Celebrating 40 Years

MEDIA KIT

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About Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Greater Washington, DC (RMHCDC)

Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Greater Washington, DC, a non-profit, 501 (C) (3), eases the hardship of children’s illness on families through programs that directly improve the health and wellbeing of children.

CORE PROGRAMS

Two Ronald McDonald House® programs

Three Ronald McDonald Family Room® programs

Two Ronald McDonald Care Mobile® programs

10,693 children were served last year through our three core programs.

Keeping Families Close®

RMHCDC programs not only provide access to quality health care, they enable family-centered care, ensuring families are fully supported and actively involved in their children’s care.
Ronald McDonald House®

Ronald McDonald House programs are built on the simple idea that nothing else should matter when a family is focused on healing their child. Families with a child being treated at a local hospital may be eligible to stay at one of our Houses. Each guest family has a private bedroom and bathroom, and access to a full kitchen, laundry room, living room, playroom, and outside play areas. A $15 donation per night is suggested, but families are never turned away for the inability to pay.

Ronald McDonald Family Room®

Ronald McDonald Family Room programs offer families a comfortable and welcoming place to rest and regroup right in the hospital, just steps away from a pediatric unit and their sick child. While services vary within our three Family Rooms, families will often find a kitchen area with a refrigerator and/or microwave, laundry facilities, seating area with reading materials, internet access, coffee and friendly, welcoming faces from RMHCDC volunteers.

Ronald McDonald Care Mobile®

Ronald McDonald Care Mobile programs, operated in association with MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, bring primary health care directly to children in their communities through two 40-foot long, 8-foot wide, state-of-the-art vehicles. One unit includes two patient examination rooms, a laboratory, and reception and medical records areas. The FITNESS Program, which teaches the importance of healthy eating and regular physical activity, is housed in a mobile unit that can be reconfigured for large or small group activities as well as individual consultations.
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>1974</td>
<td>The first Ronald McDonald House opened in Philadelphia with the help of Dr. Audrey Evans, a pediatric oncologist at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>The original Ronald McDonald House® of Washington, DC opened its doors in June of 1980, and was the sixteenth RMH to open nationwide in the six years since the program began.</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>RMH merged with Ronald McDonald House Charities to become Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Greater Washington, DC (RMHCDC).</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Worth magazine names RMHC one of “America’s 100 Best Charities of 2002.” It’s the second consecutive year RMHC receives this honor.</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>A Capital Campaign was launched to raise funds to build a larger RMH located on 14th Street NE.</td>
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RMHCDC unveiled a brand new Ronald McDonald House of Washington, DC with 25 rooms, including 4 isolation suites for children with compromised immune systems. The new RMH was built “green” and certified as LEED Gold to benefit our families and the community for generations to come.

2013 ........................................
RMHCDC opened a larger, newly renovated Ronald McDonald Family Room at Children’s National to include a full-size kitchen, laundry room, staff and programs for families.

2016 ........................................
RMHCDC opened a new Ronald McDonald Family Room at Inova Children’s Hospital with a sitting area, computer bays, and kitchenette. This new RMFR meets families and kids where they are by taking the Hospitality a la Carte with snacks, toys, books, blankets, and toiletries around the floor and to the bedside of the most sick kids.

2018 ........................................
The Ronald McDonald Family Room at Inova Children’s Hospital expanded service to two Family Rooms, extending our reach to multiple floors.

2020 ........................................
RMHCDC begins renovating to increase bedrooms at the Ronald McDonald House of Northern Virginia from 8 guest rooms to 24 guest rooms, and the Ronald McDonald House of Washington, DC from 26 to 32 guest rooms.

2011 ........................................
RMHCDC unveiled a new KIDS Mobile Medical Clinic/Ronald McDonald Care Mobile.

2015 ........................................
Our second Ronald McDonald Care Mobile launched with a focus on the FITNESS Program (Fun In Teaching Nutrition and Exercise to Successful Students). Partnering with local schools in DC, this second mobile unit delivers a curriculum focusing on healthy eating and the importance of physical activity to students in grades K-8.

2017 ........................................
Administrative staff moved out of the Houses to make way for more families. Creation of a long term apartment allows bigger families a more comfortable stay as they focus on caring for their child undergoing treatment.
Karen Torres joined Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Washington DC in April 2012 as President and CEO.

Hired as a change agent, under her leadership the chapter has experienced significant growth, increasing programs by 150%, operating budget by 183%, and annual number of children and families served by 225%.

RMHCDC recognition includes:
4-star ratings from Charity Navigator, Platinum level ratings from GuideStar, One of the Best Small Charities from Catalogue for Philanthropy, BBB accreditation, and Best Charity in Washington DC by Business.org.

Karen has been recognized in numerous local and national publications and awards recognizing accomplished, high-impact female business leaders and for her work improving lives in the community.

Prior to joining RMHCDC, she worked in the private and public sectors in marketing, media, and public relations.
RMHCDC Stats

2019 Impact Outcomes

10,419 nights of lodging at two Houses

4,308 visits to three Family Rooms

1,080 patient visits through the KIDS Mobile Medical Clinic/Ronald McDonald Care Mobile

10,268 students reached with health education initiatives through the FITNESS Program

The RMHCDC Family

A small staff of 32 full and part-time employees serve families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.
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Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Greater Washington, DC, a non-profit, 501 (C)(3), eases the hardship of children’s illness on families through programs that directly improve the health and wellbeing of children. Through its three core programs: two Ronald McDonald Houses®, two Ronald McDonald Family Rooms®, and two Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles®; RMHCDC keeps families with sick children together and close to the medical care their child needs at leading local hospitals. RMHCDC programs not only provide access to quality health care, they enable family-centered care ensuring families are fully supported and actively involved in their children’s care.

For more information, visit rmhcdc.org.

Hashtags and Social Media

#KeepingFamiliesClose  #RMHCDC

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40th Anniversary Logos

Please contact Sarah Quillen (SQuillen@RMHCDC.org) for the proper logo files