A message from our CEO

DAVID E. JACOBSEN, PSY.D.

Ronald McDonald House Charities® of the Capital Region (RMHC-CR) draws on the compassion of our community to deliver and support programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children and families.

For RMHC-CR, 2019 was a year of transition and preparation that exemplified the importance of our mission. During a period of change, our three core programs — the Ronald McDonald House®, Ronald McDonald Care Mobile®, and Ronald McDonald Family Room® — served more than 5,000 children from across the Capital Region and beyond. More than 320 volunteers supported these programs, providing a steady stream of hospitality, compassion and love to families in their time of need.

Our story began in June 1982 with the opening of the Albany Ronald McDonald House. Since then, more than 17,000 families have stayed at our home away from home while their children received critical care at the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital at Albany Med. In 2019, RMHC-CR provided more than 6,000 overnight stays at the Ronald McDonald House, keeping families together in a truly supportive environment.

Through the years, our mission has expanded well beyond the walls of the Ronald McDonald House. In 2019, the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile — a fully-functional dental suite on wheels — provided more than 1,000 dental care visits for children from nine area schools. In partnership with St. Peters Health Partners Dental Center, we are preparing to extend the services of the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile to even more schools and preschool programs in 2020.

The Ronald McDonald Family Room — located just outside the Pediatric ICU at the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital — brings the comfort of the Ronald McDonald House to families in the hospital. Siblings can play and parents can relax steps away from their child’s bedside. More than 1,300 families enjoyed the calming, supportive environment of the Ronald McDonald Family Room in 2019, including some 300 families who used the in-hospital overnight rooms provided through the program.

Under the leadership of Board President Garry Finkell, RMHC-CR’s Executive Committee drew upon the resources of RMHC® Global, especially Karen Torres and Janice Davis, to conduct a thorough review of local programs in 2019 and pave the way for new growth in years to come. This process included an executive search, resulting in my joining the RMHC-CR family at the start of the new year. I look forward to sharing the mission of RMHC-CR with the communities of the Capital Region in order to improve the health and well-being of families and their children. On behalf of the RMHC-CR Board of Directors and all those we serve each year, thank you for your consistent support.

YOUR SUPPORT fills this House with love

Any parent who has experienced a stay at the Ronald McDonald House knows it’s more than a place to be near their hospitalized child; it’s a loving environment where families can rest and recharge without having to worry about anything but their child’s health.

On Valentine’s Day of 2019, two-year-old Jazalyn “Jazzy” Moses was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, a serious form of cancer that primarily affects infants and young children. She was immediately sent to the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital at Albany Med, where she had six rounds of chemotherapy. Throughout the year, she traveled to New York City and then to Rochester for additional treatment, returning to Albany Med on numerous occasions.

From their home in Gloversville, NY, the Moses family would have to spend hours driving to and from the hospital for Jazzy’s treatment. Fortunately, they found a home away from home at the Albany Ronald McDonald House.

“This place has really changed our lives in such amazing ways,” says Jazzy’s dad, Josh. “It really does something to your heart to see how much people care when you are in such a desperate time. It’s nothing but love here.”

Jazzy’s mom, Autumn, says they were made to feel like family from the moment they arrived. The Ronald McDonald House gave Jazzy a place to relax, have fun and enjoy being a kid.

“This place has saved our lives,” says Autumn. Jazzy’s most recent scans have been encouraging, and her parents are hopeful that her cancer will be in remission soon. For now, they are taking things one day at a time with much love and support from RMHC.
OUR PROGRAMS

Ronald McDonald House®
The Ronald McDonald House provides a home away from home for families with children receiving care at the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital at Albany Med. With 25 private bedrooms, home-cooked meals served daily, and all kinds of activities for kids to enjoy, the Ronald McDonald House delivers the comforts of home just a short distance away from the hospital. At the House, families are able to rest and recharge in a comfortable, supportive, loving environment that allows them to focus entirely on the health and well-being of their child.

Ronald McDonald Family Room®
The Ronald McDonald Family Room extends the comfort of the Ronald McDonald House to a hospital setting. Situated just outside the pediatric intensive care unit at the Bernard & Millie Duker Children’s Hospital at Albany Med, the Family Room serves as a place of respite for those with critically ill or injured children. When parents or siblings need a moment to relax or regroup, the Family Room offers them a place to do so with the comfort of knowing that their child is only a few steps away.

Ronald McDonald Care Mobile®
In partnership with St. Peters Health Partners Dental Center, the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile provides free, comprehensive dental care to underserved and underinsured children in schools across the Capital Region. The Care Mobile is a child-friendly “dental suite on wheels” — fully equipped to address a wide range of pediatric dental needs. In addition to providing quality dental care on the spot, we strive to support each child’s ongoing care by helping families build relationships with dental providers and obtain dental insurance, if needed.

2019 Impact

Ronald McDonald House®

6,055 nights provided to support families in need
410 families welcomed as guests of the House
8 night average length of stay for families in need

Ronald McDonald Family Room®

1,348 families served within the Ronald McDonald Family Room
310 room registrations for families to sleep inside the hospital
4,987 visitors utilized the Family Room and related services

Ronald McDonald Care Mobile®

1,115 dental appointments conducted on the Care Mobile
503 students provided with free dental care and education
9 area schools served across the Capital Region

Volunteers & Supporters

2,456 volunteers shared their time and talents with our families
2,652 students participated in “READ for RMHC” and raised more than $166K
68 schools engaged in “READ for RMHC” program

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## 2019 FINANCIALS

### REVENUES

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### EXPENSES

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### Change in Net Assets from Operations

$213,324

### Investment Income (net)

$274,347

### Change in Net Assets

$487,671

### NET ASSETS END OF YEAR

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### WAYS TO SUPPORT

**Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Capital Region**

#### DONATE

Every dollar makes a difference to families with children facing serious health challenges.

#### VOLUNTEER

Use your time and talents to help families stay together near the care they need.

rmhcofalbany.org

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**2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**PRESIDENT**

Garry Finkell

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Adele O’Connell

**SECRETARY**

Danielle Holley-Tangorre

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Clark Brink

Ryan Burke

Meghan Cahill

Reney Clifford

James Kennedy

Jeff Klahr

Janis Koshgarian

Chris Manzella

Susan Phillips

Kathie Reeher

Dr. Oliver Robinson

Marty Shields

Bob Stuhlmaker

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