



The Home with a Heart

Keeping families together when they need each other the most.



The Newsletter for the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana | December 2014

At the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana Family is Everything

When Diane Luginbill went into labor at 29 weeks with her fourth child, she and her husband, Brent, didn't even have a named picked out yet. "I had been on bed rest and watching a lot of movies, one of which was "Gone in 60 Seconds," she says. In the movie, Nicholas Cage plays a character whose nickname is Memphis. "I joked, if it's a boy, we'll name him Memphis," she explains. Soon enough, her baby boy had arrived and the Luginbills named him Memphis after all.

When Memphis was around 18 months old, the Luginbills noticed he had some major developmental delays and after consulting with their pediatrician, they ended up at Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health for evaluation. The diagnosis was cerebral palsy. Despite the challenges their youngest child faces, the Luginbills remain optimistic. "I believe Memphis was born with CP for a reason," says Diane.

As part of his treatment at Riley, Memphis has undergone several surgeries and many weeks of therapy. "The doctors and nurse practitioners have been wonderful," says Diane. "Their hearts are so huge. When Memphis had an infection, you could see the compassion in their hearts. It's so reassuring that your doctor just loves your child and he too wants the best for him."

come back home," explains Diane. "I didn't have to buy all of our meals. There are so many wonderful volunteers that bring in supper and you can make breakfast and lunch, too."



Memphis Luginbill

The House not only reduces the financial burden for the Luginbills—it provides a home base for them as well. "It was nice when Memphis was in the hospital, and we might be there for five days and we'd alternate who slept in the hospital. It was so nice to have a place to rest and be able to go and take a shower," says Diane. "The staff is really wonderful and the rooms are comfortable and clean."

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As for the future, Diane knows that Memphis will continue to need ongoing treatments and therapy, but she's just glad that Memphis is happy and healthy. "I love my son and I love everything about him," she says. "As long as he can read or listen to the Bible, I don't care about anything else. He has truly been blessed by the spirit of God."



The Luginbill family. From left: Kaine, Diane, Memphis, Brent, Maggie and Chantz.

While the staff at Riley is taking good care of Memphis, Diane and her family find respite, comfort and care at the Ronald McDonald House. "We've stayed at the Ronald McDonald House quite a few times," she says. Since the Luginbills live about 2.5 hours away from Indianapolis, traveling back and forth while Memphis is in the hospital is not feasible. "This last time it was really nice because we had therapy for 10 weeks so every week we'd drive there on Monday and stay until Wednesday and then

Ronald McDonald House of Indiana Announces Leadership Changes



Michelle Study-Campbell
CEO



Beth Johnson
COO



Joe Schulz
CDO

Strategic planning exercises conducted over the past two years by the Board of Directors and executive leadership determined that the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana could operate most effectively and would be better positioned to achieve its future growth plans if changes were made to its leadership structure. As a result, three new positions were created: Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer, and Chief Development Officer.

Michelle Study-Campbell joined the Ronald McDonald House as its first CEO on Dec. 1. In addition to fulfilling the traditional CEO responsibilities, Michelle's role will be externally focused, with an emphasis on strengthening relationships with existing strategic partners and donors and forming relationships with new ones. Michelle comes to the House with many years of experience in both the nonprofit sector and government. She most recently served as the President and CEO of Reach For Youth, Inc., a youth-serving agency that provides mental health counseling and juvenile justice programs for youth and their families from Central Indiana.

Beth Johnson, who has served as Executive Director for 24 years, will assume the role of COO. She will continue to have primary responsibility for all of RMHI's operations and finance functions.

Joe Schulz's title will change from Director of Development to CDO.

"The Board of Directors and the management team believe these strategic changes will allow us to continue to build on our successful past and seize the opportunities of the future," said Curt Hidde, a partner with Barnes & Thornburg LLP, who serves as the President of the Board of Directors of the Ronald McDonald House.

"It's one of the best attributes of the Ronald McDonald House, that even though our mission hasn't changed, we regularly take a fresh look at our organization to see what could be done better," said Beth. "We are evolving to meet the needs of the families that depend on us and the partners and donors that support us. It's what has made us successful since opening in 1982 and one of the largest and most stable Ronald McDonald Houses in the world."

"The Ronald McDonald House of Indiana's reputation is stellar, providing hope, healing and strength when families are in crisis," said Michelle. "The work that we can accomplish at the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana is phenomenal, and I look forward to being a part of it."



How You Can Help During the Holidays

Donate to our Santa's Workshop

Our annual Santa's Workshop provides a place for families to shop cost-free for loved ones, easing the pain of being away from home for the holidays. Santa's Workshop is operated by our volunteer elves and depends on donations from people like you.

Holiday Wish List

Please help us make the holidays special for the 58 families staying with us by donating the following new and unused items:

- Baby Toys
- Children's toys Hats, gloves, scarves, slippers and socks in all sizes
- Body wash and chapstick
- Thermal mugs
- Wal-mart and Meijer gift cards
- Gas and phone cards
- Kroger and Marsh gift cards

For more information, contact Connie Cripe at (317) 267-0605, ext., 204, or at ccripe@rmh-indiana.org.



Share Your Love

Let your family, friends, coworkers and clients know you're thinking of them this holiday season by making a donation to the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana in their name. We'll send a card letting them know of your gesture. For more information, contact Betsy Breeden at (317) 267-0605, ext. 228, or at bbreeden@rmh-indiana.org.

— a great way to support —
RMHC FAMILIES
Available exclusively at
Dillard's and Dillard's.com

Ronald McDonald House

Cookbooks for a Cause

Dillard's is offering a special custom edition of the Southern Living Christmas Cookbook to benefit the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana, now available at the Richmond, IN store. This exclusive, 288-page cookbook is filled with more than 200 holiday recipes and dozens of decorating ideas that will fill your home with a special, happy holiday touch.

You can view the 2014 Southern Living Christmas Cookbook at Dillard's.com.

The Perfect Holiday Gift

Have you ever wanted to take a lap around the world famous track at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway? Now's your chance! The Ronald McDonald House of Indiana and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway have teamed up to offer a one-of-a-kind experience for race fans and car enthusiasts that also helps keep families together when they need it most.

The Indy Racing Experience gives fans the unique opportunity to experience the high speeds of IndyCar racing with a range of different driving and 2-seater programs. Passengers get a driver's eye view of the 2.5 mile oval track as they speed around in an IndyCar, Nascar, or an Event Car.



Upon purchase of a Ronald McDonald House of Indiana Lap Ride (\$60), \$20 will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana. Another option available is purchasing a High Speed Race Experience at a 20% discount using the promo code RMH1, and that 20% will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House. Learn more at indyracingexperience.com.



Celebrating our Volunteers

Our wonderful Ronald McDonald House volunteers make a difference in the lives of all the families that come through our doors—by cooking, hosting, listening, nurturing and by simply being there and helping. On Sept. 26, we celebrated our volunteers for their many contributions to the House and to the more than 1,500 families we serve every year.

Lori Kleiman Awards

Lori Kleiman was a very special volunteer valued for her generosity, creativity and compassion. Since her passing, the House recognizes volunteers who most exemplify her dedication and values. This year, the Ronald McDonald House presented the Lori Kleiman Award to Cara Kowal, and for the first time, a mother/daughter duo, Lisa Hull and Emily Duhn.



Cara Kowal

Many words come to mind when we recall the past four years the House has been blessed by the illuminating presence of **Cara Kowal**. Kind, warm-hearted, and helpful are merely a few of the words that describe Cara, but to our families, she is known as a miracle worker around the kitchen. In light of her personal philosophy—“hungry people do not cope well”—Cara is known not only for her ability to turn a can of soup and a can of green beans into a four course meal, but also for the inspiring words of encouragement she serves to our families along with a home-cooked meal.

Since beginning her dedicated involvement with the House in January 2011, Cara has committed herself to giving back to the place that helped her while her youngest daughter, Dagny, received care at Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health. It is her special kind of compassion and dedication that fuels the House’s mission of providing comfort, care and compassion to families when they need it most.

Great things come in pairs, and to the great benefit of the House, this came in the form of a mother-daughter duo. **Emily Duhn** and **Lisa Hull** are a positive force of energy that is in constant motion around the House. Between checking families in, fulfilling houseguest needs, and many other duties, this dynamic duo lends a helping hand from arrival to departure, day in and day out.

Among the wonderful work Emily and Lisa have accomplished around the House, the two have a hand in a little bit of everything—helping with Santa’s Workshop at Christmas time, organizing the storage area, and even heading to Sam’s Club or Wal-Mart with our RMHI shopping list a few times per month. Knowing that this duo is here to lend their nonstop dedication and support, the House and its guests are in great hands.



Emily Duhn & Lisa Hull

President's Service Awards

Many volunteers received recognition by President Obama for recording 100 or more hours of service to the House in 2013.

Gold Award Recipients

(Serving 500+ hours)

Karen McGugin
Michael Rhinaman
Linda Satterfield

Silver Award Recipients

(Serving 250-499 hours)

Cindy Hutchison
Nancy Iles
Kylie Kovach
Regina Kowalski

Bronze Award Recipients

(Serving 100-249 hours)

Harold Aron
Juanna Brennan
Tyler Childers
Carla Crock
Karen Devansky
Linda Duke
Theresa Errard
Terri Hawkins
Lisa Hull
Woody Hurst
Cara Kowal
Diana Laybold
Karen Lewandowski
Tianjiano Liu
Dale Roberts
Mercedes Roots
Bob Schofield
Lane Sims
Bob Skorjanc
Shirley Yegerlehner

Helping Hands Award

These individuals, companies and organizations were recognized for responding to the needs of our families through generous in-kind gifts and support of our mission.

Centenary Christian Church

Chef's Academy

IREM—Run for Ronald

IUPUI—Sam H. Jones Community Scholarship Program

Nutrition Services—Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health

Sheryl Swingley—Ball State University

Volunteer Center—United Way of Central Indiana



RMHI Volunteer Services Manager Mary Friend (second in from the right) and Ronald McDonald present the Helping Hands award to the Sam H. Jones Community Scholarship Program participants and staff.

Taste

A Taste...Journeys to the Wine Regions of France
Presented by NextGear Capital
Benefiting the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana

We are so grateful to the more than 450 friends, supporters and volunteers who attended our Taste...Journeys to the Wine Regions of France gala held on the evening of November 7 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom.

The Voyage Francais featured WISH-TV's Scott Sander as our emcee for the evening; remarkable French wines and champagnes from the top wine regions of France, presented by Monarch Beverage; bistro sweets and pastries, compliments of Indy's newest French Restaurant – Cropichon et Bidibule; the Galerie d'Francais Silent Auction; and extraordinary entertainment by Kelleen Strutz, The Allen Burke Jazz Band, Juliet Potts, The Five Star Dance Studio and the Indiana Ballet Conservatory. Guests experienced France's **joie de vivre** and authentic French ambience presented by Post Road English Garden, Impact Group and a festival of lights by Markey's Audio Visual.



Dancers from the Indiana Ballet Conservatory captivated the audience.

Merci to Jill Ditmire, honorary chair, Jennifer Dzwonar, planning chair, Elaine Shaffer, auction chair, and Brittney Williams, auction co-chair; and the entire planning and auction committees who created an inspired journey of all the senses, and most importantly, the heart.



A "taste" of the fine French cuisine and silent auction.



Kelleen Strutz and The Allen Burke Jazz Band entertained guests throughout the night.



Guests enjoyed a young Juliet Pott's heart-melting rendition of "A Castle on a Cloud."

Thank you to our Partners:

2014 Multi-Level/Multi-Event Partners
of the Ronald McDonald House

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Home for the Holidays!

Thank you to everyone who stopped by our Winter Wonderland Open House on Dec. 4. And a special thanks to the following individuals and groups who helped make the day merry and bright for our families and guests:

Entertainment & Special Guests

Broad Ripple Magnet High School for the Arts & Humanities
Ronald McDonald
Santa and Mrs. Claus
Santa's Elves—Brittney Williams and Hayley Williams
Michael Rhinaman, Sound



Holiday Décor

Head Elf Linda Satterfield, Young Professionals Board and House Volunteers
Engledow Group

Holiday Hors d'ouvres and refreshments

Olive Branch Christian Church

Santa's Sweet Shoppe

Olive Branch Christian Church



We are so proud of our wonderful volunteer, Rosalynn Kowal, who received the Outstanding Youth Achievement Award from the Indiana Association of Fundraising Professionals on Nov. 12.

Our friend Murphy the therapy dog, had fun dressing up for Halloween and visiting our families at the Ronald McDonald House inside Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health.





YOUNG PROFESSIONALS BOARD



The Young Professionals Board had a great time working with some of the kids at the House on an art project for the Tony Stewart Foundation. So many talented artists!

Our staff and volunteers wore their stripes on Oct. 17 in celebration of the 40 year anniversary of the first House in Philadelphia, and 40 years of helping families and children heal together.



A big thank you to Hot 96.3 for sponsoring 12 events during the month of December, all to benefit our House. DJ B-Swift and his team broadcasted live from our House during our holiday open house on Dec. 4. Check out their website at indyhiphop.com for remaining events.



We are grateful for the Carmel Marathon for sponsoring a room at the House for a year. At the room dedication, it was announced that we will be their charity of choice again in 2015. Carmel Marathon Champion and former houseguest, Jesse Davis, spoke at the celebration.



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of Indiana**
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**YOUNG PROFESSIONAL
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Help make MOMENTS like this possible



*This holiday season, give
THE GIFT OF TOGETHERNESS
and help a child heal.*

Please donate today, at
rmh-indiana.org or by using
the enclosed envelope.

