty soon, the mollusks become your friends.

## What is the importance of the Smallest Mollusk Museum at RMH-NY?

We founded MICRO to build museums that connect you with the people around you, bring families together, and act as this spark for conversation and play. That's why being at RMH-NY is so special for us. Unwrapping the museum in the lobby the week before the holidays brought everyone together. RMH-NY is a truly important community, from the amazing children and parents to the 800 volunteers and the staff. Being able to see the Smallest Mollusk Museum become a part of everyone's daily lives over the months has been wonderful for us and for Science Sandbox, the initiative of the Simons Foundation who supported the museum at RMH-NY. It's the best home a tiny museum could hope for!





## *Volunteer Spotlight* Andrew Nawn

When Andrew Nawn began volunteering at Ronald McDonald House New York, he had just graduated from college and was living in his sister Priscilla's spare bedroom. He had accompanied Priscilla to a New York Junior League pizza party at RMH-NY, which was located on 86th Street at the time. After spending the night chatting with the families and playing Bingo together, Andrew was hooked.

From there, he became a Weekend Volunteer, and when the House opened up on 73rd Street, he took on the role of Senior Volunteer and helped cultivate one of our first volunteer teams, the Wednesday Night Team. Andrew brought his love for Bingo, specifically for being the Bingo Caller, to the House, which quickly became a family favorite and staple activity. Now, 26 years later, Andrew is still a committed member of the Wednesday Night Team.

Each week, Andrew goes above and beyond his volunteer duties and exudes a selfless attitude that is unparalleled. He has seen the House transform and has dedicated himself fully to prioritizing our families' needs. In October 2017, Andrew was honored for his 25th year of service at RMH-NY's Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner. To pay homage to this milestone and recognize the woman who first introduced him to volunteerism, Andrew dedicated a room at the House to his mother. Andrew's family, friends and fellow volunteers were able to come together to celebrate his very generous support at a room dedication ceremony this past March. The ceremony was filled with joy, loving speeches and—of course—Bingo! We thank Andrew for his years of dedication and ongoing support of Ronald McDonald House New York.

### Vol · un · teer

*The ambassador of Hope*

*The implementer of smiles*

*The architect of laughter*

*The baker of sweetness*

*The creator of fun*

*The giver of hugs*

*One who gives of oneself wholly and  
unconditionally with no expectation of gain*

*The cure*

*The future*

LIFE



## Volunteers Year In Review

Thank you to our many volunteers, corporate groups and community partners for continuously supporting our House and mission. The work that you do every day at the House makes a difference in the lives of our kids, families and caregivers. Each one of you help provide a sanctuary to those who need it most.

Our volunteers are truly heroes of the House.

*A special thank you to our corporate and community partners.*

Aberdeen Asset  
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# Donor Impact

**23** annual development events in **2017** with over  
**8,200** event guests raising over **\$14 million**

## Kids Fun Run

**1,066**  
runners



**1,200**  
snack wraps

**25**  
firemen



**\$254k**  
raised

## Endurance Events

**4**  
events



**155**  
athletes

**4,471**  
miles



**\$307k**  
raised

## Golf Events

**6**  
golf courses



**696**  
golfers

**13,244**  
holes



**\$1,525,588**  
raised

## Year In Review

**1<sup>st</sup>**

Former Mayor,  
Michael Bloomberg  
honored at our Gala

**6<sup>th</sup>**

Annual  
Masquerade

**9<sup>th</sup>**

Annual Hogs  
For Hope Event

**11<sup>th</sup>**

Annual Happy  
Faces Golf  
Tournament

**19<sup>th</sup>**

Annual Kids  
Fun Run

**22<sup>nd</sup>**

Annual Greek  
Walk - A - Thon

**\$4.88m**  
raised at the  
**25<sup>th</sup>** Annual Gala

**Playroom**, In honor of Preston R. Tisch and Wellington T. Mara

**Arts & Crafts Area**, In honor of David James Murphy

**Video Game Room**, Donated by New York Rangers & Garden of Dreams

**Media Lounge**, Donated by AOL

**Lobby**, Donated by Sol and Margaret Berger Foundation

**Living Room**, Donated by Macy's

**Aquarium**, Donated by Chris Calby Darien YMCA, Piranha Swim Team

**Reception Center**, In honor of Jon L. Shevell

**President's Office**, Donated by Steven J. Bensinger

**Family Support Services**, Donated by Sheila and Joel Newman and In Recognition of John Floegel's Tireless Support of Children. Friend, Mentor, Husband, Father and Grandfather

**Admin Office**, In honor of Niki and Dr. Michael Sideris, Donated by May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation

**East & West Libraries**, Donated by The Guy M. Stewart Cancer Fund, Inc.

**Volunteer Locker Room**, Donated by PVH Cares

**Room 126**, Donated by The Reeves Foundation

**Kitchen 1**, Donated by Annaly Capital Management Family In honor of Michael A. Farrell

**Kitchen 2**, Donated by Children's Happy Faces Foundation

**Kitchen 3**, Donated by Charitable Lead Annuity Trust Under the Will of Louis Feil

**Kitchen 4**, Donated by George and Artemis Toskos

**Refreshment Station**, Donated by Edward & Louise Tashjian Fund

**Parent's Pantry**, Created by and Dedicated to Terry Bovin

**Director of Development Office**, Donated by Deloitte

**3rd Floor Terrace**, In honor of Jon L. Shevell

**Room 301**, In honor of Patrick Dunne

**Room 302**, *The Love Hope Room*, In honor of Jef Campion

**Room 303**, Donated by The Katz Family

**Room 304**, Donated on behalf of MasterCard Employees

**Room 305**, In honor of Lia Vladmirova

**Room 306**, Donated by Barbara Bradley Baekgaard Family Foundation, In honor of Claire Moody

**Room 307**, Donated by Marsh Golf Tournament, Insurance Industry & Friends, In Honor of Tim Bunt, Chief Risk Officer CBRE

**Room 308**, In honor of Marilyn and Stanley Barry

**Room 309 - The Volunteer Room**, In honor of Joanne Young Nawn

**Room 310**, Donated by the Dimitrief Family

**Room 311**, The Donny Fermaglich Family Room

**Room 312**, Donated by Keith and Peggy Anderson Family Foundation

**Room 313**, In honor of Christine Taylor

**Human Resources Office**, In honor of Kevin Conroy, Univision Communications Inc. and Roberto Llamas, Univision Communications Inc.

**Room 401**, Donated by The Syde Hurdus Charitable Foundation

**Room 402**, Donated by Sol and Margaret Berger Foundation

**Room 403**, The U.S. Option Industry Room, ISE

**Room 404**, In honor of Marianne Pupello donated by Louis Pupello

**Room 405**, Donated by Tina & Terry Lundgren

**Room 406**, Donated by Harris & Amy Diamond

**Room 408**, In Honor of Sadie Gutner

**Room 410**, In honor of Dr. Arthur Goldberg

**The 5th Floor**, Donated by The John Moscahlaidis Foundation

**Room 501**, Donated by Margaret & Robert Fagenson

**Room 504**, In honor of Charles Grant Gordon

**Room 505**, Donated by The Steven Siegel Room Donated by The Siegel Family and Friends

**Room 508**, In honor of Bob Grubert

**Room 602**, On behalf of MasterCard International Inc.

**Room 607**, Donated by RBC Capital Markets

**7th Floor Terrace**, In honor of Jon L. Shevell

**Room 701**, Donated by Peter Georgiopoulos

**Room 702**, In honor of Vivian Harris

**Room 703**, Donated by The Colley Family

**Room 704**, Donated by Beth Ann & Daniel P. McQuade

**Room 705**, Donated by Guy M. Stewart Cancer Fund, Inc.

**Room 706**, Donated by The Scott M. Panzer Foundation

**Room 707**, The Gail Gromek Room

**Room 708**, Donated by Joan Squires & Thomas Moran to the children and their families

**Room 709**, In honor of Victoria Tropper

**Room 710**, Donated by Randy and Susan Falco

**The 8th Floor**, The Lillian Goldman Foundation

**Room 903**, Donated by The Idol Family, Annalia, John, Alexandra, & Christina

**Room 909**, Donated by Warnaco Group, Inc. In honor of Joseph Gromek

**Room 910**, Donated by Warnaco Global Partners

**The 10th Floor**, Donated by The Guy M. Stewart Cancer Fund, Inc.

**Room 1001**, Donated by Janet and Jim MacGilvray

**Room 1002**, Donated by Ellen R. Harris In honor of John S. Stehlin Jr. MD

**Room 1004**, In Honor of Frank Pellegrino, Sr. and His Legendary Rao's Hospitality

**Room 1005**, In Honor of Joel Newman, For His Leadership

**Room 1006**, In Honor of Shelly Friedman, For His Leadership

**Room 1007**, Donated by Kerry & Jim Jacobson

**Room 1009**, In Honor of Richard J. O'Reilly, MD For His Leadership

**Room 1010**, In Honor of Tracy & Stanley Shopkorn

**The 11th Floor Roof**, Donated by Sol and Margaret Berger Foundation

**Wellness Center**, Donated by The Blavatnik Family Foundation

**Room 1101**, In honor of Barbara Walters

**Room 1102**, Visiting Club House, David Wright Foundation, Inc.

**Room 1103**, Donated by Mariano Rivera

**Room 1105**, Donated by New York Athletic Club

**Room 1106**, Donated by Benard L. Maas Foundation

**86** spaces donated by 2017



2017 Highlights





## \$100,000 +

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 Bloomberg Philanthropies  
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 Amy & Harris Diamond Fiona B. and Stanley Druckenmiller  
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 Peerless Clothing International Inc.  
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 Ronald McDonald House

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When you donate to Ronald McDonald House New York, you not only help us provide temporary housing for pediatric cancer patients and their families, but also enable us to keep families close and allow them to heal in the best way they can—together.

No family is prepared to hear the words "Your child has cancer," or ready to endure the stress of having to battle such a disease. But with your support, families are welcomed with love and comfort into an environment where kids can be kids first and cancer patients second. Parents can be within reach during rigorous treatments, while also building bonds with families going through similar experiences.

When you donate to Ronald McDonald House New York, you allow us to create a space where families fighting cancer can find the hope and support that they need. For that, we cannot thank you enough!



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Hatzel & Buehler Inc.  
Herman Kay Company  
Howell Shuster & Goldberg LLP  
Hung Ling Company Limited  
Icon Interiors, Inc.  
Investors Bank  
Iron Workers Local #46 - Metallic

Lathers & Reinforcers  
 Mr. William J. Janetschek, Jr.  
 Jeetendra Ashok Kumar  
 Jonathan Louis Int'l  
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas M. Joyce  
 Mr. & Mrs. Harris and Sandi Kalish  
 Ms. Elizabeth Karamitsos  
 Mr. Bruce Karpati and Dr. Allison Gault  
 Keller O'Reilly & Watson  
 Kroll Bond Rating Agency  
 KT GROUP INC  
 LAI CHI KIOK  
 Lizzie and Jonathan Tisch Family  
 Foundation  
 Mr. & Mrs. Daniel and Hillary Leibowitz  
 Mr. Lawrence Levy  
 Loeb & Loeb LLP  
 Ms. Janet Lonney  
 LOYAL APPAREL  
 LOYAL TEX  
 Marilyn & James Simon Charitable  
 Fund  
 Marvin Azrak & Sons Foundation  
 The David & Sondra Mack Foundation  
 Mr. Michael Madden  
 The Maeve Foundation Inc.  
 Mr. Richard H. Martin  
 Mr. Steven Merson  
 Mrs. Esther Merten  
 MetLife  
 Pamela J. Michaelcheck  
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Miebach  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen & Eve Milstein  
 Mr. David Nectow  
 Mrs. William Oppenheim  
 Mr. Michael Pickett  
 Mr. Aislinn Prickett  
 NBA / WNBA  
 NBC Universal  
 New York Plumbing & Heating Corp.  
 O'Connor Associates, LP  
 Offit Capital Advisors LLC  
 The Oved Group  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ira and Carole Pittelman  
 Porta Asiatica Enterprises

Property Resources Corporation  
 Red Crane Foundation  
 Rider Enterprise Co., Ltd.  
 Ritzy Apparels  
 Roberts & Roberts Esquire  
 Mr. Julian Romano  
 Mr. Robert S. Roth  
 Roxann Management - Talon Air Jets  
 Andrea & Lester Samuels  
 Kiril Savino  
 Mr. Juan A. Sabater  
 SBFI-North America  
 Mrs. Harriet Schlossberg  
 Sidney Kohl Foundation, Inc.  
 The Securecom Group  
 Mr. & Mrs. William & Barbara Serpe  
 Mr. Steve Shiffman  
 Mr. Keith S. Sherin  
 The Shubert Organization, Inc.  
 Mr. George Smith  
 Sparks  
 Mr. Robert E. Spatt  
 Cliff Sterling  
 Strategic Content Imaging  
 Structure Tone LLC  
 Joan M. Squires & Thomas Moran  
 SUZHOU MEGATEX IMP  
 The William and Kathryn Sweeney  
 Family  
 TAK KAM ENTERPRISES  
 Mr. & Mrs. Mark and Nancy Taylor  
 Threadstone Advisors  
 Turner Construction Company  
 Uneeda Enterprises  
 Unimac Graphics  
 United States Information Systems,  
 Inc.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey and Diane Urban  
 Vasiliki Papanastasopoulos Cancer  
 Dani and Ted Virtue  
 Ms. Amy and Jeff Verschleiser  
 VF Sportswear, Inc.  
 Well Creative International Limited  
 Mr. Peter Wunsch  
 Yonkers PBA

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## Gifts-In-Kind

Thank you to our many partners who generously give products or services that help the House to better serve the needs of our guests. Of particular note are the following:

**Cloth Connection**

**McCann World Group**

**Weber Shandwick Worldwide**

# Statements of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2017 and 2016

	<b>Audited <u>2017</u></b>	<b>Audited <u>2016</u></b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$9,207,306	\$4,381,309
Investments	82,126,527	78,534,403
Other Current Assets	563,799	796,115
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b><u>91,897,632</u></b>	<b><u>83,711,827</u></b>
Contributions and Pledges Receivable	2,958,321	3,991,806
Property Plant & Equipment - Net	40,858,100	25,854,553
Other Assets	533,053	461,748
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 136,247,106</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 114,019,934</u></b>
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$3,952,919	\$6,249,255
Bonds Payable	14,691,811	-
Net Assets	117,602,376	107,770,679
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 136,247,106</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 114,019,934</u></b>

# Statements of Activity

As of December 31, 2017 and 2016

	Audited 2017	Audited 2016
<b>Public Support &amp; Revenue</b>		
Public Support	\$ 15,200,477	\$ 13,631,771
Investment Income/(Loss)	10,341,610	3,684,378
Other Revenue	402,801	507,785
Total Other Revenue	10,744,411	4,192,163
<b>Total Public Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>25,944,888</b>	<b>17,823,934</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program Services	10,068,848	9,739,522
Supporting Services:		
Management and general	1,532,968	1,262,883
Fundraising	4,251,861	3,732,242
Total supporting services	5,784,829	4,995,125
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>15,853,677</b>	<b>14,734,647</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets Before Write-off Of Assets</b>	10,091,211	3,089,287
Loss on disposition of property and equipment	(259,514)	-
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	9,831,697	3,089,287
<b>Net Assets - Beginning Of The Year</b>	107,770,679	104,681,392
<b>Net Assets - End Of The Year</b>	<b>\$ 117,602,376</b>	<b>\$ 107,770,679</b>

# Celebrity Corner

In 2017, Ronald McDonald House New York was able to open our doors to a number of celebrities. These visits have brought a sense of joy and happiness to our families while creating unforgettable experiences. We would like to thank Meagan Celeste and MDC Productions for providing ongoing support of the House and creating wonderful experiences for those who need it most.



**Tom Holland** visited the House following a private advance screening of the new movie *Spider-Man: Homecoming*.



**Chris Hemsworth** came to the House to visit with the families, hand out toys, and spread some cheer last year.



**Eli Manning** brought a special experience to one of our families staying at Ronald McDonald House New York. Manning spent one-on-one time with the family and took pictures.



**Stevie Van Zandt** joined as an official friend and ambassador of the House in 2017. Stevie not only visited the House and attended our Heroes Volunteer Event, but also donated 95 guitars to our families.



**Steve Carell** joined our families at the The Bryant Park Hotel for a special viewing of *Despicable Me 3*. Carell introduced the film to our families then took photos during the day.



**Liam Neeson** paid a visit to Ronald McDonald House New York to spread some cheer for the holidays. Neeson posed for photos with kids and then took the time to hand out holiday presents.



**John Cena** made a guest appearance at The Bryant Park Hotel, where our families got an exclusive private (and pre-release) screening of *Ferdinand*.



**Emily Blunt** brought a wonderful experience to our families by joining us at The Bryant Park Hotel for a private screening of *My Little Pony*.



**Chris Pratt** stopped by the House again to share lots of laughs and memories with our families. Pratt brought toys to hand out to the kids and later took pictures with each of them.



**New York Rangers** including Mark Messier, Brian Leetch, Mike Richter, Colton Orr, Stéphane Matteau, Ed Hospidar and Rod Gilbert joined RMH-NY at the Annual Skate With The Greats.



405 East 73<sup>rd</sup> Street, New York, NY 10021



[www.rmh-newyork.org](http://www.rmh-newyork.org)



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