



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
Midwest | MN, WI, IA

news from the heart

MARCH 2023

www.rmhm.org



After 84 nights at the House in Rochester,
Megan and her mom went home!
#KeepingFamiliesClose

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

We have had an incredible start to 2023, thanks to the continued generosity and support of so many. Over the first few months of the year, we have had the honor of hosting some very special guests at the House, celebrating in record style at our annual Hearts & Diamonds Spectacular, and expanding our service area with the hopes to find new ways to serve families in need.

In January, we welcomed the Minnesota Twins to the House for a fun-filled afternoon. They spent time interacting with our families and spreading cheer throughout the House. The players, coaches, and staff were incredibly gracious and compassionate, taking the time to play games with kiddos, sign autographs, and donate some great baseball equipment for the Indoor Activity Room.

In February, we were amazed at the outpouring of support at our annual Hearts & Diamonds Spectacular. The attendees set a goal of funding 800 nights of lodging for families in need. When it was all said and done, the number of nights funded was 1,150! It was a truly memorable and inspiring night for all, that highlighted the power of our community and the impact we can have when we come together in support of our families.

As you'll read about in the newsletter, the Ronald McDonald House of Rochester, Minnesota, has expanded its services and service area by merging with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Western Wisconsin and Southeastern Minnesota, forming Ronald McDonald House Charities Midwest | MN, WI, IA. But the House in Rochester will continue to be the anchor of how we deliver our mission and the heartbeat of all that we do. In addition, we will now work to best understand how we support families closer to their homes, in communities such as Eau Claire, La Crosse, Austin, Albert Lea, Mason City, and other local communities.

As always, we are deeply grateful for your ongoing support and dedication to our mission. Your contributions and partnership make it possible for us to provide vital services and support to families during some of the most challenging times of their lives. We look forward to continuing to work together to make a meaningful difference in the lives of the children and families turning to us for support.



Nick Mueller, Chief Executive Officer



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MISSION STATEMENT

The Ronald McDonald House of Rochester, Minnesota, provides a home away from home and gives support to families seeking medical care for their children.



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Blake and her big brother, Myles, were so excited to be going home with mom and dad after 316 nights at the House in Rochester!

Bianca celebrated in the snow with her brother and sister after 282 nights at the House in Rochester!



Lucas was feeling on top of the world, because after 270 nights at the House in Rochester...he went home!

Jessica and Tyler took Noah home to his sister after 183 nights at the House in Rochester!



Kyle and his dad left the winter weather after 177 nights at the House in Rochester and went home to mom and sister in Uganda!

Baby Elva was ecstatic to go home after 175 nights at the House in Rochester!





**Ronald McDonald House Charities Midwest | MN, WI, IA
hosted the 20th Annual Hearts & Diamonds Spectacular
presented by Sterling State Bank on Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023,
at Somerby Golf Club in Byron, Minn.**

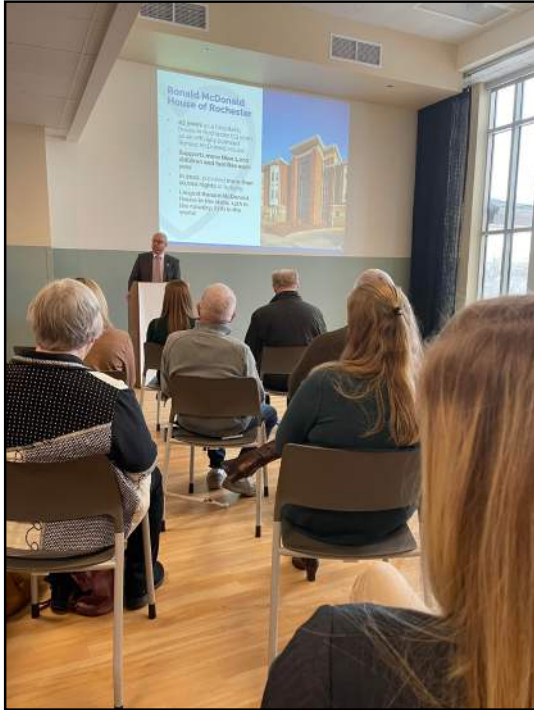




The Fill the House with Love donation raised more than \$120,000, or 1,150 nights of restful sleep for children and families! And the entire event raised more than \$250,000...a new record!

Ronald McDonald House of Rochester merges with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Western Wisconsin and Southeastern Minnesota, becomes Ronald McDonald House Charities Midwest | MN, WI, IA

The Ronald McDonald House of Rochester, Minnesota, has expanded its services and service area by merging with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Western Wisconsin and Southeastern Minnesota, forming Ronald McDonald House Charities Midwest | MN, WI, IA.



“The merger of our chapters creates a synergy of resources and passion, allowing us to amplify our impact and deliver greater support to families in need,” said Nick Mueller, CEO of Ronald McDonald House Charities Midwest | MN, WI, IA.

The Ronald McDonald House of Rochester has provided a home away from home and support to families seeking medical care for their children at world-renowned Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. The 70-room House is the largest Ronald McDonald House in the state of Minnesota, the 13th largest in the country (out of 186), and the 17th largest in the world (380).

Since its beginnings as Northland House—a 12-bedroom home started by four Rochester-area families—the Ronald McDonald House of Rochester built a new building (1995) and expanded that building twice (2004, 2019), all to meet the growing needs of families from around the state, the Midwest, the United States, and the world.

Today, the House is serving more families than ever before, providing a place to stay for more than 1,000 families each year, and providing support to hundreds more beyond its walls.

“Our services for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House of Rochester reflects the care and compassion we provide,” Mueller said. “We bring comfort and hope to families that turn to us for support.”

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Western Wisconsin and Southeastern Minnesota creates, finds, and supports programs in its communities that directly improve the health and well-being of children by addressing educational, social, and medical needs. Over the past 29 years, RMHC of Western Wisconsin and Southeastern Minnesota has awarded more than \$12 million in grants to medical partners and nonprofit organizations. In 2022 alone, it awarded \$1.1 million to nonprofits in a 62-county area spanning Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa.

“We are excited for the future,” said Wendy Lommen, former president and director of RMHC of Western Wisconsin and Southeastern Minnesota. “Our organization worked to address unmet needs and strengthen communities, all while serving the mission of Ronald McDonald House Charities.”



“Together, as one larger chapter, we have the ability to build and support core programs in a much broader way.”

The newly formed RMHC Midwest | MN, WI, IA and its core programs (Ronald McDonald House, grants) will operate out of its existing physical location in Rochester.

“Moving ahead, the Ronald McDonald House in Rochester will continue to be the heartbeat of our organization and core to delivering our mission,” Mueller said. “And we are so excited for the future as RMHC Midwest | MN, WI, IA.”

As a full Ronald McDonald House Charities chapter, RMHC Midwest | MN, WI, IA will have additional opportunities to serve children and families in western Wisconsin, northeast Iowa, and southern Minnesota, including those who live in Olmsted County and those who receive services from other healthcare partners.



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Keeping families close®

Minnesota Twins visit Ronald McDonald House Charities Midwest | MN, WI, IA

When the (Minnesota) Twins passed through (Rochester) on Tuesday as part of the final day of their Winter Caravan leg, manager Rocco Baldelli, Popkins, pitcher Louie Varland and longtime big leaguer LaTroy Hawkins taught several of the kids how to swing off tees and against soft toss as they and their families got to enjoy a ballpark-style lunch of hot dogs and chili.

*- Do-Hyoung Park,
Twins reporter for MLB.com*





RMHC[®]

Midwest | MN, WI, IA

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Rochester, MN 55902

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<https://www.rmhmh.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cans for Kids	Saturday, June 10, 2023
Swing Your Birdie Golf Classic	Monday, June 12, 2023 Somerset Golf Club

SHARE YOUR STORY!

Each family who has stayed at the House has a unique and beautiful story!

Your story is the reason people support the House!

Contact Jacob Dreyer, Communications Director, for more information.

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