



Ronald
McDonald
House®
New York

2023 Q3 NEWSLETTER



SUMMER WELL SPENT

As the summer months give way to autumn's embrace and September marks Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, we take a moment to reflect on the incredibly important journey we've embarked upon. Your unwavering support has been the beacon that guides us at Ronald McDonald House New York (RMH-NY) to provide solace and care for families with sick children. We are continually amazed by the strength and resilience of our families, and it is your dedication that empowers us to stand by their side during their toughest battles.

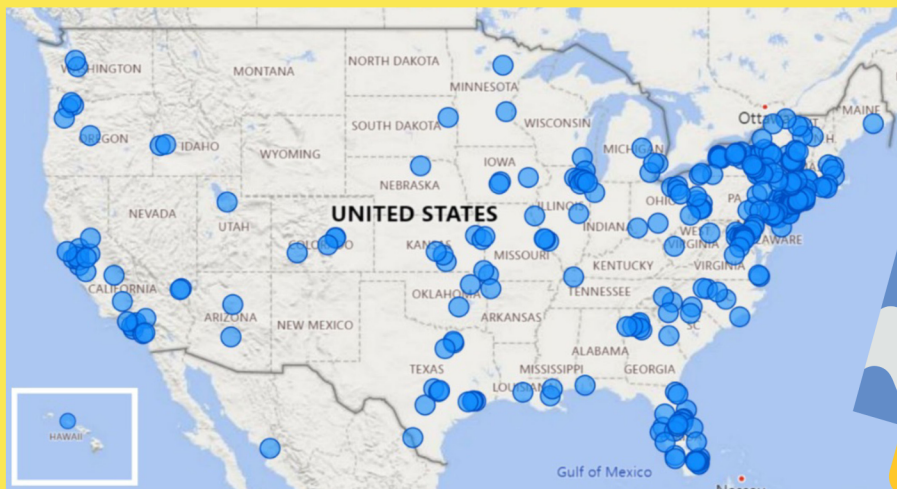
Your generosity has allowed us to expand our services and support network, reaching more families in need than ever before. Thanks to your compassion, RMH-NY has grown to help families not only through our 95-room House in Manhattan, but also through partnerships with 22 hospitals across New York City. By extending our reach, we can now offer crucial support to families who are facing medical challenges close to home, ensuring that no child nor caregiver in New York feels alone in their journey.

With your steadfast support, we've created a nurturing environment that offers a wide range of assistance including our daily meal program, family support staff, engaging activities, wellness initiatives, musical events, transportation to and from hospitals, and holiday parties. Your contributions enable us to provide comprehensive care, foster a sense of belonging for families, and relieve stress in their time of need.

As you read through this newsletter you'll discover the impact of your support, our recent achievements, heartwarming family stories, and some updates regarding the expansion of our services. As we continue to stand strong for families with sick children, we thank you for being an essential part of our journey, as together, we create a haven of hope for those in need.

As autumn leaves begin to fall, we unite as a community bound by love, compassion, and understanding for the challenges our families face. Your commitment enables us to serve as a pillar of strength for thousands of families, and we thank you for your ongoing partnership in this incredible mission.

Journey's of Hope: Families from all across the nation, and world, stay at RMH-NY in order to access treatment in New York City



"Heat Map" showing where in the USA the families we've served in 2023 travelled from

In the first six months of 2023, we helped families from:

41 different states

24 different countries



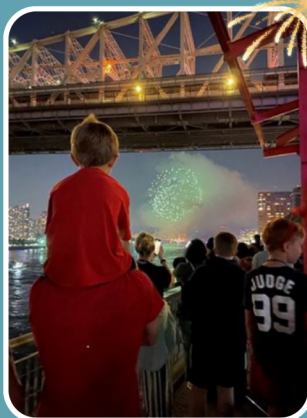
Piper's Family is from Phoenix

After being treated for years in Phoenix with little results, Piper and her family wanted to try the more updated and less intrusive protocols offered at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSK) in New York. Despite Piper's doctors in Phoenix discouraging her parents from spending money traveling to New York City, they packed their bags and went to Manhattan. Within a month, they had blown through most of their savings on NYC hotels and travel. **They did not want to end treatment at MSK prematurely, but they truly did not see how they were going to continue to pay for it all. Then, someone recommended Ronald McDonald House New York.**

Piper and her family first came to the House in August 2022, and **we are happy to share that her cancer is nearly completely eradicated. You helped make this possible.**

SUMMER FUN

This summer, we had the privilege of bringing joy and unforgettable experiences to the children and families staying at our House. In June, we kicked off the season with a summer fest on the terrace where families enjoyed cornhole, chalk drawing, Jenga, and more. One of the highlights for all families was our Fourth of July event, where the NYPD and Yonkers Fire Department joined forces to escort two busloads of our families through the bustling city streets to provide them with an exclusive front-row view of the spectacular Macy's 4th of July Fireworks show. Our Block Party on August 12th was a day filled with laughter, fun, games, activities, and new memories for all to cherish. **Your unwavering support and compassion made these summer moments possible and brought smiles to the faces of courageous children and families. Thank you for your continued generosity.**



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Impact At the House

Because of you, in the first six months of 2023:

1,877

Children and Family Members Served

462

Different Families Stayed at the House

24,377

Meals Provided

8,280

Rides to and from Hospitals Utilized

2,433

Participants of our Wellness Programs

WE ARE EXPANDING!

Through Partnerships with **22** Hospitals throughout New York City, we are expanding beyond the House to help more families than ever before.



Ronald McDonald Family Rooms in hospitals were utilized **1,870** times.



We organized **15** Musical Magic concerts enjoyed by **320** children.



We delivered **10,117** activity and snack packs to families at **11** different Hospitals.



*Each ● represents a hospital in New York City where a Ronald McDonald House New York program is being implemented



Ronald McDonald Family Rooms in hospitals provide quiet and supportive spaces for families battling pediatric illness

A Queens mother with a child in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit that utilizes the Ronald McDonald Family Room in NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst recently said:

“ My baby might get transferred to a hospital in Manhattan and I'm worried there won't be a space like this. I've gotten so comfortable here... This room has helped me so much. I come in here and it helps me not to think so much about what's happening. And I can process. It's so important to have a space to be in. ”

Why Health Equity Matters?

At Ronald McDonald House New York, we're deeply committed to ensuring that every child, no matter their family circumstances, has the chance to receive proper medical care. We've seen the struggles families face when their children battle serious illnesses like cancer, and those challenges are even harder to overcome for families with limited financial resources. It's our duty to make sure that all children and their caregivers have access to the support they need to flourish. By reaching out to and providing services to families being treated at public and safety-net hospitals, we're taking important steps toward creating a world where all kids and their caregivers can get the care and assistance they truly deserve. Thank you for joining us on this journey to work towards a health care system that's caring, inclusive, and full of hope for those who need it most.



Staff Interview: Gabrielle Postiglione, Family Support Team

What inspires you to work at the House?

Am I allowed to say, "everything"? I find my greatest inspiration in the connections that blossom between families and also between families and our dedicated staff. Families forge connections through sharing home-cooked meals in our dining room, assisting one another as they settle into their room after a child's transplant, and opening up during our caregiver support group sessions. A heartwarming memory is witnessing a family's arrival at the House, who had already stayed once before. As they stepped through our doors, they were greeted by multiple staff members who knew them by name. I overheard the 8-year-old daughter exclaim, "Mommy, everyone remembers us!" It's these cherished interactions and meaningful connections that truly define the essence of the House and drive me to go above and beyond for our families.

How have you seen the House support families during these hard times?

What doesn't typically get shared are the moments where our team is with families who are newly bereaved and grieving. Last year, a mother felt safe enough to share with me that she wanted specific clothing for her child to be buried in and allowed me to support her. I ran out that day to get her the items that she needed to feel that her child was ready to be buried with dignity. I am beyond grateful to be part of this intimate experience for a family.

What is your favorite thing to help families with?

One of my favorite things to help families with is getting them approved to stay at the house. I often receive phone calls where a caregiver will say "this might be a crazy question..." or "I am not sure if you'll be able to help but..." and when I am able to point them in the right direction or tell them yes, you can stay at the House, I can hear the small relief in their tone of voice. Then a few weeks later I see the family settling in and it is a full circle moment and a beautiful thing. It is amazing to provide this type of support for families who may be newly navigating their child's diagnosis/treatment plan.

Why is the Family Support team necessary?

The Family Support team is here to ensure every family feels welcomed and supported. We have families from around the world with every family makeup imaginable. No matter the situation, we never want a family to feel alone. The Family Support team encourages the use of support groups and additional resources to families with specific needs. Our team also builds and maintains relationships with our hospital partners, in order to accept reservations for families, and other nonprofits that can offer additional support to families throughout their stay. Whether it is listening to a caregiver vent after a hard day, assisting in a reservation extension, or a bedside visit, the family support team is here to support any part of a long journey for the families we serve.



Gabrielle pictured raising funds for RMH-NY Programs at the 2023 TD Five Boro Bike Tour

Consider the Following Investment Opportunities



Sponsor a Ride

Our transportation program offers a crucial lifeline to families by providing rides to medical appointments, reducing stress and costs for families. This program is selected as the best service by over 40% of the families that stay at the House, and it's easy to see why. At no cost to families, we provided 8,280 rides in the first half of 2023. Your support enables us to continue offering this vital service. Thank you for your generosity.



Sponsor a Stay

We provide a supportive and compassionate environment for families with sick children. Because of you, families receive free housing, meals, transportation, and enrichment programs while in New York for treatment. With the wide array of wraparound and stress-relieving services that we provide, families are enabled to focus on their child's health. Thank you for helping families in crisis by providing a home-away-from-home.



We Want to Hear from You

Please take a moment to respond to the enclosed survey. For more information on the best ways to support our mission, please contact:

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