



ABBIE'S TABBIES

Occasionally we come across stories of hope and strength that leave us inspired. These stories are often about people—like Renee and John Stratton—who are able to find meaning in tragedy and a way for the spirit of a loved one to live on.

On Sept. 17, 2002, Renee and John Stratton welcomed beautiful twin girls, Abigail and Josephine, into the world. During her pregnancy, Renee suffered an undiagnosed complication known as twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome, a disease of the placenta that affects identical twin pregnancies. The girls were born prematurely and struggled with multiple medical issues.

From left: Josephine, Hannah and Julianna. The sisters have been collecting "Abbie's Tabbies" since they were young.



From left: Josephine, Julianna and Hannah. Every year, the girls stand in front of the wall of hearts at the House for their annual Christmas card.

On Oct. 15, at only 28-days-old, Abigail lost her fight. "Thirty minutes after she passed away, I had to return to Josephine who looked just like Abigail," said Renee. "You try to brace yourself, but when you walk in there, you find yourself completely unprepared." Renee and John would stay in the hospital with Josephine for an additional 45 days, and it was during this time that they learned about the Ronald McDonald House.

For the past 33 years, the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana has provided a home-away-from-home for families in their greatest time of need. Many of the families who stay at the House have traveled long distances so their children get the best medical care at an Indianapolis-area hospital. Renee and John saw first-hand how families benefitted from a good night's sleep, a hot shower and a homemade meal. And while

it's no surprise to those who know them, they demonstrated compassion and selflessness by giving up their room at the House to another family in need. "There were so many families with situations like ours and we lived closer to the hospital," Renee said.

Soon after bringing Josephine home, the family began collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Abigail's memory. After welcoming two more daughters into the world, Hanna and Julianna, the family project blossomed into something much more. "Abbie's Tabbies" became a unifying family project to honor the memory of Abbie and to support the House and families going through a difficult time.

"It's a really good family project. My daughters have connected with their sister in this way," said Renee.

Every October, the Strattons visit the House and take their daughters' picture in front of the wall of hearts which they include in their annual Christmas card. Renee has also become so dedicated to providing support to the House that John had a necklace made in the shape of a pop tab as a Mother's Day gift.

Like a badge of honor, Renee wears her necklace as she also keeps her daughter's remembrance close to her heart.

"I may no longer be able to parent a child, but I'm able to parent the memory."



Mark your calendars for Friday, July 17 and make your way down to Monument Circle for the 11th Annual Pop Tab & Coin Drop event. This year, the House is not only looking for those valuable pieces of aluminum, but we're also asking participants to bring their loose change. Join us for a day of fun and games as we raise funds to support the nearly 5,000 families that use our services each year.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Hello,

Spring is here and we are well into the new year. While we are excited about all of our upcoming events in 2015, we would like to take a moment to share the results and outcomes from our stellar 2014. Once again, nearly 1,500 families from across the Hoosier state and from throughout the United States stayed at the House. We provided over 4,000 families day services at our House at Riley including meals, rest areas and laundry services. Thanks to you, our stakeholders and partners, we are able to continue to increase the number of families that we serve each year.

We have many exciting things going on here at the House. Most recently, we became the first Ronald McDonald House in the country to be awarded the Service Enterprise Certification for our volunteer program. With the help of the United Way of Central Indiana, we underwent a rigorous certification curriculum and took our volunteer program to the next level. Congratulations to Mary Friend and to all those who volunteer at the House to make this program so special!

As I finish up my first few months here at the House, I want to send a special thank you to everyone. I am thrilled to be serving you and our families and I look forward to meeting so many more of our friends as the year continues.

Best wishes,

Michelle Study-Campbell

P.S. Please mark your calendars and get ready as we have some very special events coming this year.

2014 HIGHLIGHTS

January 1 through December 31, 2014

TOTAL FAMILIES SERVED

Through Combined
RMH Lodging Programs: **1,454** *(non duplicate)*

ECONOMICS

Estimated nightly cost of providing a room: **\$90**
Amount families are asked to contribute per night: **\$15**
Average families were able to pay per night: **\$3.48**

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE LIMESTONE STREET

SERVICE SUMMARY

Families Served: **1,161**
Number of Rooms: **52**
Average Room Occupancy: **88%**
Average Length of Stay: **11 Nights**

GEOGRAPHIC AREAS SERVED

1,074 Families from Indiana
83 Families from **19** other states
4 families from **2** other countries



RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE AT RILEY AT IU HEALTH

SERVICE SUMMARY

Families Served: **497**
Number of Rooms: **6**
Average Room Occupancy: **64%**
Average Nights per Family: **3 Nights**

DAY SERVICES

Total Families Served: **4,171**
Average Daily Visits: **118**
Total Day Visits: **42,915**

DAY SERVICES AMENITIES

Home-like atmosphere
Day-time naps
Showers
Laundry
Quick meals
Cozy den
Courtyard



OUR VOLUNTEERS

337
Volunteers



32,481
Total Hours of Work



6.65
Years of Average Tenure



\$732,442
Value of Hours Worked



596
Home-Cooked Meals



165
Service Projects



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2015 RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE EVENTS

June 25	29th Annual Swing for Kids Pro-Am Golf Tournament (Broadmoor Country Club)
July 17	11th Annual Pop Tab & Coin Drop on Monument Circle (Monument Circle)
Sept. 5	Wild, Wild Midwest Sporting Clays Shoot & Barbecue (Izaak Walton Gun Club in Kokomo, IN)
Sept. 26	Volunteer Recognition Celebration (Historic Landmarks)
Nov. 6	A Taste...Journeys Through the Wine Regions of Italy (Indiana Roof Ballroom)
Dec. 1	Winter Wonderland Holiday Open House (Ronald McDonald House)



2015 THIRD PARTY EVENTS

April 18	Carmel Marathon (Carmel, IN)
May 5	NFL Alumni Caring for Kids Sporting Clays (Indiana Gun Club, Fortville, IN)
June 20	Heroes for the House – Formerly Run for Ronald (White River State Park, Indianapolis, IN)
Aug. 1	Corvette Club Car Show
Aug. TBD	NR Road Racing Glow in the Night Run
Sept. TBD	Gold Wing Riders Association Gathering (Ronald McDonald House)
Dec. 26 & 27	ELF Invitational Youth 3V3 Soccer Tournament (Off the Wall Sports, Carmel, IN)



**Go for the Heart...
Sponsor Multi-Events and
Become a Super Hero!**

BECOME A 2015 MULTI-LEVEL/MULTI-EVENT SUPER HERO AND EARN:

- Greater visibility
- More benefits
- Increased opportunity 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 of our three signature events. If those totals amount to \$7,500-\$15,000, you will become a Gold, Silver, or Bronze Super Hero!

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

GOLD
\$15,000+
Total Event Partnership

GOLD

- Logo and/or Name on all RMHI Special Event Programs
- Logo on Signage, Website, Newsletters, Press Releases
- Share-A-Night Room Sponsor Plaque
- 10 VIP Tickets to "A Taste" Wine Dinner, Special Recognition, Sponsor Gift

SILVER
\$10,000+
Total Event Partnership

SILVER

- Logo and/or Name on all RMHI Special Event Programs
- Logo on Signage, Website, Newsletters, Press Releases
- Share-A-Night Room Sponsor Plaque
- 6 VIP Tickets to "A Taste" Wine Dinner, Special Recognition, Sponsor Gift

SILVER
\$7,500+
Total Event Partnership

BRONZE

- Logo and/or Name on all RMHI Special Event Programs
- Logo on Signage, Website, Newsletters, Press Releases
- 6 VIP Tickets to "A Taste" Wine Dinner, Special Recognition, Sponsor Gift



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POP-A-LOCK PROVIDES FREE EMERGENCY SERVICE

Did you know that Pop-A-Lock Indy provides FREE emergency services saving children locked in cars through their PALSavesKids program?

In the event that a child is locked in a vehicle, call 317-635-LOCK (5625). Pop-A-Lock will make your incident their top priority and send out the nearest mobile technician. In exchange for helping to raise awareness for PALSavesKids, Pop-a-Lock Indy is now offering those who receive this free service a chance to pay-it-forward by contributing to the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana.

YOUR SPARE CHANGE CHANGES LIVES

Whether you're driving through or dining in, please remember the donation boxes at your local McDonald's. Your spare change helps support the children and families staying at the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana.



TOP TEN WISH LIST ITEMS

- Granola Bars
- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Snack Items (Little Debbie's, Individual Chips and Pretzels)
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Dryer Sheets
- Bottled Water
- Pop Tarts
- Cereal (Individual Servings)
- Paper Towels
- Lysol Wipes / Lysol Spray



If you would prefer to receive this newsletters electronically, please e-mail your request to bbreeden@rmh-indiana.org.