



straight from the

NEWSLETTER FROM RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES OF PHOENIX

Finding Their Way Home

After an anxious four-hour drive from Bullhead City, Arizona, the Hemphill family felt a sense of relief when they walked through the doors of Ronald McDonald House of Phoenix. “We made it home in time for dinner,” said Chaz, mother of three-year-old Nolan. The House is providing the comfort her family needs while they go through the most trying time of their lives.

In March 2017, after undergoing brain surgery to remove three tumors, Nolan was diagnosed with neuroblastoma. When the family received the news, Chaz said, “Our world flipped upside down.” While Nolan recovers from the first of two stem cell transplants, the family knows that they have a constant ally through their journey. “All you want for your family is stability,” Chaz said. “Ronald McDonald House provided some sort of stability through the madness.”

Described by his dad, Justin, as being “non-stop,” Nolan hasn’t lost his spark through his diagnosis. “That kid is amazing. He’s what keeps us going,” Chaz said. “He’ll go from getting chemo five days in a row, throwing up all night long, to getting discharged and come here and run rampant all over this place. He goes to his toys and he’s back in his zone. He wants to romp on the jungle gym. He tells us all the time, ‘We’re going to beat this cancer. We make the best team ever!’”

“This is home for now. We have a roof over our heads, somewhere cozy to bring him, which is pretty much all that matters.”

— Chaz, Nolan’s mom

The family also added a member to their brood while staying at the House. Nolan was promoted to big brother in August with the birth of his sibling, Mark. And when it was time for baby brother to go “home,” the Ronald McDonald House welcomed him with open arms. Chaz said, “This is home for now. We have a roof over our heads, somewhere cozy to bring him, which is pretty much all that matters.”

Beyond just a place to sleep, the family is grateful for every aspect of comfort in their temporary home. “If we didn’t have Ronald McDonald House, we wouldn’t have a hot meal to eat. It’s everything, to the little things like hand soap and dish soaps and the laundry detergent. Having it all available right there for us.”

Chaz is grateful that her family doesn’t have to fight this battle alone and that, even far from home, both she and her husband are able to stay close to Nolan. “This is something we have to do together,” she said, “every step of the way.”



MISSION STATEMENT

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Phoenix is a welcoming “home-away-from-home” for families with children facing medical challenges, providing an atmosphere of comfort, hope and courage.

A Letter from the Board of Directors President

Having spent most of my life in Phoenix, I always had an idea of the good work Ronald McDonald House of Phoenix performed for our community. However, until I joined the Board six years ago, I did not truly know the extent of the impact the organization and our three Houses makes on the families we serve. Over my tenure, I have had the privilege of hearing many personal stories from the families that stay with us. The impact of the mission of the House is conveyed in the emotion of each and every story and rarely is there a dry eye after their story is shared.

This year I have had the opportunity to serve as Board President. In that role, I have been able to see firsthand the dedication of the staff and volunteers

affiliated with the House. This year, there were a few days where the rooms at all three of our facilities were being utilized by families in need. The dedicated operations and development teams run the House in both a responsible and caring manner. This includes making ongoing investments in not just the upkeep of our three Houses, but in continuous improvements to enhance the quality of each family stay.

I have also had the privilege to work with my fellow Board members who are dedicated to making sure the community knows the great work the House performs and ensures that the House continues to have the means to be a “home-away-from-home” for the families we serve. That support comes from our signature Golf and McNight events, which continue

to be more successful with each passing year, as well as the many other fundraising activities supported and coordinated by our dedicated House employees and volunteers.

I am fortunate to be associated with such a great organization and work with staff and Board members devoted to providing this House for families facing the unimaginable. Thank you to those whose dedication, love and generosity help the Ronald McDonald House of Phoenix fulfill its mission.

Aidan McSheffrey

*Board of Directors President,
Ronald McDonald House
Charities of Phoenix*



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Marquice Starks
Assistant House Manager –
Roanoke

RMHC FACTS FROM 2016

ZERO
Families turned away

15,980
Total number of nights
that families have
stayed at the House

2,385
Family visits

1,322
Families served

47,600
Total number of visits
from families since
opening in 1985

Community Support

thank you GENEROUS DONORS

Community Grants

USAA Foundation	\$32,000
BHHS Legacy Foundation	\$25,000
APS	\$19,000
Interest Ministries.....	\$15,000
Fiesta Bowl Charities	\$10,000
Arizona Community Foundation of Flagstaff ...	\$8,091
C.R. Bard Foundation.....	\$5,000
Sundt Foundation	\$4,000
Valley Anesthesiology Foundation	\$3,000
Executive Council Charities	\$2,000
Levetown Fund	\$1,000
Toyota Financial Services	\$1,000
DeBusk Family Making Smiles Foundation.....	\$500

Community Fundraisers

McDonald's Shamrock Shakes	\$10,697
Village Green Splash Day	\$9,076
Birdies for Charity Corporate.....	\$7,500
Marley Park Elementary	\$4,031
Fraternal Order of Eagles	\$3,500
La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries of Arizona.....	\$3,500
The Hillman Group	\$2,340
Bagdad Unified School District	\$2,220
Arrow Electronics Day of Service	\$1,745
Sunland Springs Village.....	\$1,648
David Weekley Homes	\$1,540
Mountain View High School	\$1,240
Waste Management 'Shot at Glory'.....	\$1,000
CycleBar	\$920
Eliminex	\$891
Charity Realty	\$831
ATI Golf Tournament	\$700

HELP OPERATION SANTA CLAUS HELP RMHC FAMILIES

RMHC Phoenix is proud to be a part of the 16th Annual Operation Santa Claus presented by ABC15 in partnership with Sanderson Ford and Sanderson Lincoln! You can make a difference for RMHC families from November 16th through December 21st by going to ABC15, Sanderson Ford, Sanderson Lincoln or your nearest UPS Store location and donating one of the following:

- **New, unwrapped toy**
- **Children's clothing item**
- **Packaged food item**
- **Monetary donation**

With each donation you may have the opportunity to be one of fifteen finalists to win your choice of a new Ford or Lincoln. Your donations will truly make a difference for the families who call RMHC Phoenix their "home-away-from-home." Thank you for your generosity!

Go to givetotheclaus.com for more information.



Operation Santa Claus

Wreaths for Life

The Shops on Camelback are generously hosting Wreaths for Life to benefit RMHC of Phoenix on Friday, November 10th from 5 to 8 pm. Some of Arizona's finest and most talented interior designers, artists and florists will create custom themed wreaths. The embellished wreaths will be on display at the Shops for bidding starting November 1st and ending with the festive event on November 10th, which will include a silent auction, raffle, wine, hors d'oeuvres and complimentary valet parking. Tickets are \$25 and include a raffle ticket.

For further information, go to wreathsforlife.com.

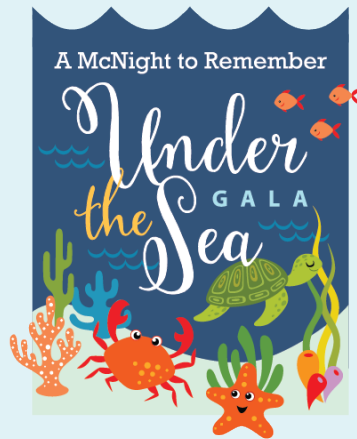
YOUR SMALL CHANGE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

RMHC Phoenix depends on the community to provide the comforts of home for families in their time of need. This includes our amazing friends at McDonald's. Their contributions make an immeasurable difference in supporting our mission. Plus, they make giving to RMHC Phoenix easy for everyone. When you visit

a McDonald's restaurant, simply drop your spare change in the RMHC Donation Boxes at the registers or in the drive-thru. Little by little, that change can change the lives of families with sick children.



McNight Gala



YOU'RE INVITED!

Join us on for a "splashy" evening at the annual
A McNight to Remember Gala and After Party

November 11, 2017 | 6:00 pm

Hosted at: **J.W. Marriott Desert Ridge Resort**
5350 E Marriott Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85054

PRESENTED BY



Delivering more than power.™

HONORING

Nancy Lewis

and

LA Z BOY
FURNITURE GALLERIES®

GALA CO-CHAIRS

Katy Forseth and Christine Sopa

AUCTIONEER

Jennie Heal

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES

Connie Colla, Launch Realty
Marty Manning, KEZ 99.9 FM

EVENT ACTIVITIES

Hosted Cocktail Reception
Silent Auction • Trip Raffle • Dinner
Live Auction • Help-A-Family Appeal
Heart of the House Awards

*Immediately followed by the
"Off the Hook After Party" hosted
by The Red Shoe Society*

TICKETS

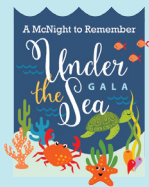
Gala Tickets - \$300
After Party Only Tickets - \$50
Sponsorships and Tables Available!

GET INVOLVED

Attend the Gala • Become a Sponsor
Donate an Auction Item • Volunteer

Visit rmhcphoenix.com/gala or call
Leslie Religioso, Development Manager,
at 602.798.5097.





TRIP RAFFLE

A lucky winner will get to select one of four amazing vacation prizes!

RAFFLE DETAILS

Only 2,500 tickets will be sold! \$20 per ticket • \$100 per 6-ticket pack
Every \$100 sold in tickets helps to cover a one-week stay for a family at Ronald McDonald House.

Drawing will be held November 11, 2017 at the Ronald McDonald House Gala - need not be present to win!

PUERTO VALLARTA MEXICO FOUR SEASONS STAY AND CULINARY EXPERIENCE FOR TWO

Suggested retail value up to \$12,600

- Pamper yourself with a five-night stay in a garden-view Casita room at the luxurious Four Seasons Resort Punta Mita, Mexico, with daily breakfast for two
- A private cooking class for two with your choice of chefs from the resort's restaurants, Bahia or Ketsi
- Round-trip coach class airfare for two to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

CANADIAN "CHOOSE YOUR FAIRMONT STAY" ADVENTURE FOR TWO

Suggested retail value up to \$10,480

- Explore the beauty of Canada, our neighbor to the north, with a total of six nights in a junior suite for two at your choice of Fairmont Hotels and Resorts
- Award-winning Fairmont properties to select from are located in (British Columbia) Vancouver, Victoria, Whistler; (Alberta) Banff, Calgary, Charlevoix, Edmonton, Jasper, Lake Louise; (Ontario) Ottawa, Toronto (Québec) Mont-Tremblant, Québec City
- Daily breakfast for two
- Round-trip coach class airfare for two to Canada

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC PUNTA CANA CARIBBEAN GETAWAY FOR TWO

Suggested retail value up to \$10,545

- Rest and recharge with a seven-night stay in a traditional king or queen room at the relaxing Westin Punta Cana Resort at Playa Blanca, Dominican Republic
- Round-trip coach class airfare for two to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic

FLORIDA KENNEDY SPACE CENTER ASTRONAUT TRAINING AND TOUR FOR FOUR

Suggested retail value up to \$10,440

- Blast off on an awesome astronaut training experience for four
- Kennedy Space Center "Up Close Explore" Tour for four
- Lunch with an Astronaut!
- Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex Admission for four
- Four-night stay in one standard guest room at a Hyatt Place, Hampton Inn or comparable accommodations
- Round-trip coach class airfare for four to Orlando, Florida

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

Visit rmhcphoenix.com/gala for additional details and rules or call 602-798-5097.



HONOREE SPOTLIGHT

At the annual McNight Gala, RMHC of Phoenix recognizes an individual and company/group who have made a tangible and lasting impact on the organization, and who exemplify the spirit of philanthropy and community service—we call them the "Heart of the House."

This year, we are delighted to recognize **Nancy Lewis** as the Individual Heart of the House Honoree, and **La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries of Arizona** as the Corporate Heart of the House Honoree. Both honorees are champions within our community and their continuing contributions to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Phoenix help thousands of families in need.

Nancy Lewis has been part of the "fabric of RMHC" since the early 1990s. As a House volunteer and former board member, Nancy carries the mission of RMHC close to her heart through her thoughts, actions and deeds. From serving as a donor and an advocate for families, staff and volunteers as part of RMHC's board of directors, and organizing events for families, to adopting rooms to ensure that families find comfortable space to call home—Nancy has been there for RMHC.

La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries of Arizona is a shining example of a corporate partner and, as the Official Furniture Provider of Ronald McDonald House, are committed to providing comfort to all RMHC families.

Their contributions to the organization are numerous and go above and beyond furnishing the Ronald McDonald House. La-Z-Boy and its employees are energetic and passionate about supporting RMHC! They cook monthly dinners, donate proceeds from in-store campaigns, sponsor and volunteer at our annual signature events, and of course, have donated interior design talent and furnishings at all three Houses located in the Valley. There's no doubt that our mission thrives because of the support of La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries of Arizona and their employees.

We look forward to celebrating our Heart of the House honorees and recognizing their contributions of time, talent, treasure and testimony at the McNight Gala in November!

"THE HEART THAT GIVES, GATHERS."

- Marianne Moor



La-Z-Boy Volunteers



Nancy Lewis

Pro-Am Golf Tournament



Ronald McDonald House Charities of Phoenix

3rd Annual Pro-Am Golf Tournament

Desert Mountain Club Chiricahua Course

presented by



RMHC held its 3rd Annual Pro-Am Golf Tournament on May 11, 2017 at the Jack Nicklaus Chiricahua Course at Desert Mountain Club in Scottsdale.

Presented by La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries of Arizona, the tournament raised over \$184,000 for families who visit Arizona and call RMHC their “home-away-from-home.” Local Pros and Champion Tour Pros, including Betsy King, Pat Bradley, Jan Stephenson, Kirk Triplett, Tom Purtzer and Howard Twitty, played in the tournament.

Proceeds from the Tournament support the mission and services at the Valley’s three Ronald McDonald Houses, allowing families to stay close to each other while seeking medical care for their children. Thank you to golf chair Joe Maslick and the rest of the golf committee for your outstanding support.

We are excited to announce that the RMHC Pro-Am Tournament will be back back in 2018!

To learn more, email jdiaz@rmhcphoenix.com or visit rmhcphoenix.com/golf



*Ed Breuning III, CEO of La-Z-Boy
Furniture Galleries of Arizona*



*Golf Chair Joe Maslick with his
wife, Paulette, and their foursome*



Team La-Z-Boy on the green



*Walter Oliver and RMHC board members
Scott Harris, Rick Goldenson, and Kevin Robinson*



*Committee member Michelle Newlin,
and her foursome*



*RMHC board member Kevin Robinson
with his foursome*

Making a Difference

Tuft & Needle Helping Families Rest Easy

Our new friends at Tuft and Needle are making sure families at RMHC Phoenix get up on the right side of the bed every morning. In September, the local mattress company donated 20 brand new twin mattresses to the Roanoke House, helping bring even more comfort to our "home-away-from-home."

Tuft and Needle team member Melanie LaDue is thrilled to support the House. "Our Tuft and Needle Gives Back™ Program has teamed up with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Phoenix because we focus on our belief that everyone deserves a good night's sleep,

especially families that are displaced from the comfort of their own beds while their children are facing medical challenges," she said.

What's even better is that Tuft & Needle is providing the community with a way to get in on the action and give back to families. By purchasing a mattress using the unique link tuftandneedle.com/p/b46910bd, RMHC Phoenix will receive 25% of the purchase price back. Rest easy knowing you are helping to keep families together in their time of need.



From the Heart of RMHC Families...



"It gave my daughter a homey feeling. She would ask, 'Mommy, are we going to go to my McDonald's house?' She has her McDonald's house, and her Yuma house. **She feels like it's her house.**"

- Mother of child receiving cancer treatment

"There's less stress because **we don't have to worry about where we'll stay** during our son's long treatment."

-Father of child receiving cancer treatment

"Growing up my aunt always made a donation to Ronald McDonald House Charities in our name instead of sending us Christmas presents. I never thought we would end up needing to stay here ourselves, but now that we are here I can see what a **HUGE service it is to families and children** with medical issues."

-Mother of child undergoing tests



"We're away from family, which is hard, but we're able to stay here as **a whole family.**"

-Mother of child going through extensive eating therapy

"In a very scary situation, you give families a place to be at **home.**"

-Mother of child with disabilities



**Ronald McDonald House Charities
of Phoenix, Inc.**

501 East Roanoke Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004

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Connect with us on social media!



Stay up-to-date on the latest House happenings!

Facebook: Ronald McDonald House Charities of Phoenix

Twitter: @RMHCPhoenix

Instagram: @RMHCPhoenix

YouTube: /RMHCPhoenix

Flickr: /RMHCPhoenix

Keeping Families Close



GET INVOLVED AT RMHC

RMHC Phoenix serves hundreds of children and families each year. As we support families through their journey one thing is for certain - we can't do it without you. Here are ways you can get involved at RMHC Phoenix:

Meals That Heal: Prepare your favorite dinner to treat our families to after a long day at the hospital.

RMHC Events: RMHC is fortunate to not only host events throughout the year, but also be the beneficiary to third-party events. Bring co-workers, friends and family to help us at an event.

To learn more about volunteering, please contact Helain Day at hday@rmhcphoenix.com.

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our mailing
information current!**

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Please clip and return your request in the enclosed envelope, or email your change to Coral Griswold at cgriswold@rmhcphoenix.com.

If you would rather receive e-mail updates about what's happening at the House, please send an email to cgriswold@rmhcphoenix.com or sign up for our e-news updates online at www.rmhcphoenix.com.

Sign up for a tour of RMHC Phoenix

We're so glad you stay connected through our newsletters. If you haven't been to the House, or if it's been a while, we'd love to give you a tour (and your friends, too) of any of our three Houses.

If you're interested in getting involved, taking a tour and learning more about Ronald McDonald House Charities, contact Helain Day at hday@rmhcphoenix.com.