



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

news from the heart

OCTOBER 2023

www.RMHCMidwestMWI.org



[Mona Lisa Shutters.](#)
Fall Creek, Wis.

**Parents rarely feel prepared for twins.
They feel even less prepared when the twins are born four months early.**

Watch your mailbox for Opal and Owen's story in the Fall Appeal!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Dear friends and families of the House,

As we enter the final stretch of this year, it's the perfect time to reflect on the remarkable journey that 2023 has been so far. What you will see in the pages ahead are wonderful images of memories being made and impact made possible by the generosity of our supporters, volunteers, and community partners over the past few months. We are humbled by the outpouring of generosity for the families turning to us in a great time of need. We are also inspired by the brave kiddos and the devoted families that come through our door daily. Their courage never ceases to amaze us. You will get a glimpse of that with Opal and Owen's story in the fall appeal, which will be in your mailboxes in the next couple of weeks.

Throughout this year, we've seen our community come together in powerful ways. It has happened at a time when more families are turning to us than ever before. So far this year, we have been a home away from home for more than 800 families by providing more than 10,000 nights of free lodging. In addition, we continue to support families through on-site programs and activities, transportation, and ever-growing nutritional support needs.

On behalf of all those who turn to us for care and comfort, I extend our deepest gratitude to each of you for your unwavering support of our mission. Your gifts of time, talents, and treasures are as important as ever for the House.

I'm excited about the future as we continue to make a difference in the lives of countless families coming to Rochester for life-saving care for their children.

Yours in service to our families and children,



Nick Mueller, Chief Executive Officer
RMHC Midwest MN, WI, IA



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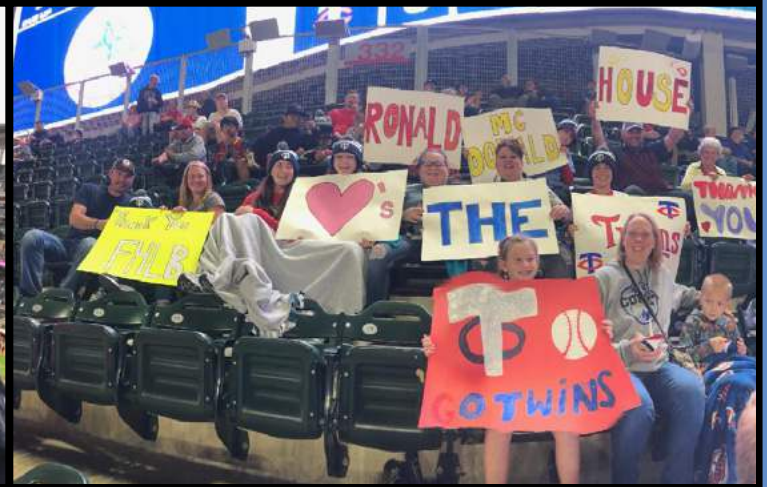


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NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

Children and families from RMHC Midwest MN, WI, IA watched the Minnesota Twins clinch the MLB AL Central Division title!

Thank you to **Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines** and the **Twins** for supporting our night at the ballpark!



PAW PALS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Guest families, pet therapy dogs, volunteers, and staff recently celebrated the 10-year anniversary of Paw Pals, RMHC Midwest MN, WI, IA's pet therapy program!



Certified therapy dogs visit children and families at the House in Rochester, providing a sense of comfort and a feeling of home.

The House currently has six Paw Pals:
Bailey, Beamish, Daisy, Dempsey, Frank, and Jack.



FALL FESTIVAL

Children and families gathered at the House for the two-night event after long days filled with appointments.



Making fairy gardens, portraits by a local caricature artist, cookie decorating, painting pumpkins, building scarecrows, s'mores, ice cream, and more - these nights give families the opportunity to connect, share their stories, and build friendships with others!



BABIES/TODDLERS

Rattles & teething toys | Pacifiers & bottles | Infant toys | Fisher Price baby/toddler toys | Onesies & outfits | Stacking toys | Musical toys | Muslin & receiving blankets | Animal snuggly & Taggies blankets | Board books & crinkle books | Silicone teething necklaces | Sling wrap baby carriers | Bumbo seats | Play mats | Bouncy seats | Bath & lotion sets

KIDS

LEGOs | Cars, trucks, & trains | Barbie & Barbie accessories | Action figures | Disney Princess dolls & toys | Superhero toys & games | Coloring books (with crayons, markers, & colored pencils) | Art & craft kits | Build-It kits | Puzzles | Magna-Tiles | Play-Doh & Play-Doh sets and toys | Board games & card games | Dolls & accessories | Books & book sets

TEENS

Portable speakers | Headphones & earbuds | Bath & Body sets | Indoor table games (ping pong, darts, etc.) | Jewelry | Makeup, nail polish, & hair items | Craft kits & supplies | Clothing (t-shirts, hoodies, sports attire, fuzzy socks) | Sport balls | Gym/Sport bags | LEGO sets | Board games & card games | Remote control cars | Walkie talkies | Teen coloring books | Paper airplane & puzzle books | Marker & colored pencil sets | Pastel sets | Acrylic paint sets | Books & book sets

SENSORY TOYS

Push & pop bubble toys | Liquid motion bubble timers | Rain sticks & musical instruments | Aqua coloring & doodle mats | Fidget sensory toys | Fuzzy band bracelets | Spinning light-up wand | Counting & sorting toys | Squishy balls

PARENTS

Makeup & skin care items | Purses & tote bags | Clothing (t-shirts, hoodies, sports attire, ball caps, pajamas, fuzzy socks) | Bath & Body items/shave & body wash kits | Housewares | Tools & car care kits | Insulated travel coffee mugs & water bottles | Journals | Adult coloring books | Wrapping paper | Gift bags | Scotch Tape | Gift tags

GIFT CARDS

Gas stations | Grocery stores | Restaurants (sit-down & fast food) | Super stores (Walmart & Target)

Please note all gifts need to be new, unopened, and unwrapped.

Items may be dropped off at the House (850 2nd St. SW, Rochester, MN, 55902) or purchased online and shipped directly to the House.

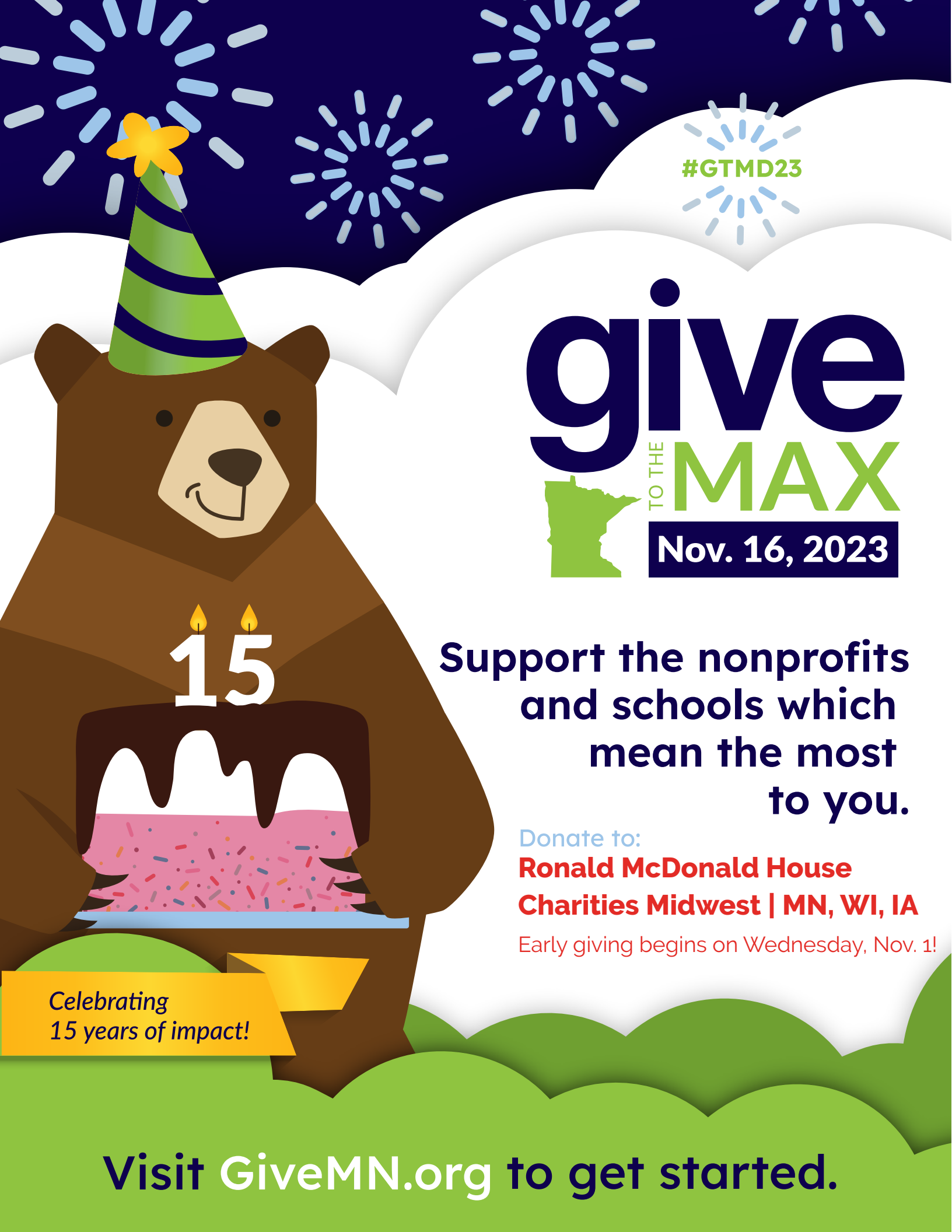
AMAZON WISH LIST: <https://a.co/dC44R7T>

HOLIDAY WISH LIST



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#GTMD23

give

TO THE **MAX**

Nov. 16, 2023

**Support the nonprofits
and schools which
mean the most
to you.**

Donate to:
**Ronald McDonald House
Charities Midwest | MN, WI, IA**
Early giving begins on Wednesday, Nov. 1!

*Celebrating
15 years of impact!*

Visit GiveMN.org to get started.



RMHC

Midwest | MN, WI, IA

850 2nd St. SW
Rochester, MN 55902

(507) 282-3955

www.RMHCMidwestMWI.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Give to the Max Day	Thursday, Nov. 16, 2023 Click here for early giving beginning on Wednesday, Nov. 1!
Giving Tuesday	Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2023

SHARE YOUR STORY!

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

Your story is the reason people support RMHC Midwest MN, WI, IA!

Contact [Jacob Dreyer, Communications Director](#), for more information.

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