

2022



RMHC[®]
Greater Chattanooga

Keeping families close[®]

Annual Report

www.rmhchattanooga.com



349 families

called the Chattanooga
Ronald McDonald House
their home in 2022



368 volunteers

donated hours of service
to the Chattanooga RMHC
and Family Room



16 Nights

was the average length of
stay at the Chattanooga
RMHC in 2022



**28 local high
school students**

were awarded
scholarships for their
freshman year of college



WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 Letter from the CEO
- 3 Letter from the Board Chair
- 4 RMHC Impact
- 5-6 Share-A-Night, The Mull Family
- 7-8 Financial Report
- 9-12 Event Highlights
- 13 RMHC Partners
- 14 Legacy Circle, Thank You

2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ms. Mary Lynn Wilson, Chairperson
Mrs. Betsy Conroy, Vice Chairperson
Ms. Kara L. West, Past Chairperson
Mrs. Tracy Hightower, Secretary
Mr. Tye Youngblood, Treasurer

Mr. James Anderson
Ms. Brianda Ayala
Mrs. Lindsey Blazek
Mrs. Sallie M. Brooks

Ms. Ellen Tucker Dowling
Ms. Melanie Farrell
Ms. Erin Henderson
Ms. Jayne Holder
Mr. Art Holekamp
Mr. Kerry Hoyle
Mrs. Marcia Kling
Mr. John Loetscher
Ms. Melissa McKown
Mr. Brad Moore
Mrs. Jill O'Daniel
Mrs. Beth Painter
Dr. Marcelo Rains
Mr. Gautam Roy
Ms. Pat Roza
Mr. Jimmy Scotchie
Ms. Jane Stahl
Dr. Stephanie Stegall
Mr. Larry Vinyard
Mr. Nick vonWerssowetz
Mr. Jeffery Wiese
Mr. Jay Wilkinson
Mrs. Amy Yacoubian

RMHC of Greater Chattanooga STAFF

Michael Brown, Ph.D. SBS | President & CEO

Tiffany Commons | Chief Operations Officer

William Brown | Chief Advancement Officer

Abigail Bowman | Communications Director

Heather Jennings | Executive Assistant

A.J. Davis | VP of Community Engagement

Michele Loyd | VP of Family Services

Carla Sewell | VP of Programs

Emma Dale | Donor Database Specialist

Kathryn Gervasi | Director of Family Room Program

Chantelle Hayes | Environment Specialist

Haylee Mitchell | Family Room Manager

Mary Pike | Chief Development Specialist

Melan Matic | Kitchen Manager

Garland Sherman | Director of Facilities & Maintenance

LaToya Walters | Family Room Manager

Tonya West | House Manager



OUR MISSION:

To provide families with the care and resources they need when their child is sick and to support programs and services that directly improve the health and well-being of children.

Letter from our **PRESIDENT & CEO**

Dear RMHC board members & community,

I am excited to share with you the next phase of our chapter's journey, which has been developed through extensive planning and discussions as part of the global impact strategies process.

Currently, we are engaged in conversations with our esteemed community partners in Cleveland, Tennessee, and Dalton, Georgia. Through these discussions, we have been exploring the exciting opportunity to implement a new program that aims to provide our families with continuum care following their stay at our facilities. This program will ensure that our families receive the necessary support and guidance as they transition back to their new realities after leaving our accommodations.

To facilitate the successful implementation of this program, we will be creating and hiring new staff positions, namely Medical Navigators, who will be responsible for serving in these supportive roles. By expanding our services and footprint in this way, we are not only enhancing our impact but also meeting a crucial need for families in our communities.

With such growth and development in our programs and services, it has become necessary for us to evaluate our current office and workspace. This evaluation has shown the need for potential capital improvements to accommodate our expanding organizational structure. We have already seen positive returns from several upgrades in recent months, such as improving our volunteer onboarding and orientation processes, installing a new security system overseeing our parking lot, and constructing a new back

fence to eliminate transient traffic. These improvements have proven to be successful, and we are excited to continue making further enhancements in the coming months.

None of these accomplishments and positive changes would have been possible without your continuous support and dedication. Every day, we are able to provide sick children with what they need most – the presence and support of their families – because of individuals like you who believe in our mission and stand beside us.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering support and for believing in our vision. We are committed to making a lasting impact in the lives of our families, and with your support, we will continue to do so. Together, we can transform the lives of countless children and their families, spreading hope and joy throughout our community.

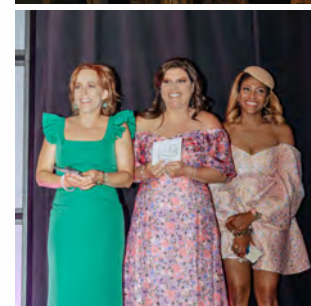
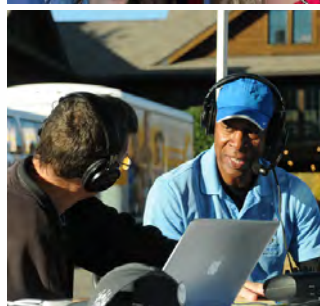
Thank you to our RMHC board, our medical partner Erlanger Health System and our mission partner McDonalds.

Thank you all once again for your invaluable support. We look forward to sharing more success stories and exciting updates in the near future.

Warm regards,



Michael Brown, Ph.D. SBS





Letter from our **CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

The word "gratitude" comes to my mind as I look back over the last year.

Gratitude for our CEO, Dr. Michael Brown. He has been with us for just a year,

his leadership, his enthusiasm, his heart for our mission, and his vision for where we can improve and take our mission to greater achievements has presented possibilities—and challenges—that make me realize he is the right person to lead for the future of our beloved House.

Gratitude for our tremendous staff. This has been a year of change for the staff as well. They have been asked to look at the duties they perform in new ways. Michael has given new responsibilities to staff members who were already on board, and brought in new staff who bring fresh eyes and fresh ideas to our mission. New procedures and revamped streams of revenue are being implemented, all with the goal of making our families' experience of the House even better.

Gratitude for our volunteers. Without this dedicated care of folks that so generously give of their resources, both of time AND finances, we absolutely could not do much of what we do. It has been most heartening to me that with a combined force of paid staff and volunteers, the Family Room once again maintains a constant, 7-days-a-week presence inside Erlanger, which has enhanced care for our families from the House, & has also provided much-needed resources for all Erlanger patient visitors.

Gratitude for our community partners. All of our partners are an integral part of keeping our

House doors open and ready to welcome families in crisis because of their sick child. I think particularly of our McDonald's owner/operators, who have stood staunchly beside us for 32 years. Along with so many other resources, they provide much of the funding for the scholarships we are able to award to young people who might not otherwise be able to attend college. I also think of our medical partner, Erlanger, and the many ways the administration and staff assist us in providing our families with the best care possible—including the clinical care of the precious little ones whose illnesses bring their families to our House.

Gratitude for our Board. The dedicated men and women, past and present, who have given their expertise, labor, time and finances to fulfill the mission of our House are to me the definition of selfless service. The establishment of the Legacy Circle this year will be an on-going recognition of those leaders who laid the foundation of this House, and those who continue to provide the governance that every organization needs to be successful.

Thanks to the efforts of all of these, our House continues to stand with an open door, providing a haven for families whose lives have been upended by their child's illness or injury, and who need the care and comfort that we are uniquely able to provide. And I am supremely optimistic that, with all these many groups working together, our House will "be there" for families for many decades to come.

Mary Lynn Wilson

2022-2023 Chairman of the Board

KEEPING FAMILIES CLOSE

Your support made a huge impact in 2022.



5,747

nights provided to families



2,135

children cared for by RMHC



34,415

total number of bedside hours



183

nights being the longest stay



The House that love built ...

SHARE-A-NIGHT

\$150 is the value of a family's night stay at the Ronald McDonald House.

Will you share-a-night?



MEET THE MULL FAMILY

When nineteen year old Kaigan's motorcycle ride turned into a life-threatening accident, his parents rushed in the car to drive two hours away from home and sleep in the hospital parking garage, all to be as close as possible to their son.

Seeing two dips in the road on Highway 60 going to North Carolina, Kaigan thought he had a handle on the familiar bumpy road he was riding that Monday afternoon. Getting the first dip under control was easy for him, but the second bump in the road wobbled the back of his bike throwing him off the motorcycle about 100 yards and his bike sliding 408 feet.

"I remember trying to get up, but I looked down and about that time, my ankle just snapped and bones were everywhere," said Kaigan. "Tendons [were] hanging out, blood gushing because I cut my blood vessel wide open. I'm sitting there in my own puddle of blood, literally my own puddle of blood."

He was riding alongside a friend that day who immediately called Kaigan's mom after the accident. Being the Chief Deputy Coroner in their county, Kaigan's mother, Rebecca, knew exactly how to help.

"I called dispatch and said I need a med unit going this way because that is my son," said Rebecca. "The first two

responders were an ER doctor from Erlanger in Murphy and an ER nurse that works at the Erlanger in Murphy. The doctor went ahead and called for life force, they were able to get to the scene, and had already initiated everything that should've been done. They were our true blessings."

After sending a medical unit to the scene of the accident, Rebecca, along with Kaigan's stepfather, father, and stepmother, all rushed to him.

"When we get to the scene, I'm thinking of a motorcycle wreck [and] I thought oh maybe he's got some scratches or broken bones," Rebecca said. "When they came out of the ambulance bagging him, I lost my mind. I started praying over him, [that] God will pull us through whatever is coming our way, but when they took off with him in the helicopter, it was like my life was shattered. He's my baby and he's my heart, he's my life."

Once Kaigan arrived to Erlanger East in Chattanooga, he was in the trauma unit on a ventilator, bandaged from head to toe, for days. Once his parents all arrived to the hospital, they could not see him until 11 that night, hours after the accident. Shortly after, Kaigan was transferred to Neuro-ICU and they could not see him until the morning, but that didn't stop any of them from staying as close as

possible to their son.

Spending the first two nights of Kaigan's hospital stay in the parking garage and the next night in a motel ten minutes from the hospital, all of the parents realized Kaigan was going to be in the hospital for some time and they needed their sleeping arrangements to change. "I had severe anxiety because I was 10 minutes away," said Rebecca. "You're not getting rest, but **the biggest thing for being here was I actually did get to lay my head down and go to sleep because I knew that if something happened, I was a second away.**"

Checking into the Chattanooga Ronald McDonald House, all of Kaigan's parents were able to safely sleep across the street from the hospital, only minutes away from him.

"It's a loving and warm environment, so it's almost like home. We have all the necessities we need here that we would have at home," said Rebecca. "Everybody in this house has a child that's in that hospital. Whether or not we know them, it's good therapy to talk to them, its good therapy for them to talk to you."

"[It's] just somebody else to talk to. Sometimes people need that," said David Hughson, stepfather.

Kaigan had no idea where his parents were staying for the first two weeks in the hospital. After he was able to sit in a wheelchair and stroll around the hospital, his parents showed him where they had been staying.

"Whenever I actually got to see it, it was a relief. Your mom and the people that care about you are literally right

across the street," said Kaigan. "They can come see me as soon as they can. It was definitely a big relief for me, not having to stress if something happens like they won't be able to come as soon as it happens, you know. Mom and dad and all them, right across the road, super close, it was a blessing."

Now with about a year of healing ahead from road rash, broken bones and a heel replacement, Kaigan and his family will still be able to rely on the Ronald McDonald House during their next doctor's appointments.

"For a two hour drive, it's a lot easier to get here the night before, and not have to drive straight in because his foot needs to be elevated," said David. "The drive is very uncomfortable for him so this has been a blessing for us just by transitioning," said Rebecca.

After staying at the Ronald McDonald House for weeks to checking in for a few nights each week for doctor's appointments, the Mull family has been able to truly understand the healing power of staying right across the street from each other.

"I can't even begin to say what a blessing this place is, honestly. What the Ronald McDonald House has given to our family," said Rebecca. "This is really what has put it into perspective for me being here: when you go through McDonald's and see the change thing and you're thinking if I donate money, does that really go to them? When I walk through these doors and I saw what that donation does, it changed my perspective on giving to the Ronald McDonald House."



Scan here to **DONATE** to Share-A-Night and
← help families just like the Mull family.

What does your **Share-A-Night** donation do at RMHC?

10 Nights Covered
\$1,500 Donated



35 Nights Covered
\$5,250 Donated



62 Nights Covered
\$9,300 Donated



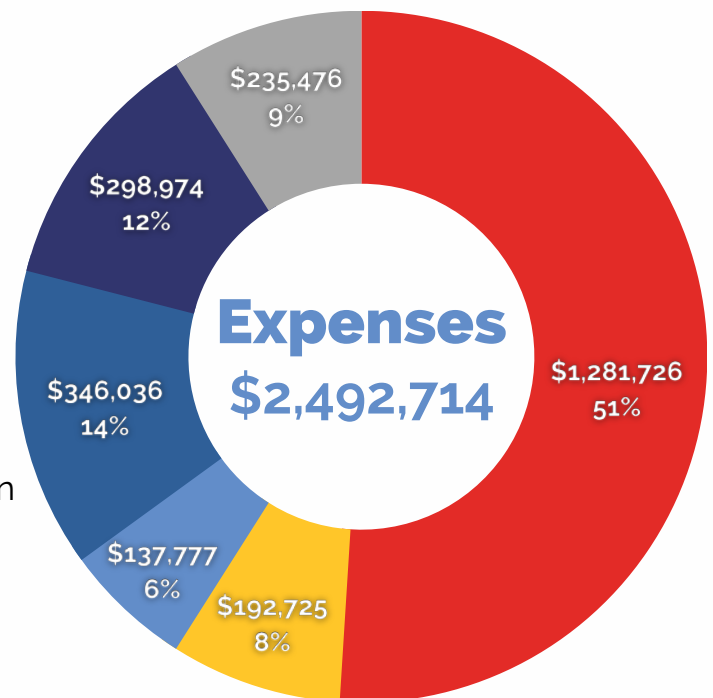
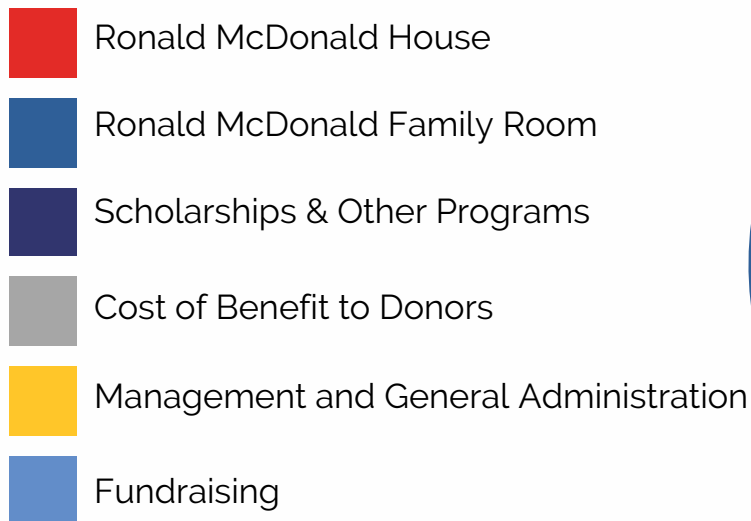
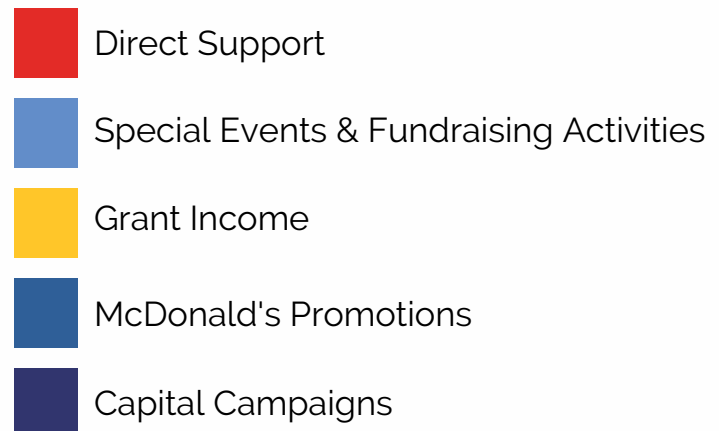
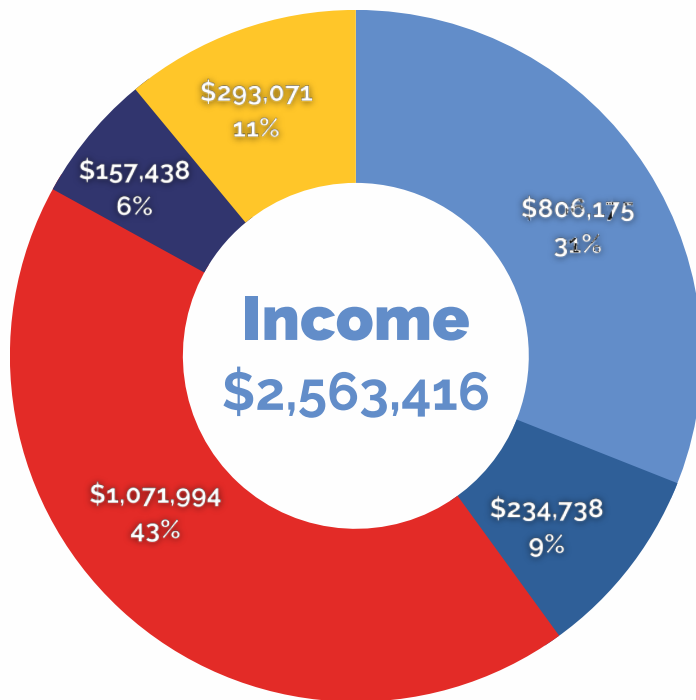
185 Nights Covered
\$27,750 Donated



These families are just a snapshot of what donations to RMHC can do. Every single dollar donated to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Chattanooga goes towards directly benefitting the families we serve. The donations made to Share-A-Night provide families with sick children a home away from home to rest their heads, receive hot meals and fresh food every single day, and allow someone else to take care of them while they focus solely on their child's well-being. Thank you for your contribution to RMHC to help us continue to keep families close!



2022 FINANCIAL SUMMARY



Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Chattanooga is being audited by Henderson Hutcherson & McCullough, PLLC, Certified Public Accountants, and a copy of the audited financial statements will be available upon request and published on the organization's public website www.rmhcchattanooga.com as soon as the audit is complete. RMHC of Greater Chattanooga is BBB Accredited Business since 2006.



2022 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



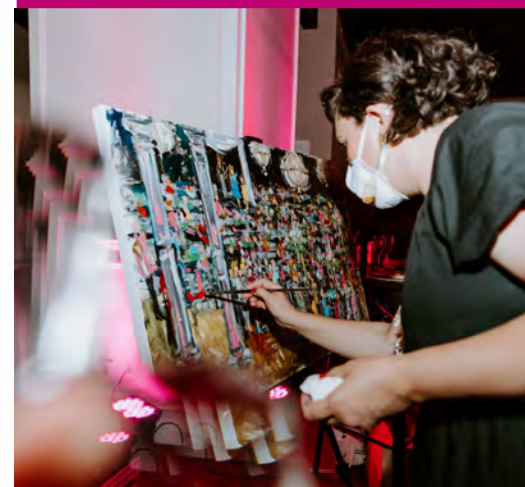
1st Annual Wine Women & Shoes

Thursday, April 21

LOCATION: Stratton Hall & The Peyton

Fashion changes, so should the lives of our families. Chattanooga's wine-savvy, shoe loving women were invited to kick up their heels and sip fine wines, enjoy savory bites from local chefs, and shop the latest shoes and accessories from fabulous fashion vendors all while supporting the Chattanooga Ronald McDonald House Charities. **This event, in it's first year raised almost \$260,000!**

FOLLOW THIS EVENT ON INSTAGRAM!



2022 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



3rd Annual Run4Kids

Saturday, August 13

LOCATION: Chattanooga State

Run4Kids is a celebration of the many RMHC families that have stayed close to their sick children in the hospital. Family & friends are invited to create team spirit in honor or memory of a loved one. **In it's 3rd year as an in-house RMHC event, the 2022 Run4Kids raised over \$68,000!** Before this, the Lawrence Family hosted the Karen Lawrence Run for 40 years.



2022 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



23rd Annual Golf Classic

Monday, October 24

LOCATION: Black Creek, Chattanooga

The RMHC Golf Classic has been going on since 1999, creating memorable connections between Chattanooga's leaders and supporters of this organization. With a morning and afternoon tee off with numerous games in between, this is a fun way to get your coworkers together or your golf buddies all to support RMHC in the process. **In it's 23rd year, the 2022 Golf Classic raised \$102,000 - the most funds raised yet!**



2022 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



3rd Party Events

\$58,000 was raised from our incredible partners like **Walgreens, ADPi & Sun Tan City!**

Often, external groups want to host their own fundraising event or activity and donate funds generated to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Chattanooga. We welcome these types of partnerships for it is because of our community partners that we are able to continue to care for families with sick children. We are so thankful for community partners like Walgreens, ADPi and Sun Tan City that continuously raise funds for RMHC. Thank you to our community for your support!





Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
Greater Chattanooga

PARTNERS

Mission Partner



RMHC Supporters and Friends,

I am A.J. Davis and I am approaching my ninth (9th) month at the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Chattanooga as the Vice President of Community Engagement. In my role, I oversee volunteerism for the organization, as well as growing our partnership with our mission partner, McDonald's. During my short tenure, I have been laser-focused on improving round-up efforts among stores. While there is still work to do, to-date we have raised over \$170,000 in this effort to support families who are in need of our love, care, and support as they navigate a medical emergency.

McDonald's is and will always be pivotal to RMHC's success. We cannot do the work of providing the necessary care and resources for families without McDonald's. From the bottom of my heart, thank you, McDonald's crew, staff, and owners for your continued support.



A.J. Davis

VP of Community Engagement
aj.davis@rmhchattanooga.com
423.778.4332



Medical Partner

RMHC of Greater Chattanooga would not have been possible without the partnership and support from Erlanger Hospital. In 1989, we broke ground on the location of the Ronald McDonald House and years later opened the Ronald McDonald Family Room in Children's Hospital at Erlanger a few years later in 1996.

The Ronald McDonald Family Room is a facility designed to be a respite area for those who are providing "around the clock" care for their loved ones. It is staffed by RMHC and volunteers 7 days a week from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. The services are available to anyone with an immediate family member in the Erlanger, Children's or Siskin Hospitals. Families can wash their clothes, eat snacks and meals in our fridge, take a shower, and rest only steps away from their child in the hospital.

Family Room

Located on the third floor of
Children's Hospital at Erlanger
near the "F" Elevator.



LEGACY CIRCLE



The members of the Legacy Circle represent dedicated servants and leaders of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Chattanooga. Each member had a hand in the creation of the Chattanooga RMHC and continued to care for and support the organization ever since. Because of their roles as volunteer, donor and board member, we honor them with their recognition into our Legacy Circle. For their involvement with RMHC will forever live on.

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Art Holekamp | Jane Kaylor | Louis Wright |
| Barbara Ann Hopkins | Jim Queen | Marcia Kling |
| Beth Painter | Joy Lewis | Mark Smith |
| Bill McCord | Judy Bellenfant | Myra Fuller |
| Bill Moore | Kelly Cooper Smith | Rick Honeycutt |
| Henry Hoss | Lisa Winters | Ted Lyons |

Thank You!

Because of our community support from people like YOU, we are able to continue to support and provide for families with sick children. Our organization would not be possible without the donations, volunteers, board members and hundreds of hands that continue to support the organization so that we can do what we do best, keep families close.





**Ronald McDonald
House Charities®**
Greater Chattanooga

200 Central Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37403

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2023 Upcoming Events



4th Annual Run4Kids

Saturday, September 23
LOCATION: Chattanooga State



24th Annual Golf Classic

Monday, October 23
LOCATION: Black Creek Chattanooga



VISIT US ONLINE AT [RMHCHATTANOOGA.COM](https://rmhchattanooga.com) AND FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@RMHChattanooga



@rmhchattanooga



@RMHC of Greater Chattanooga