



Ronald
McDonald
House®
New York

2022 Q3 NEWSLETTER



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New York

Thank you for continuing this journey with Ronald McDonald House New York and supporting the families we serve. As fall approaches, we reflect on a summer well spent at Ronald McDonald House New York. After nearly two and a half years of navigating a pandemic while serving immunocompromised children and their families, we are excited that common spaces may now be used with safe social distancing and many of our family's favorite services and activities are being offered in-person again. Thank you for granting us the resources to make that possible.

Because of you, up to 95 children with medically complex illnesses and their families can stay at the House while receiving treatment at nearby hospitals. Thanks to your contributions, we are able to provide wrap-around services including a home away from home, food, emotional support, transportation, fun activities, referrals to other services and anything else these families need so that they can focus solely on their child's health.

In line with our mission, we are stepping into the fall committed to an ambitious vision to promote health equity in New York City by expanding the impact we have on vulnerable families with medically-complex children receiving treatment at public and safety-net hospitals. **Made possible by generous philanthropists like you**, Ronald McDonald House New York operates Family Rooms at public hospitals in Queens and Brooklyn, and is beginning to establish one at Metropolitan Hospital in Harlem and at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx.

In this newsletter you will meet a family that benefitted from your compassion turned to action, learn more about our programs and have a chance to review our current strategic priorities.

We are grateful for the impact you are making on the families we serve. The wrap-around support we provide to make life easier for families battling pediatric illnesses is only possible **because of our dedicated network of supporters**. Thank you.



2022 IMPACT NUMBERS

2,557

Hospitality to Go Packages Delivered To Parents & Caregivers

11,824

Night Stays Provided to Over 2,500 Children And Family Members Battling Pediatric Illnesses

1,700

Program Packages Delivered To Partnering Hospitals

FAMILY SPOTLIGHT



The Philipp Family Spotlight

“When our son was first admitted to the NICU, all we wanted was to be close enough in the vicinity to visit him daily. We looked into hotels near the area, but they were beyond what we could afford. All we really wanted was a bed to sleep on in Manhattan so we could visit our newborn. Ronald McDonald was so much more than a bed and it was so much more than we could have ever expected. Nice and clean rooms, caring staff/volunteers, meals 3x/day, fridges/freezers, washers/dryers, and the list goes on. There was someone at the front desk who would supply us with paper goods, extra toothpaste, and anything we may need for our rooms. Every night upon returning from visiting our son, I remained in shock that such a place exists. **No one should ever need Ronald McDonald House New York, but for those that do, it is a godsend.** We want to personally thank all the volunteers, employees, and donors for making this place a light in a dark time in our lives.”

Did you know September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month?



Each year in the U.S., an estimated 15,780 children aged 0-19 are diagnosed with cancer.



Approximately 1 in 285 children in the U.S. will be diagnosed with cancer before their 20th birthday.



Cancer remains the #1 cause of death by disease for children in America.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Hannah Boston

Social Worker, Family Support Coordinator

What inspires you to work at the House?

As a social worker at the House I am meeting some families during the worst time of their lives. My job isn't to cure anyone's child or force optimism, but to be an advocate for these families, and to hold space for them to share how they are feeling, or be a bridge between their life at the hospital and their life at home. I don't want to add to their burdens, but to hopefully lighten some of them.

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

The House creates space for parents and other caregivers to come together with shared experiences. On Fridays we have a "Caregiver Coffee Break" where caregivers can come and socialize with each other and drink coffee. One Friday a few caregivers were sharing g-tube stories. These caregivers were laughing about all of the funny mishaps and challenges that they have experienced. It's not that g-tubes are hilarious, but these caregivers have been given a space to talk about all of these things, good and bad, with people who understand and can speak the language of hospitals and medical equipment.

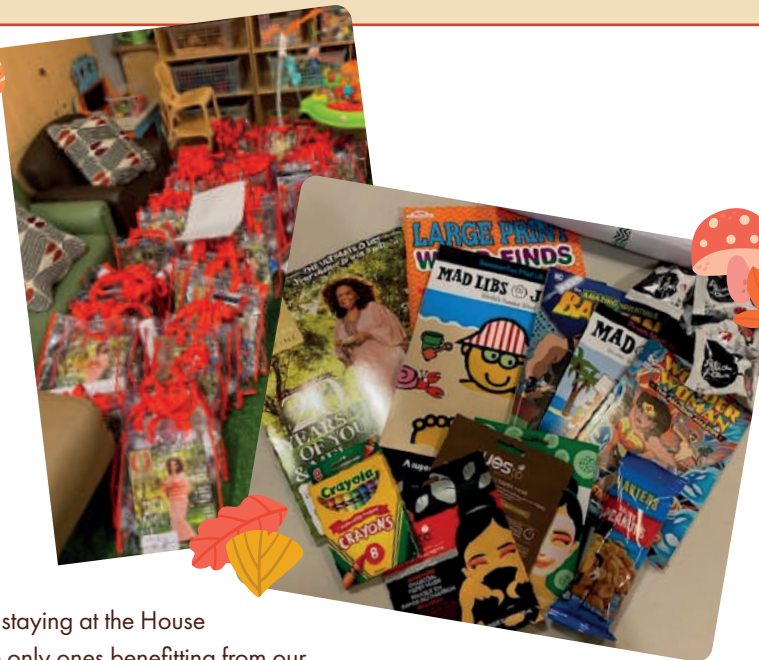
What is your favorite thing to help families with?

Any time I can be a witness to a caregiver or a family realizing their own power and strength, I feel I have done my job. In social work we talk a lot about empowerment and meeting people where they are; it's shown me that not only do I need to constantly be adapting, but that I have to see the people I work with as individuals.

TYPICAL Week IN THE LIFE OF A FAMILY

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Martial Arts with Master Molloy | The Craft Studio with Lindsey | Slime Squad with Nadia | Getting Crafty with Jackie | Caregiver Coffee Break (Caregiver Support Group) |
| Caregiver Support Group | Grupo de Apoyo (Caregiver Support Group) | NICU Night (Caregiver Support Group) | Creative Caregivers (Caregiver Support Group) | |

PROGRAMS TO GO!



Thanks to our supporters, children staying at the House during treatment are no longer the only ones benefiting from our programs. When all our families were required to social distance in their rooms, we began packaging "Programs to Go" and delivered them straight to each child's room. This "delivery" inspired our programs team to expand their impact by partnering with 7 hospitals throughout NYC and bringing Programs to Go directly to in-patient children as well. **So far in 2022, we've packaged and delivered 1700 fun, and secretly educational, activity kits directly to children in pediatric wards.**

VISIT THE HOUSE!

There's no better way to understand the magic of Ronald McDonald House New York other than coming to visit us. This fall, the Development Team is offering tours of our 11-story building. **Please call Denean Paulik at (212) 639-0215 to schedule your tour** and deepen your understanding of how your support benefits hundreds of families each year.

SAVE THE DATE



RMH-NY's 30th Annual Gala

October 3rd 2022
6:00 - 9:00 PM at
Pier Sixty

www.gala.rmh-newyork.org

2022 Kids Run

Do you have children or grandchildren that would love to participate in our annual kids fun run? Join us on October 29th in Central Park!



www.rmh-newyork.org/blogs/events/2022kidsrun

AREA OF NEED



THREE SEASON ACTIVITY CENTER INITIATIVE

Our Jon Shevell Terrace is a place where our families and staff come together to cook, eat, retreat, relax and enjoy a bit of nature. Currently, this space is only utilized as the weather allows. The Three-Season Activity Center Initiative will add a retractable awning with walls to extend the utility of the terrace beyond the summer season to at least nine months out of the year. By sponsoring this project, you will enhance the well-being of families we serve by allowing for more outdoor programmatic opportunities throughout the year.



BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

A child returning to school must be prepared with a backpack, grade-appropriate calculator and other school supplies that can cost a family up to \$200. With your support, each year we remove this expense for caregivers in New York who are going through one of the most difficult times of their life. This fall, we will distribute 300 backpacks to patients and their siblings at the House and throughout New York hospitals.

For more information on the best ways to support our mission, please contact Denean Paulik, Director of Major Gifts.

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T: (212) 639-0215

