

# Around the House

The Magazine for Ronald McDonald House New York. Volume 10, Issue 2



RONALD MCDONALD  
HOUSE® NEW YORK



**A Decade  
Of Growth:  
The First**

**10**

**Years of  
Bill Sullivan's  
Presidency**

Spring 2015

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On the cover: President & CEO reflects on the organization's growth in the last 10 years and discusses the future. Photo by Charles Manley.



Ronald McDonald House New York provides a temporary "home-away-from-home" for pediatric cancer patients and their families. The House is a supportive and caring environment which encourages and nurtures the development of child-to-child and parent-to-parent support systems. Ronald McDonald House New York is the largest facility of its type in the world.

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# Chairman's Letter

## Dear Friends,

This spring at the Ronald McDonald House New York we are celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the leadership of William T. Sullivan, our president and chief executive officer. Bill came to our charity in 2005 after an exciting and successful 20-year career with the Boy Scouts of America. His tenure here has been marked by tremendous growth in program outreach to pediatric cancer patients and their families, overall financial strength and the stature of the brand in the New York City community. The board and staff wish to congratulate Bill on his long record of accomplishment and in turn, Bill and I also want to thank our exceptionally dedicated board, staff and volunteers for their long term and highly productive work. We all labor together, like a well-rehearsed orchestra and, as serious and intense as we often are, we are also usually having fun.

As more New Yorkers continue to rally behind our mission and help us to grow and thrive, we hope that you will join us as we expand and grow throughout the community to provide, contribute, and administer that special brand of hospitality that only Ronald McDonald House New York can produce and furnish.

My profound thanks to Bill Sullivan for his 10 years of brilliant leadership and to our entire orchestra of board members, volunteers, donors and staff.

Onward and upward!

Tina Lundgren  
Chairman of the Board  
Ronald McDonald House New York



## Ronald McDonald House New York

### Officers

Tina Lundgren  
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Graham Uffelman  
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\*In Memoriam



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1. The Children's Hospital at Montefiore
2. Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York-Presbyterian
3. Mount Sinai St. Luke's
4. Kravis Children's Hospital at Mount Sinai
5. The Mount Sinai Hospital
6. Lenox Hill Hospital
7. Hospital for Special Surgery
8. Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
9. New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center
10. Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital
11. Mount Sinai Roosevelt
12. Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone
13. Bellevue Hospital Center
14. Mount Sinai Beth Israel
15. New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai
16. Kings County Hospital Center

# Wish List

Thank you for your thoughtful donation of items that help make the transition a little easier for families staying at Ronald McDonald House New York. Following is a list of items that are urgently needed. We've expanded our list to include special items needed to help support our new hospital expansion program. We are always grateful for your generosity in helping us to better accommodate our families during their stay.

For further information regarding House donations, please contact Wini Cudjoe, Director of Operations, at 212.639-0400 or [wucudjoe@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:wucudjoe@rmh-newyork.org).

### For the Children

- Diapers
- Baby wipes
- Strollers
- Plastic Stroller Covers

### For the Teens

- Gift cards: Visa, MasterCard, American Express
- Movie passes

### For the Moms and Dads

- Gift cards: Visa, MasterCard, American Express
- Metro Cards (\$10 increments)

### For the House

- 50 Hair dryers

### For the House-Ongoing

- Clorox or Lysol wipes
- Oven mitts and pot holders
- Batteries (AAA, AA, C, D)
- Cutlery

### Help a Family Today with a Special Gift!

- Sponsor a room night payment (\$35/night)
- Sponsor a birthday party or special program party

### Bulk Donations:

If you, your community group or company would like to share donations of new goods, seasonal surplus merchandise or other large-scale contributions, please contact Wini Cudjoe, Director of House Operations, at 212.639-0400 or [wucudjoe@rmhnewyork.org](mailto:wucudjoe@rmhnewyork.org).

### For the Playroom

For further information regarding Playroom donations, please contact Nelida Barreto, Director of Programs, at 212.639.0800 or [nbarreto@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:nbarreto@rmh-newyork.org).

### For Beach and Pool

- Sunblock
- Large cooler for trips
- First Aid Kits for trips
- Hand sanitizers

### Nap Time

- Soft fleece blankets

### Arts & Crafts

- Glow in the dark lanyards
- Glitter glue sticks
- White oak tag
- Color oak tag
- Scrapbook add-on decorations
- Crayola Color Wonder paper and markers
- Drop cloths for tables
- Feathers
- Washable Glitter glue
- Glue guns and glue sticks
- Glue dots
- Googly Eyes
- Pipe cleaners — assorted colors
- Play-Doh
- Pom poms
- Small Washable Elmer's Glue
- White drawing paper

### For the Game Room

- Twister
- Card games
- Battleship
- Ping-pong balls and Paddles
- New Wii U Games
- New Xbox 360 Games
- New Playstation 3 Games
- iTunes Gift Cards (for our new iPad Programs)

### For the Tot Section

- Baby dolls
- Baby doll clothing and accessories
- Soft foam building blocks in assorted colors, shapes and sizes

### For the Teens

- MTA Metro Cards (for school transportation)

### For Happy Wheels Coffee Cart Hospital Outreach

- Healthy Snacks / Individual Packets:
- Granola Bars
- Kashi Bars
- Kashi Snacks
- Pretzels
- Cashews
- Almonds
- KIND Bars
- Pirates Booty Popcorn
- Wheat Thins – Toasted Chips
- Eatsmart – Garden Veggies
- Snackwells
- Individual small juices:
- Unsweetened Apple Juice
- Coffee Mate – nonrefrigerated (plain and flavored)

# Spotlight on Your Board

It is our pleasure to welcome the following individuals to the board:



**Gregory J. Fleming**

Gregory J. Fleming is the President of Morgan Stanley Wealth Management and President of Morgan Stanley Investment Management. He also serves as a member of the Morgan Stanley Operating Committee. Mr. Fleming was the financial industry honoree at our 2012 annual gala, which raised nearly \$3.5 million.

Mr. Fleming joined Morgan Stanley in February 2010 as president of Morgan Stanley Investment Management and assumed the additional role leading Wealth Management in January 2011. Prior to joining Morgan Stanley, Mr. Fleming served as President and Chief Operating Officer of Merrill Lynch. Previously, Mr. Fleming ran Merrill Lynch's Global Investment Banking business and joined Merrill Lynch as an investment banker in 1992.

Mr. Fleming is a governor of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), a director of Colgate University, a member of the Board of Advisors for the Yale Law School, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Economic Club of New York, a Director on Turn 2 Foundation Board, a trustee for the Rippowam-Cisqua School in Bedford, N.Y., and a Trustee at Deerfield Academy. He is a Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude graduate in economics from Colgate University and received his J.D. from Yale Law School.



**Beth Ann McQuade**

Beth Ann McQuade is a former healthcare Public Relations Executive who has actively supported a number of nonprofit organizations throughout the Northeast. She is married to Dan McQuade, president of AECOM Construction Services, and mother to four daughters: Margaret, Patricia, Grace, and Virginia.

Prior to taking the time to raise her four daughters, Mrs. McQuade served as PR Director for a 500-bed hospital. She oversaw all internal and external publications, served as spokesperson, and provided support for the hospital development office for fundraising events. In recent years, Mrs. McQuade and her husband have supported organizations dedicated to helping children, women and the elderly with poverty or health issues. She currently volunteers on behalf of Therapy Dog International (TDI), visiting local nursing home with her dog Wally.

Mrs. McQuade graduated from Providence College with her Bachelors of Arts degree, and then later acquired her Masters of Science from Rhode Island College. ■

# Celebrating 10 Years with William T. Sullivan

Please join us in celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> year of service of our President and CEO, William T. Sullivan. Under his leadership, the organization has made great strides. Through his staff giving program, Mr. Sullivan's staff contributes more than \$56,000 per year with 100 percent participation. Numerous new programs have been introduced and expanded including Camp Ronald summer program for patients and siblings; Hospital Outreach programs at partner hospitals for families that are seeking treatment, yet are ineligible to stay overnight at the House; navigation assistance for first-time residents; coffee carts within partner hospitals; Winter Camp for patients and siblings; and a music program.

Finally, our budget has increased from \$12 million to \$16 million, allowing us to provide that much more for our families. We are grateful for his transformational leadership, and look forward to many more years of his thoughtful service.



Top row, left and center: Third and Seventh Floor Terraces. Top row, right: CHP Plant Under Construction. Bottom row: The Macy's Living Room is Introduced in 2011.





April 6, 2015

**Dear Friends,**

When I think back on the past 10 years, collaboration and gratitude come to mind. Being President of Ronald McDonald House New York has been a labor of love. I will always be grateful to Mike Hegarty, former Chairman of the Board, and the selection committee that chose me to serve. And boatloads of praise go to our Founder and President Emerita Vivian Harris whose boundless energy and determination built this house from a thought a vision to the largest facility of its type in the world.

The most exciting thing about working at Ronald McDonald House New York is working with the most incredibly talented Board of Directors, the overly committed group of volunteers, and a staff with an exemplary work ethic. The eight years of working with Stanley Shopkorn as chairman of the Board has been a unique learning experience and lots of fun. The talents of the entire board, but especially Ken Langone, Harris Diamond, and Shelly Friedman, have all been exhilarating to work with.

The long term commitments of McDonald's Corporation, RMHC Global, and especially the Owner Operators of Ronald McDonald House Tri-State Area — who provided the capital seed money to build the House via a "French fry tax" — will always be lauded for their generosity and commitment to our charity.

I believe the future growth of this organization will come from our volunteers and our incredible, generous



donors. It is the responsibility of our staff to recruit, train, and inspire volunteers. As we expand the footprint of the organization with family rooms, the coffee cart program, and potential satellite facilities, we will need more dedicated volunteers to join our ranks to serve our kids.

The new leadership of our board with Chairman Tina Lundgren will be a breath of fresh air as we expand and continue to provide quality programs for our special kids and families who are battling cancer.

I am immensely grateful for everyone's support and generosity. I am so proud to serve alongside each and everyone associated with our special charity. Many thanks and God Bless you all!

Sincerely,

William T. Sullivan  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Ronald McDonald House New York



**Clockwise from top left: Hospital Outreach program provides access to services for children ineligible to stay overnight. Niki Sideris' legacy continues to live on through the work of the Greek Division. Room renovations were a major undertaking in 2011 and 2012. Senior staff members (l to r - Richard Martin, Nelida Barreto, Wini Cudjoe, Patrick Lenz, Terri Eggers, Joseph Guidetti, William T. Sullivan and Susana Houston). 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration with Chairman Peter Corritori**



**Mary Lambert**

Mary Lambert joined the volunteer ranks of Ronald McDonald House New York during its days as fledgling organization that went by the name of The Children's Oncology Society of New York. Within a year, she was elected to the Board of Directors where she served through 1985.

When the organization moved to its current location on East 73<sup>rd</sup> street in 1993, Ms. Lambert took on a new assignment as one of the Coffee and Cookies ladies. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the team greets families with a fresh pot of coffee, a pitcher of lemonade, sweet treats and the latest nail colors for on-the-spot manicures. For caregivers preoccupied with the stress of fighting cancer, their presence offers a warm smile and a moment of comfort.



Photo by Jamie Serkin

Ms. Lambert and her husband, Ambassador Paul Lambert, are the proud parents of three children: Jennifer, Mary, and John and six grandchildren.

**Agatha Louis**

Agatha Louis is a longtime volunteer who joined our Greek Division almost its very beginning. While volunteering at a local hospital, Ms. Louis assisted Greek patients with translation services. It was through this work that she crossed paths with our Greek Division Founder Niki Sideris, who was also working hard on behalf of patients seeking treatment. When Ms. Sideris sought a doctor to care for a Greek child battling cancer, the path led to Ms. Louis.



Photo by Joe Martinez Photography

It wasn't long before Mrs. Sideris recruited Ms. Louis to join her in this important work. Since joining the organization 35 years ago, Mrs. Louis has been a tireless supporter of Ronald McDonald New York's Greek Division and for her work, we are grateful.

**Vincent Migliore**

Detective Vincent Migliore began volunteering for Ronald McDonald House New York more than 10 years ago. He was introduced to the House and its mission while serving as a part of the NYPD's 20<sup>th</sup> Precinct. A founder of the precinct's annual tour and BBQ, Mr. Migliore provides valuable assistance with the families' transportation needs — securing authorization for fellow officers to



Photo by Joe Martinez Photography

Two of the most memorable trips each year include a private tour with the Harbor Patrol where family members get to witness a flyover by Aviation Patrol; and the annual July 4<sup>th</sup> BBQ and picnic that offers a view of the annual Macy's Fireworks Show. Mr. Migliore never misses an opportunity to help out at other events, and we are ever thankful for his help.

**Barbara Schweitzer**

Barbara Schweitzer is a vice president and founding member of the Guy M. Stewart Cancer Fund, an organization dedicated to assisting families battling cancer. In addition to the Ronald McDonald House, Memorial Sloan Kettering is also a major recipient of the organization's support. A vital part of our volunteer corps for more than 30 years, Ms. Schweitzer and the Guy M. Stewart ladies have been coordinated numerous



Photo by Joe Martinez Photography

fundraisers and toy giveaways year after year that bring special smiles to children staying at the House.

In addition to programs held within the House, Ms. Schweitzer and her counterparts at the Guy M. Stewart Cancer Fund have left their imprint throughout the facility. They have sponsored the Macy's Living Room libraries, the 9th floor atrium, a Steinway piano for fundraising entertainment and most recently, the Happy Wheels coffee cart that will be soon be formally introduced as part of our new initiatives for in-patient services. We truly couldn't do the important work that we do without the assistance of volunteers like the Guy M. Stewart Cancer Fund.



# The Brewer Family: Fight Cancer and Raising New Awareness About Childhood Cancer



On his most recent visit to RMH-NY, Ben met actor Chris Pratt, star of "Jurassic World."

In 2010, we brought to you the story of Benjamin Brewer, a young man from Aurora, Colorado who has been battling neuroblastoma since the age of 2½. At the time, Ben was celebrating his 10<sup>th</sup> birthday while fighting his illness for the second time.

Now, five years and two additional relapses later, Ben's fight is even more impactful.

On their most recent trip, Ben's father Matt accompanied him to NYC for treatment. A former Web developer, Mr. Brewer turned to his creative roots to raise awareness about childhood cancer's effects. It is his hope that the yet-untitled project will also help families facing a new diagnosis of cancer. With the help of his now-former wife and two kids, the family is seeking to tell the story of cancer's effects from a broader perspective.

"When you see pediatric cancer profiled, it's usually about the kid, which is great. Nobody knows how it truly affects the family unit as a whole," said Matt Brewer, Ben's father. "It often seems to me that the siblings really do get forgotten in a lot of this. I think it's valid to put something together that says it hits the kid hard, but it really hits the entire family."

For this family, telling their story in its most open and transparent form is the most effective method of activism they could contribute to help others understand their struggle. Numerous treatment breakthroughs have emerged for neuroblastoma in recent years. An aggressive cancer that affects the nerve endings, patients like Ben seek an array of therapies including mouse antibodies, human antibodies, and most recently the natural killer t-cell therapy — all of these in addition to the more traditional chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

"He relapsed in 2009, 2013 and 2014. Where is he with treatment? Who knows? All we know is at this point, he's chronic. It's not a question of if, it's a question of when he's going to relapse again," explained Mr. Brewer.

"A diagnosis of childhood cancer means that your life will never be the same. It will be like nothing you've ever experienced before. Even when you are

cleared with no evidence of disease, five or 10 years out, there's always the worry of the parents, or other caregivers wondering "if or when will it come back?" said Chaplain Cheryl Frei, director of Family Support for Ronald McDonald House New York. "Siblings will also have a new paradigm or a new order in the family where the priority is the sick child. It may be hard for children to understand, especially a child in their adolescent or early teenage years. The teens and tweens sometimes feel a little put aside or left behind. That's where we step in and try to offer additional attention and stimulation as we can. That was actually one of the initiatives that our President Bill Sullivan introduced when he arrived 10 years ago. He saw that there was a need for support amongst the siblings and the extended family, and he helped to develop programs and services for them."

For the Brewer family, the fight against cancer continues. As Ben and his younger sister Madeline continue to grow up together, cancer has taken more of a backseat as they figure out their teenage years. While the film project is still in the early stages of production, the Brewers seek to share the stories of families they've known over the years, as well as new connections made while traveling for treatment. So far, the biggest hurdle has been coordinating shooting times around treatment schedules.

"Pediatric cancer doesn't happen in a vacuum. While we've all heard of a friend of a friend who has a kid who has cancer, it's not just that. It does affect the family," said Mr. Brewer. "And it does affect the community — it affects everybody. Whether it's talking about the lost wages, or approaching the government or a friend for help, the ripple effect throughout the community, it's big."

The Ronald McDonald House in New York City is proud to be a part of their story and we plan to help spread awareness. ■

## Flashback to 2010



Fighting cancer since the age of 2½, Benjamin Brewer's ninth birthday meant more than you can imagine. After successfully beating his cancer the first time around, Ben is now undergoing antibody therapy for high-risk neuroblastoma at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. And that's how his relationship began with Ronald McDonald House New York.

Hearing the news that their son had cancer was the furthest thing from Sarah and Ben's father Matt's minds when Ben received his initial diagnosis. It would take a bone marrow transplant, radiation therapy, oral antibody treatments, and intravenous and oral chemotherapy over 15 months, but they would beat it. At 4-years-old, Ben was a cancer survivor. Four years later, the family received another jolt: the oncologist had found something behind his heart and the fight wasn't over.

The staff, volunteers and other families at Ronald McDonald House New York would assist the Brewers as they adapted to life in New York City while seeking treatment at a nearby hospital.

"Now that we've been there a few times, we're getting to know the families who are going through the same thing, and it's nice to be able to say, 'We're just starting this, what can we expect?'" said Sarah.

It had been almost a year since his relapse, and Ben's 10th birthday served as a testament to his bravery, his strength and how his fight inspired others. For the occasion, cards poured in from around the country. A specialty cake brought a visit from Yoshi, a character out of his favorite Super Mario Brothers video game. But the biggest surprise would not be for Ben. When his parents asked him what he wanted for his birthday, they expected him to say he wanted anything-Super Mario Brothers. Instead, he asked for a puppy.

Ben received his clearance shortly after his birthday, and by the week's end the Brewer family had been reunited — plus one new member. "Yoshi," a Shih Tzu and Havanese mix joined Ben and Sarah on their way to the airport where they were greeted by Matt and Madeline back home in Denver. Though his fight with cancer continues, there is no doubt that this little boy is getting his life back.



# Community Snapshots

At the home-away-from-home for families coming from all over the world in their battle against cancer, our “community” is a broad one. Here are a few highlights of some of the people who have recently touched our hearts at Ronald McDonald House New York.

## Miss P

While seeing the sights and capturing hearts all over New York City, Miss P, winner of the 136th Annual Westminster Kennel Club’s Best in Show prize paid a visit to the House. The 4-year-old beagle’s full name is “Ch Tashtins Lookin For Trouble,” but around our families, she found nothing but love.



Photos by Natalie Greaves and Christina Frausini



## Winter Camp Ronald Restaurant

For siblings of children battling cancer, a week off from school might mean a little quality time spent together in New York City. While visiting his mother and sister from Canada, budding chef Anthony Morreale shared a little bit of his culinary talents with other residents, staff and volunteers.



Photo by Natalie Greaves

## Wellness Cooking Class

Chef Lindsey Davis from the Natural Gourmet Institute stopped by to offer a cooking class to our parents. Yummy creamed carrot soup, BBQ roasted chickpeas and white cheddar crackers were a few of the highlights on the menu.



Photos by Natalie Greaves



## KPMG Dinner

We are very grateful for the volunteers who come out and lend a hand during the most difficult times. When the weather was at its worst this winter, the very dedicated team at KPMG showed up and showed love to our families.



Photos by Nikki Margarites



Photo by Natalie Greaves

## John O’Hurley Book Reading

Actor/entertainer John O’Hurley began the year with weekly readings of his new book “The Perfect Dog.” In addition to his former role as J. Peterman on NBC’s Seinfeld and many other captivating roles, Mr. O’Hurley also serves a commentator for Westminster Kennel Club annual dog show along with Angel on a Leash’s David Frei.

## Χρόνια Πολλά, Καλή Χρονιά

Our Greek Division sponsored dinner one night in honor of St. Basil’s Name Day, a traditional Greek new year’s celebration. Dessert for the evening was Vasilopita (St. Basil’s Pie), provided by the famed Artopolis bakery in Astoria, Queens. Very Rev. Vasilios Bassakyros, Presiding Priest at St. John the Baptist, cut the cake and said a blessing over the House and its residents, and one lucky family received the slice that held the coin that is traditionally baked into into the tasty confection.



Photos by Natalie Greaves





## Community Snapshots (continued)



### PVH Visit

As part of the kickoff to gala season, co-honoree Emanuel “Manny” Chirico, chairman of PVH, brought representatives from the company’s different brands to get better acquainted with the House. The company also sponsored that evening’s meal for the families and brought retired NY Giants offensive lineman David Diehl, and retired NY Giants defensive lineman Chris Sneec.



## Carnival Time!

There are few ways to dramatically shake up the monotony of the dreary winter months than bring a carnival into your living room. Our Programs department sought to do just that when it transformed Manhattan’s Ronald McDonald House facility into the site of the greatest show on earth, minus the elephants. One hundred sixty-five family members joined us for the event, which included residents staying at the House, as well as participants in our Hospital Outreach program receiving treatment at Kings County Hospital Center, Hassenfeld Children’s Hospital at NYU, Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital and Hospital for Special Surgery.

Thanks to generous sponsorship provided by event management firm Pure, our lobby was transformed into a big tent, and attendees were greeted in the lobby by stilt walkers, face painters, balloon artists and a cotton candy machine.

Family members were able to capture the memories via photo booths that were set up in the Macy’s Living Room. In addition to photos, the kids played games at the sand table, the ball toss table was set up with stuffed animal prizes, and a “guess how many peanuts” jar was a huge hit. The kids played in a fun house with funny mirrors and a black light that highlighted special paint on the kids’ hands.

Dylan’s Candy Bar brought something to satisfy even the most discriminating sweet tooth, and the New York Athletic Club brought all the goodies including a hot dog cart, corn on the cob, corn dogs, chicken fingers, sliders, Cracker Jacks, popcorn, animal crackers, chips and pretzels.

Balloon Saloon finished off the décor by filling the room with over 700 balloons that families happily took home with them. The event ended with the distribution of goodie bags filled with pinwheels, rubber balls, paddle ball sets, and other goodies that the kids won during the evening. ■





# Giving News

## Guy M. Stewart Cancer Fund, Inc.

The Guy M. Stewart Cancer Fund, Inc. members brought musical stuffed animals donated by Cuddle-Barn. Cuddle-Barn account executive Nichole Montez was present to help members give the stuffed animals out to the children.



Members of the Guy M. Stewart Cancer Fund brought great joy to the families with their annual stuffed animal donation.



Photos by Natalie Greaves



## Workplace Giving

In addition to donating volunteer hours, corporate entities can also give back to our families in workplace giving through payroll deduction. Each dollar raised through payroll deduction helps to keep families together while their seriously ill children receive pediatric cancer treatment. Providing a compassionate home with enriching programs is what Ronald McDonald House New York is all about.

Here are some ways to participate:

### United Way and Combined Charitable Giving

Do you participate in the United Way or Combined Charitable Giving at work? Please consider "donor designating" a gift to Ronald McDonald House New York. This is a great way to make a gift that won't dramatically impact cash flow but would be a generous way to help us continue the work we do.

- United Way of New York: (indicate the organization name) "Ronald McDonald House New York"
- Combined Federal Campaign: #94805
- CUNY Campaign: #0610
- Combined Municipal Campaign: #0610

### Matching Gifts

Matching Gifts a way to increase the impact of your gift. Many companies offer employees the chance to make a greater impact when making donations by matching their gifts.

### Denim Dress Down Day

Much rather wear blue jeans to work? Support families fighting pediatric cancer by hosting a Denim Day!

## JR Regifting

When Dr. Amy Dukoff Toro and son Helmer Toro, Jr. sought ideas for Helmer's bar mitzvah project, they created JR Regifting.org and began collecting items to benefit our families. Using the quarterly Wish List (see page 3), they solicited items from the Anderson School NYC, East Hills School in Great Neck, as well as from friends, and even via collections taken up at nearby office buildings. To learn more about how you can organize an initiative to assist our families, contact Nikki Margarites at 212-639-0207 or via email at nmargarites@rmh-newyork.org.

# Event Highlights



## 21st Annual Skate with the Greats

The NHL's legendary New York Rangers once again took to the ice with fans of all ages in celebration of the 21st annual *Skate with the Greats* charity event to benefit Ronald McDonald House New York (RMH-NY). Skate with the Greats took place on Friday, February 6th at New York City's famed Rink at Rockefeller Center, raising more than \$750,000. The funds raised will help support the facility, which provides a home-away-from home for families staying in New York City while their children undergo active treatment for cancer.

Originally established with the support of alumni greats and longtime volunteers Rod Gilbert and Brian Leetch, Ron Duguay, Nick Fotiu, Rod Gilbert, Ron Greschner, Stéphane Matteau, Brian Mullen, Pete Stenkowski, and Gilles Villemeure also joined the families and supporters of Ronald McDonald House New York for the event. WABC-TV's Senior Meteorologist Bill Evans emceed the event. The Rangers' participation is made possible through a partnership with the Garden of Dreams Foundation, a non-profit charity that works closely with the Rangers and all areas of Madison Square Garden to make dreams come true for kids in crisis.

This year's "Lead the League" sponsor was RBC Capital Markets, with additional sponsorship provided by Bloomberg, Zurich, ITG, Mutual of America and Pricewaterhouse Coopers.



Clockwise from top left: Ken Schulman, Miss New York 2014 and Stephane Matteau; Emcee and WABC Senior Meteorologist Bill Evans; Nick Fotiu with young guests; Rod Gilbert, Brian Leetch and Ronald McDonald with RMH-NY guests Antoinette Fabian and mom Raquel Coleman; Event Chairman Robert "Bobby" Grubert addresses the audience; Everyone had a chance to hit the ice with the Rangers and "Skate with the Greats"



## Event Highlights (continued)

### United Airlines NYC Half Marathon

With 26 participants, this year's Team Ronald participants raised more than \$44,000. We are very grateful to our runners who raised awareness of our mission, and also gave generously of their time and resources to help our families.



We are thankful to the athletes who participated in the annual NYC half marathon.

Photo by Natalie Greaves

### Casino Night at Fino Wall Street with Children's Happy Faces

Guests who attend a Children's Happy Faces Foundation event know that they're in for an experience filled with over-the-top fun for a good cause. This year's fourth annual Casino Night at Fino Wall Street was no exception. The evening included entertainment by The Diva Jazz Orchestra, massages given by Oasis Day Spa, a presentation by Vegas Show Girls who modeled furs by Not Just Mink, and caricatures drawn by Steve Nyman. Cigars were provided by General Cigar Co., and the evening was topped off with a special Goldman Texas Hold 'em Tournament. The live and silent auctions were sponsored by Grand Stand Sports Memorabilia together with major sponsors Century Management, Bargold Storage, Daniels Norelli Scully & Cecere LLC, Hercules Co., Assured Environments, Action Abstract and JAD Corporation. Casino Night raised more than \$50,000 to benefit Ronald McDonald House New York.



Photos by Hassan "Mini" Banks

CHFF group members really brought the luck in large quantities during casino night. Fino Wall Street owner Peter Vuli joined in on the action.

## Calendar of Events

### Save the Date

#### Tri State New York Sprint #2 Spartan Race

Saturday, June 6, 2015  
Tuxedo, NY

#### Marsh-Hudson National Golf Tournament

Tuesday, June 9, 2015  
Registration: 10:30AM  
Shotgun: 12:30PM  
Hudson National Golf Club  
40 Arrowcrest Drive  
Croton-on-Hudson, NY

#### "Builders of Hope" Construction Industry Event

Wednesday, June 17, 2015  
6:00PM to 9:00PM  
Ronald McDonald House New York  
- Macy's Living Room

#### Graphic Arts Industry Event

Tuesday, June 23, 2015  
6:00PM to 8:00PM  
Ronald McDonald House New York  
- Macy's Living Room

#### Team Ronald Annual "Heroes" Event

Wednesday, June 24, 2015  
6:00PM to 10:00PM  
Guastavino's  
409 East 59th Street, NY

#### Macy's 5K Walk Benefitting Ronald McDonald House NY

Saturday, June 27, 2015  
New York City, NY

#### Panasonic NYC Triathlon

Sunday, July 19, 2015  
5:15AM  
New York City, NY

#### Sixth Annual Celebrity Golf Tournament at Baltusrol Golf Club

Monday, July 20, 2015  
Baltusrol Golf Club, Springfield, NJ

### Team Ronald Annual "Heroes" Event

Wednesday, June 24, 2015 • 6:00PM

Ronald McDonald House® New York will host its 19<sup>th</sup> annual Team Ronald Heroes fundraiser to benefit the Families of RMDH-NY on Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> from 6-10 p.m. at Guastavino's, located at 409 East 59<sup>th</sup> Street (directly beneath the 59<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge) in New York.

Food will be provided by Tony's DiNapoli, and music provided by DJ "Mr. Biggs." A silent auction and raffle will complement the fundraising efforts, which will include many high ticket items, including a trip to Tuscany. For tickets and additional information, contact Terri Eggers at [tegggers@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:tegggers@rmh-newyork.org) or (212) 639-0712.

### Panasonic NYC Triathlon

Sunday, July 19, 2015 • 5:15AM.

From the kickoff to event day, we marveled at the grit, determination and extraordinary physical and mental fitness required to complete the 1500 meter swim, 40K bike route, and 10K run that serves as the course for the NYC Triathlon. For its fourth year, the triathlon team will be led by Board Chairman Tina Lundgren. To learn more about how you can be a part of that team, please contact Karen Kirk at 212-639-0130 or [kkirk@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:kkirk@rmh-newyork.org).

### Sixth Annual Celebrity Golf Tournament at Baltusrol Golf Club

Monday, July 20, 2015 • 9:30AM Registration

Join us for our fifth annual apparel industry golf outing at Baltusrol Golf Club. Participating foursomes from the industry will enjoy a day of golf alongside notable sports and entertainment celebrities at the site of seven U.S. Open events and the fifteenth USGA national championship. The event will be led by Chairman Richard Wurtzburger and sponsored by Peerless Clothing, Tharanco Lifestyles, PVH, Golf Digest Magazine, Ross Stores, GIII, Macy's, and Saks Fifth Avenue Off 5th. For more information, please contact Karen Kirk at 212-639-0130 or [kkirk@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:kkirk@rmh-newyork.org).





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RONALD MCDONALD  
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Team Ronald  
**HEROES**  
Volunteer Event

**Wednesday, June 24, 2015**

**Guastavino's**

*For tickets and information, please visit*

*[www.TeamRonald.com](http://www.TeamRonald.com)*

*[www.facebook.com/TeamRonaldHeroes](https://www.facebook.com/TeamRonaldHeroes)*