



Being Close Matters

A few weeks before Everly Backe entered the world, her parents received news no one is prepared to hear – Everly would be born with a congenital heart defect. Moments after her birth in August 2017, Everly was receiving medication and monitoring from NICU doctors and nurses and within three days, she had open-heart surgery, the first of three she'd undergo before her first birthday.

Through multiple surgeries, Everly's parents, Lauren and Matt, and older brother, Jack, relied on Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana to keep them close. "When Everly is in the hospital and looking for me, I don't want to be two hours away. I want to be two minutes away," shared Lauren. "When the doctor calls, I can just walk across the street. For that, we are truly so grateful."

The House near Advocate Children's Hospital provided the Backe family with more than a place to sleep during their stays in 2017 and 2018 - it gave Everly's parents moments of peace during a stressful time and homemade meals so they could focus on their little girl. "I'm a better caretaker for Everly because I have a minute to breathe," Lauren said. "I rarely left the hospital to eat, so when a day didn't go as planned and I missed lunch and dinner, the fact that volunteers had a meal in the fridge with my name on it when I got back to the House at 3 a.m. meant I actually ate that day."

Everly's brother, Jack, is one of her biggest cheerleaders, and while he stayed at home during most of her hospitalizations, it meant everything when they could all be together. "My favorite night was when Jack and Matt were sleeping at the House," recalled



The Backe family enjoys an outdoor adventure after Everly's 2018 heart surgeries.

Lauren. "I could see their window from Everly's hospital room across the street. It felt like my kids were almost sleeping in the same place again - it felt like our family was together."

As Everly grows, she'll need more surgeries to replace the conduit in her heart. "We had no idea how helpful Ronald McDonald House was until we had a medically fragile child," Matt and Lauren said. "We have a great family, we have great friends, we have a great support system, but if we didn't have the Ronald McDonald House, things would be so much more challenging."

Thanks to a grant received from AbbVie in August 2018, a five-room expansion at the House near Advocate Children's Hospital will be completed in 2019. This will allow more families like the Backe's to receive the care and support they need to get better together.



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LETTER FROM THE CEO



Holly Buckendahl

HOLLY BUCKENDAHL
Chief Executive Officer

As I spend time at our Houses around Chicagoland, I am inspired every day by the resilience of our families and the tireless commitment of our staff and volunteers to lessen each family's burden as much as possible.

Over the past year, we formalized Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana's new mission, vision and values—putting fresh, clear language to the work we have been doing for decades. **We exist so families can get better together.**

This mission is made possible by an incredible team of staff and volunteers, a dedicated and visionary Board, our generous community of supporters and each of you. Together, with this new language, we are affirming the same commitment we've held for 41 years: that sick children and their families can stay close to care, access the resources they need and heal together.

In addition, 2018 resulted in a significant funding milestone for RMHC Global based on a \$100 million grant from AbbVie to expand services for families across the United States. For our chapter, the AbbVie gift will enable us to add more rooms and services at the Ronald McDonald House near Advocate Children's Hospital and Lurie Children's. This incredible generosity will create ripples of impact for countless children and families for years to come.

We are stewards of everything that our supporters give – time, monetary gifts, community connections – to care for families during times of great need. Thank you for helping create a world where all families can heal together.

We are excited to announce the Charity's new **Mission – Vision – Values** the foundation on which we will serve families.

We believe when a child is sick,
a family is sick

MISSION

We exist so families can
get better together

VISION

We envision a world where
all families heal together

VALUES

We put the
needs of
children and
families first

We collaborate
with
community
partners

We honor
our heritage
and
founders

We operate with
accountability
and
transparency

We invest in the
growth and
development of
our people



PROGRAMS

Ronald McDonald Houses®

Each night, we keep families with hospitalized children close to the care and resources they need at five area Ronald McDonald Houses. Our Houses, which provide families with comfortable, private rooms, home-cooked meals, activities and all the comforts of home, are located a short distance from Advocate Children's Hospital, Loyola University Medical Center, Lurie Children's, Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital and UChicago Medicine Comer Children's Hospital. Ronald McDonald House allows families to focus on the health of their child by providing access to the best medical care possible.

Ronald McDonald Family Rooms®

Our three Ronald McDonald Family Rooms, located just steps away from pediatric intensive care units in Edward Hospital, Lurie Children's and UChicago Medicine Comer Children's Hospital, provide a haven of respite and hospitality for families of the most medically fragile children. Family Rooms offer many of the comforts of home including private bedrooms, living spaces, meals and hospitality for families whose children are receiving treatment.

Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles®

In partnership with Advocate Children's Hospital, we operate two mobile medical units which bring health care directly to underserved children in Chicagoland. This program provides health care and education services to children in neighborhoods where access to primary and preventative care such as immunizations, school physicals and vision screenings are limited or unavailable. The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile provides an entry point into a regular pattern of health care for vulnerable children, with the goal of connecting the child to a medical home.

2018 IMPACT

Ronald McDonald House® Program



39,245 Nights
Provided to families
in need



\$7.5 million
Saved in food and
lodging costs



8 Nights
Average length
of a family stay



6,337
Children
served

Ronald McDonald Family Room® Program



5,473 Nights
Provided to families
in need



\$911,730
Saved in food and
lodging costs



9,378
Family Room
visitors

7 Nights

Average length
of a family stay



5,483
Children
served

Ronald McDonald Care Mobile® Program



3,767
Children who received
health care treatment



\$445,212
Saved in
medical costs



6,774
Vaccinations
provided

Ronald McDonald House Charities® U.S. Scholarship Program



37
College students
who received
financial assistance



\$137,000
Invested in the continued
education of high-achieving,
financially-challenged students



2018 FINANCIALS

OPERATING REVENUES

(excluding investment gains and losses)

Individual	\$4,069,399	32.8%
Corporate*	\$3,015,845	24.3%
Foundations/Grants	\$1,159,914	9.4%
Donated Products & Services	\$984,795	7.9%
Room Donations & House Operations	\$231,491	1.9%
Special Events (net)	\$2,251,003	18.2%
Rental Income	\$680,458	5.5%
Total	\$12,392,906	

TOTAL INCOME **\$12,158,780**

(including investment gains and losses)

*Corporate Revenue includes one time RMHC/AbbVie gift of \$2,000,000

NET ASSETS END OF YEAR

Without Donor Restriction	\$62,199,630
With Donor Restriction	\$2,887,520
	\$65,087,150

YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

Program Services	\$7,021,686	72%
Development	\$1,003,848	10%
Administrative	\$1,685,289	18%

In 2018, RMHC-CNI adopted FASB ASU No. 2016-14.

GET INVOLVED!

ronaldhousechicago.org

CHICAGOLAND LOCATIONS

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSES

Ronald McDonald House® near Advocate Children's Hospital

4410 W. 93rd Street
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708.423.5285

Ronald McDonald House® near Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital

0N150 Winfield Road
Winfield, IL 60190
630.517.8678

Ronald McDonald House® near Loyola University Medical Center

Tripp Ave. at
Air Mail Road
Hines, IL 60141
708.327.2273

Ronald McDonald House® near Lurie Children's Hospital

211 E. Grand Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611
312.888.2500

Ronald McDonald House® near UChicago Medicine Comer Children's Hospital

5444 S. Drexel Avenue
Chicago, IL 60615
773.324.5437

RONALD MCDONALD FAMILY ROOMS

Ronald McDonald Family Room® in Lurie Children's Hospital

225 E. Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611
312.227.3929

Ronald McDonald Family Room® in UChicago Medicine Comer Children's Hospital

5721 S. Maryland Avenue
Chicago, IL 60637
773.834.4859

Ronald McDonald Family Room® in Edward Hospital

801 S. Washington Street
Naperville, IL 60540
630.527.3800

BUSINESS OFFICE

RMHC-CNI

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