

The Home with a Heart

Keeping families together when they need each other the most.

The Newsletter for the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana | March 2013

Caleb's Heart

It started out as a “run-of-the-mill” ultrasound for Katie and Daniel Kinnaird. The couple from New Castle, IN, were giddy to find out if they were going to give their now 4-year-old son Jonah a baby brother or sister. But their anticipation turned to fear when the ultrasound technician discovered something was wrong with their baby's heart.

Katie and Daniel were stunned when they learned that their baby boy, who they named Caleb, would be born with a serious congenital heart defect called tricuspid atresia, which prevented the formation of a valve in his heart.

“It probably only happens a couple of times during your life, when you realize you're in the middle of a moment that will change the road you're on forever,” Katie said.



With his adorable smile and twinkling eyes, Caleb is very popular with his nurses. “He’s such a flirt,” said Katie.

Caleb, now 2, had two open heart surgeries before age 1. Last November when his heart started to weaken considerably, doctors sent Caleb to Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health where he has been on the heart transplant list ever since. Katie, Daniel and Jonah have been with him every step of the way, staying close by at the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana just across the street.

“Sometimes we can't believe this is our life,” Daniel said. “Waiting is hard and we have no control over it. It's almost like living in a time warp.”

For the past four months, the Ronald McDonald House has been more than a place to stay for Katie, Daniel and Jonah — it has been a place to gain strength. They have found moral support, friends, familiar surroundings and a safe place to share their struggle — a place that reduces the worry. “We miss our life at home, but we are grateful that our family is together and that we get to see both of our boys every day,” Katie said. “Caleb is a secure happy little guy and I know it's because we are always with him.”



The Kinnairds were thrilled to meet Andrew Luck when he stopped by Caleb's room for a visit.

To help her cope and keep family members and friends updated on Caleb's condition, Katie started a blog called “Caleb's Heart”. It's a way for Katie and Daniel to share their journey and to share their message of faith, hope and finding joy even in the midst of uncertainty.

“We're not in this alone. There are other people on this journey with us. There's an army of Caleb supporters who are praying for us,” Katie said. “We have amazing parents and family and friends who have helped us in so many ways.”

Read more about the Kinnaird family and their journey at www.thekinnairds.blogspot.com.

A Message from Our Executive Director



Dear Friends,

Since we opened our doors in 1982, we have never once closed them. We have been open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for 30 years. This is only possible because of our amazing supporters, donors and volunteers.

One of our longtime supporters, who has been with us from the very beginning, is McDonald's of Central Indiana. Over the years they have provided a backbone of support that extends beyond monetary support including local McDonald's owner/operators serving on our board of directors and various committees, and McDonald's employees volunteering at our House and serving meals to our guest families.

Now to help us celebrate our 30-year anniversary McDonald's of Central Indiana is donating 30 cents of each Shamrock Shake purchased during March to our House. It's interesting to note that profits from the Shamrock Shake helped open the very first Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia in 1974. You can read more about this classic minty treat with a legacy of love on the back page of our newsletter and on our website.

We can't thank all of our friends at McDonald's of Central Indiana enough for their unending commitment to our mission and their generosity. We are proud to have McDonald's as our partner in helping children and families heal, and look forward to making a positive impact together for many years to come.

Warm Regards,

Beth Johnson

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Donate a Vehicle and Help Children Heal

If you think that old car in your driveway isn't worth much, think again. By donating your car, truck, boat or RV to Ronald McDonald House of Indiana, you can help provide families with a home-away-from-home and keep them together during the hospitalization of a seriously ill child.

Through our partnership with One Car, One Difference®, a national vehicle donation program operated by Insurance Auto Auctions, Inc. (IAA), the process of donating your vehicle is simple and quick. Here's how it works:



- **Donate your vehicle.**

Visit www.onecarhelpsrhm.com or call (855) 426-2477. Enter in your contact information as well as information about your vehicle (year, make, model and approximate mileage).

- **IAA picks up the vehicle.**

At no cost to you, IAA will tow the vehicle to the local auction. Or, if you prefer, you can drop off the vehicle yourself. For the auction location, call (855) 426-2477.

- **Your vehicle is sold at an auction.**

IAA cleans the donated vehicle to make sure its top notch for the auction. This will help to get the highest sale price.

- **You get the sales receipt to file for a tax deduction.**

Not only will you make a difference to seriously ill or injured children and their families, you may even get a tax break!

- **Proceeds go to our House.**

Cash from the auction will be donated to our House to continue to help provide a home-away-from-home for families of critically ill or injured children.



Share-A-Night, Share Your Heart

For children facing a serious medical crisis, nothing seems scarier than not having their mom and dad close by for love and support. The Ronald McDonald House of Indiana provides a "home-away-from-home" for families so they can stay close by their hospitalized child regardless of money. Even though the estimated cost for one night is \$75, the House asks for a donation from these families of \$15 per night, but the average we receive is \$3.53.

Our House is built on the simple idea that nothing else should matter when a family is focused on healing their child – not where they can afford to stay, where they will get their next meal or where they will lay their head at night to rest.

Because of your generous support, the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana provides important lodging services to a family during a time of great need, without regard to a family's ability to pay or length of stay. When you help Share-A-Night, you share your heart.

To learn more about sponsoring a room at the House, contact Director of Development Joe Schulz at (317) 267-0605, ext. 208 or by e-mail at jschulz@rmh-indiana.org.

We are deeply grateful to our current room sponsors:

Guest Rooms at our Limestone Street location

All Pro Scrap/All Pro Shearing
ASI
Buckingham Foundation, Inc.
Coca-Cola
Dorothy Wisely
Dr Pepper
Eric Gordon, Jr. and Family
Fifth Third Bank
Ford & Company, Inc.
Indiana Apartment Association
Indiana Chemical Trust
Indiana Fever
Indiana Pacers
Indiana Statewide Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives
Indianapolis Colts/Cory Redding Foundation
IREM - Run for Ronald
Ken and Barb McCormick

Kicks for Kids
Marsh Supermarkets, Inc.
Murat Shrine
Pearl Gasper
Richard and Donnette McGee
South Central Indiana Corvette Club
Sweet Pea Foundation
The Chamness Family
The Dedicated Volunteers of the Ronald McDonald House
The Dzwonar Family
The Jeff Foster Family
The Lake Family
The Staff of the Ronald McDonald House
Walgreens
Thomas Wilson
Wings of Hope & Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance

Transplant Apartments

Brigham Family Foundation
Duke Energy Foundation
Jerry and Gayle Margraf
Paul & Judy Estridge
Putnam County All Club Benefit

Guest Rooms at our House at Riley

Harris & Harris
Indiana Members Credit Union
Indiana University Health
McDonald's at Riley Hospital
Messer Construction
The Hinton Family

Charitable Gift Annuities

Have you ever considered ways to make your money work better for you and your future? A Charitable Gift Annuity with the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana (RMHI) may be an option to consider.

How it Works: A Charitable Gift Annuity is a contract between you and RMHI. You transfer cash to RMHI. If you decide to fund your gift annuity with cash, a significant portion of the annuity income will be tax-free. You may make a gift of your appreciated securities to fund a gift annuity and avoid a portion of the capital gains tax. In exchange, RMHI will pay you a fixed income for life. The fixed income can be quite high depending on age. A portion of your income stream may even be tax-free. You will receive a charitable deduction for your gift and the satisfaction of furthering the mission of RMHI. If you desire current income, you may transfer property in exchange for our promise to pay you a fixed income beginning as early as this year. You will receive a current income tax charitable deduction for the value of your gift to RMHI.

For more information about Charitable Gift Annuities, or other estate planning tools, please contact Director of Development Joe Schulz at (317) 267-0605, ext. 208 or by e-mail at jschulz@rmh-indiana.org.



Loving Care Packages Provide Extra Boost of Strength

Family members caring for an ill child are often weary, sleep deprived and left with little energy. Loving Care Packages provide an extra boost of compassion and strength and are a wonderfully thoughtful way to provide comfort and support to families who are unable to leave their child's bedside.

Please consider donating the following items for our Loving Care Packages:

- Bottled water
- Healthy snack bars
- Individual bagged nuts, trail mix, etc.
- Individual beef jerky and beef sticks
- Wrapped hard candy
- 100% juice boxes
- Journal with pen
- Small hand lotion
- Lip balm
- Quality tissues

Loving Care Package items can be dropped off at the Ronald McDonald House at Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health. Please contact Daun Hughey, Ronald McDonald House at Riley Manager, at (317) 944-2269 or dhughey@rmh-indiana.org for further information.



Become A Pantry Partner

Part of being a home-away-from-home means helping our families feel comfortable and well-nourished so they can face the challenges and stress that each day brings while they are staying with us.

The Ronald McDonald House depends on organizations and the community to help keep our pantries and cupboards stocked for our families. We're inviting you to join us in our service by becoming a "Pantry Partner." Each month we have a Top Ten list of items the House needs. Your help collecting these items is greatly appreciated by the House and our families.

Here's how it works:

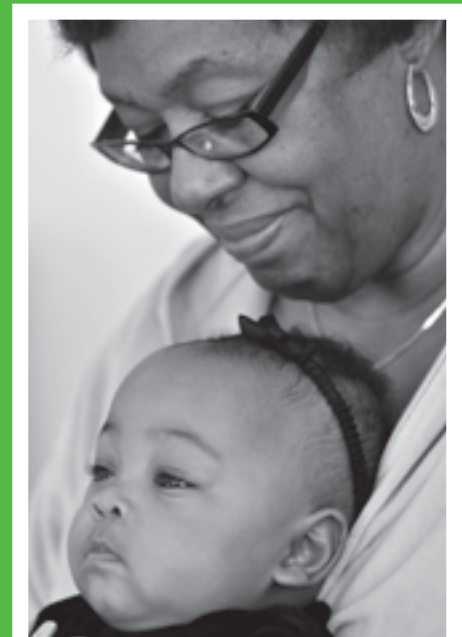
- Select a month
- A Top Ten list will be sent to your group
- Review your Top Ten list
- Collect the items from the list
- Drop the items off at the Ronald McDonald House
- Your group will be listed on our website as a Pantry Partner

For more information, contact Operations Director Dennis Craig at (317) 267-0605 ext. 205, or by e-mail at dcraig@rmh-indiana.org.

Top Ten Wish List

Listed below are items that the Ronald McDonald House currently needs to serve our families. Please remember that the House is just like your home and we can use many of the same items that you use in your house. We do ask that items are new for the health and safety of our guests and volunteers. Due to stringent Health Codes, please don't forget to check your expiration dates.

- Granola Bars
- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Snack items (Little Debbie's, Individual Chips, Pretzels)
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Dryer Sheets
- Windex
- Styrofoam Bowls and Dinner Sized Plates
- Pop Tarts
- Cereal (Individual Servings)
- Microwavable Meals





Request a Tour or Presentation of the House that Love Built

Ever wonder what a Ronald McDonald House looks like inside? Not sure exactly what we do? Love the Ronald McDonald House and want to learn more about how to get involved and support our mission?

Presentations and tours are wonderful ways to learn about the "House that Love Built" and the services provided to more than 1,400 families who stay at the House every year. We invite you to visit the House for a tour or request a speaker for your next business meeting, school assembly or civic group gathering. Typically, a tour or presentation runs 20-30 minutes, and is customized to the audience.

To schedule a tour or presentation or for more information, please contact Communications and Marketing Manager Kelly Thien at (317) 267-0605 ext. 207, or by e-mail at kthien@rmh-indiana.org.



Think you're smarter than our Young Professionals Board? Prove it!

Join the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana Young Professionals Board as they present **Happy Hour Trivia Bowl**, benefiting the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana.

When?

Wednesday, March 27

Where?

The Theatre at the Athenaeum
401 East Michigan Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Registration opens at **6:00 pm**; trivia begins promptly at **6:30 pm**.
Registration is \$25 per person or \$100 for a team of four.

www.facebook.com/RMHIYPB



For all of your sports, concerts, and theatre ticket needs, friends of the RMHI are encouraged to order online only at www.etatickets.com; use the code: **RMHI** and receive an 8% discount on your total order and a portion of the sales will be donated back to RMHI.

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Support the Ronald McDonald House by saving money on your house!



The Ronald McDonald House of Indiana will receive a \$25 donation for every home that registers for a free home energy assessment through the Energizing Indiana home assessment program. The assessments can lower energy bills, improve in-home air quality and increase the value of the home overall. Inspectors will install energy-savers such as light bulbs, showerheads and sink aerators, and assess the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems to determine if they are operating efficiently. Once the energy assessment is complete, a comprehensive report will be sent detailing what can be done to start saving energy and make the home more comfortable.

For more information and to sign up for a free home energy assessment, please visit our website at www.rmh-indiana.org.

AROUND THE HOUSE



Six-year-old Phoenix's family stayed at our House while she was treated at Riley Hospital for Children. Now back at home, Phoenix recently visited the House after she raised \$673 to place a heart with her name on our Heart Wall. Phoenix raised the money in only a month! Thank you, Phoenix!



A big thank you to the Butler Men's Basketball Team! In January, the team took a tour of the House before helping us take down our Christmas decorations. The team was a great help to us and we enjoyed their visit.



Every year on their daughter Ellie's birthday, Katie and Jeff Chamness and members of their extended family prepare breakfast for the families staying at the House in memory of Ellie. This year, Katie's parents, Susie and Bill Anderson, donated a heart to our Heart Wall in Ellie's name. They are pictured here with Katie and Jeff and their two daughters, Gabby and Scarlett.

We are so grateful to Sun King Brewing Company (above) and Indiana Members Credit Union (below) for serving delicious lunches to our guests at our House at Riley.



A special thanks to South Grove Intermediate School for collecting one million pop tabs in honor of Olivia Renae Warren. South Grove joins our "Collect-A-Million" Club! Congratulations!



Notes from our Guest Families

"Our 12-year-old son was critically injured in a car accident and life lined to Riley. We were here for a month and don't know what we would have done for housing and meals without the Ronald McDonald House. Riley saved my child's life and the Ronald McDonald House saved ours."

"The House provided a safe environment for me and my family to share our story and frustrations with others. It was a blessing to meet many of the guests, volunteers and staff."

"I would just like to say thank you to all of you, from the bottom of our hearts. I know that being here closer to our son helped in his improvement and we were able to go home a month earlier than expected."

Host a Third-Party Event for the House

The Ronald McDonald House of Indiana is fortunate that many groups, businesses and individuals host special events throughout the year to support the families and children who temporarily call our House "home."

If you are interested in organizing and hosting a third-party fundraising event at your business, school, organization or church, please contact Communications and Marketing Manager Kelly Thien at (317) 267-0605, ext. 207, or by e-mail at kthien@rmh-indiana.org.

2013 Third-Party Events

March 20,26 & April 9,16	Five Star Dance Challenge...Dancing for the Ronald McDonald House
April 12	Amy Lehner Benefit Dinner for the Ronald McDonald House (<i>Mishawaka, IN</i>)
April 25	Rolling for Ronald (<i>Latitude 39</i>)
June 15	Run for Ronald 5K Run & Walk (<i>NCAA Hall of Fame</i>)
Aug. TBD	Corvette Club Car Show (<i>TBD</i>)
Aug. TBD	Coy Scott Zeller Memorial Cruise In (<i>Crawfordsville</i>)
Sept. 7	Gold Wing Riders Association Gathering (<i>Ronald McDonald House</i>)
Nov. 22	Kicks for Kids (<i>Off the Wall Sports, Carmel, IN</i>)



Thursday, April 25
Latitude 39 – 4016 E. 82nd Street
Sessions: 5:30-7:30 p.m. and 8-10 p.m.
Cost: \$150 or \$600 per team of four
For more information, call (317) 826-1175.

Mark Your Calendars!

2013 Ronald McDonald House Events

June 27	27th Annual Swing for Kids Pro-Am Golf Tournament (<i>Broadmoor Golf Course</i>)
Aug. 9	9th Annual Pop Tab Drop (<i>Monument Circle</i>)
Sept. 7	Wild, Wild Midwest Sporting Clays Shoot & Barbecue (<i>Izaak Walton Gun Club in Kokomo, IN</i>)
Oct. TBD	Volunteer Recognition Celebration
Nov. 1	"A Taste...Journeys to California Wine Country" (<i>Indiana Roof Ballroom</i>)
Dec. 5	Winter Wonderland Holiday Open House (<i>Ronald McDonald House</i>)



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Go For The Heart

Multi-Level/Multi-Event Partnership Opportunities

Become a 2013 Multi-Level/Multi-Event Partner and Earn:

- ♥ More visibility
- ♥ More benefits
- ♥ More opportunities to help the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana

How it Works:

To qualify as a Gold, Silver or Bronze Partner, select one or more levels within an event and/or one or more events. If those totals amount to \$7,500-\$15,000, you will become a Gold, Silver, or Bronze Partner.

Custom Partnership Packages are available.

For more information, contact Special Events Manager Pam Anderson at (317) 267-0605, ext. 227 or by e-mail at panderson@rmh-indiana.org





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House Staff

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 Connie Cripe, Guest Services Manager
 Mary Friend, Volunteer Resources Manager
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 Kelly Thien, Communications & Marketing Manager
 Jill Young, Night Services & Data Manager

Our Mission

The Ronald McDonald House of Indiana provides a supportive home-away-from-home for families of seriously ill or injured children receiving medical care at Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health and other Indianapolis hospitals.



30 Years. 30 Cents. 30 Days.

To celebrate the 30th Anniversary of our House, McDonald's of Central Indiana will donate 30 cents of each Shamrock Shake purchased during March.

This classic, minty treat has a special place in the history of Ronald McDonald House Charities. For one week in 1974, McDonald's restaurants in Philadelphia, PA dedicated proceeds from the Shamrock Shake to support an effort led by Philadelphia Eagles tight end Fred Hill and Dr. Audrey Evans to open a house where parents could stay close to their children in the hospital.

Sales of the Shamrock Shake raised enough money to buy an old four-story, seven-bedroom house near the hospital, which became the first Ronald McDonald House. The rest, as they say, is history!

Please support our House today by sipping some of RMHC's history – the Shamrock Shake.

30 Days of Luck

Along with Shamrock Shakes, the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana and McDonald's of Central Indiana will celebrate 30 Days of Luck to honor passionate Hoosiers who help children and families in need. Selected honorees will receive a gift of appreciation and have their stories featured on our Facebook page and website. To nominate someone today, visit www.rmh-indiana.org.



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