Tripp Stratton and his family have just the right combination of energy and strength to go the distance in their fight against cancer.
Dear Friends,

As I pen this letter I am reminded that my seven year anniversary as President took place this past May. Shortly after I arrived, in August 2005, we introduced the inaugural issue of this quarterly newsletter, Around The House. How incredibly fortunate am I to have found such a special charity that cares for struggling families, and one that has made a significant impact in the lives of over 30,000 families since we first opened our doors in 1978!

In this issue of Around The House we focus on youth leadership and the inspiring work of kids helping kids. It has been enlightening to watch how adults who volunteer at all levels to help the House have transferred their excitement so enthusiastically to their children, students, and the community at-large. These youth efforts have made a huge difference in turning good ideas into meaningful projects for the benefit of our special kids and families battling cancer.

When you read the touching story of the Stratton family, you will see first-hand how Ronald McDonald House New York has helped these special people from Wichita, Kansas. Board Member David Presier has led by example, energizing his company and clients as well as his own family in supporting our charity. His story explains how the busiest of executives can find time and ways to support this organization’s mission.

After reading this issue, I’m certain that you will agree with me that there are no lazy days of summer to be found around this Ronald McDonald House! One of the highlights that kicked off the season was the introduction of the House to other families who have not been eligible to stay with us, yet are in the midst of the same battle as our residents. We believe that all children have the right to a better quality of life, and as we continue to build momentum with our hospital expansion program, it is my hope that you will continue to support our efforts.

We were very saddened by the passing of our long time Board Member, Ed Malloy, back in May of this year. His contributions to the organization were quite profound, and his loss has been felt very deeply by many.

Our Community Snapshots are further examples of the ongoing commitment that our volunteers, donors, and supporters at all levels continue to provide day in and day out. Please continue to support our Wish List items and glance at our upcoming fundraisers.

As we wrap up the season and look forward to the fall, I am reminded to say the words, “thank you” for all you do in support of our children and families. George Bernard Shaw said, “A happy family is but an earlier heaven.” And to that we can all say “Amen!”

Sincerely,

William T. Sullivan
President and Chief Executive Officer
Ronald McDonald House New York

On the cover: There’s not a twister in Kansas that can quite match the energy of 4-year-old Tripp Stratton. Both he and his mother Ashlie have made Ronald McDonald House New York their home-away-from-home while in NYC battling neuroblastoma. Photo by Natalie Greaves
Wish List

Thank you for your thoughtful donation of items that help to make the transition a little easier for families staying at Ronald McDonald House New York.

Following is a list of items that are urgently needed.

**For the Children**
- Nappies
- Baby wipes
- For the Moms and Dads
- Gift cards Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Target, Walgreens, Payless Shoes, American Express, Target,
- Gift cards: Visa, MasterCard,
- For the Children
- Batteries (AAA, AA, C, D)
- Oven mitts
- Clorox or Lysol wipes
- Paper goods: cups, plates, napkins
- 84 Ironing boards with covers
- 84 Irons
- 90 DVD players (Blue Ray)
- 90 DVD players
- 90 DVD movies
- 27" binders — hard and soft
- Soft fleece blankets
- Hand sanitizers
- Nap Time
- Soft throw blankets
- For the House
- 46 - 47" inch LCD television, wall mountable — any brand
- 30 Vacuum cleaners
- 10 DVD players (Blue Ray)
- 84 Irons
- 84 Ironing boards with covers
- 84 Hair dryers
- Paper goods: cups, plates, napkins
- Clergy or lyed slips
- Copy paper
- Oven mitts
- Basting bags (AA, A, D)
- Help a Family Today with a Special GIFT!
- Sponsor a room night payment ($35/night)
- Sponsor a birthday party or special program party

Bulk Donations: If you, your community group or company would like to share donations of new goods, seasonal surplus merchandise or other large-scale contributions, please contact Winifred Cudjoe, director of House Operations, at 212.639.0400 or win@rmh-newyork.org.

**For the Playroom**
For further information regarding Playroom donations, please contact Nelda Barreto, director of Programs, at 212.639.0205 or nbarreto@rmh-newyork.org.

**For the Sleeproom**
- For the Teens
- Blue Ray DVD
- MTV Memo Cards (for school transportation)
- Portable Organ
- Sony Snap Lab (UP CR20L)
- Sony Snap Lab (UP CR20L)
- Stereos
- Arts & Crafts
- Color in the dark lunches
- Other glue sticks
- White oak tag
- Color oak tag
- SNL collectibles for tablets
- Scrapbook materials
- Scrapbook add-on decorations
- White glue
- Acid-free paper
- Waterproof glue
- Colored marker paper
- And markers
- Deep clothes for tables
- Pillows
- Glitter glue
- Fun game and glue sticks
- Glue dots
- Googly Eyes

**For the Game Room**
- For the Teens
- Baby doll clothing and accessories
- Arts & Crafts
**What's New at Your House?**

**Hospitality Coaches**

A very important service provided to our families at Ronald McDonald House New York is free transportation to each of our 13 partner hospitals. Through natural wear and tear, it became necessary of our 13 partner hospitals. Through our families at Ronald McDonald House New York is free transportation to each of our 13 partner hospitals. Through recent years.

With a value of $89,000 each, the cost of the vehicles was underwritten by trading in the two previous house vans, and a generous donation from Associated Builders and Owners of New York for their sponsorship of this purchase, as well as the purchase of the previous House vans. With a value of $50,000 each, the cost of the vehicles was underwritten by trading in the two previous house vans, and a generous donation from Associated Builders and Owners of New York for their sponsorship of this purchase, as well as the purchase of the previous House vans.

- Delta Faucets donated their Braizo line of high-end shower bodies and faucets worth nearly $80,000.
- Hilton Worldwide donated 106 lumbar pillows.
- Restoration Hardware provided Nolan single sconce satin nickel lighting fixtures as a trade sale.
- Pierre Brown donated 84 Silestone vanity countertops for each bathroom.
- MS International provided a significant discount on tiles for all 84 bathrooms.
- City Grants
  - Thank you to office of New York City Council Member Jessica Lappin, representing the 5th District. They were able to secure a $4,000 grant in April 2013.
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**Q-Tips for Good**

We’d also like to thank Q-Tips for their inclusion of Ronald McDonald House New York in their “Q-Tips for Good” program. With a donation of one million Q-Tips for our families, the company is supporting the personal care needs of our families, as well as contributing toward special projects/programs activities for the kids. Just for fun, we asked the question, “Exactly how many Q-Tips make up a million?”

Here’s the rundown:

- Puree Packs (30 count) = 33,333.33 packs
- Cotton Swab (500 count) = 2,000 packs
- Precision Tips pack (170 count) = 5,882.35 packs

Since joining our Board in 2009, Mr. Preiser has not only taken up a personal commitment to help the House, but has also involved his family in raising awareness about our mission to help families battling pediatric cancer.

How were you introduced to Ronald McDonald House New York and its mission?

I had generally been aware of Ronald McDonald House and I thought it was a great charity. My wife’s friend Madeleine Abrahamson had been involved for several years, and when (Board Vice Chairman) Harris Diamond approached and said, “You’d be a great addition to our Board, would you consider joining?” It was not a very hard sell for me.

What inspired you to become involved with the House?

I was very moved by the plight of families who have children who are stricken by these terrible diseases. I had a cousin who died of cancer of the heart when she was 20 and I knew how devastating it was.

I can only imagine how hard it must be for families who don’t have family in the area to come here for the kinds of treatment that can be made available; but they really don’t have the resources of a support system. It was very moving to try to help them and to do something good in the world.

You’ve successfully chaired theatre events on behalf of the House, as well as served on our Gala committee. Please tell us about your involvement.

It’s been a pleasure to introduce the House and its good work to my friends, people in my business network and to introduce them to get involved and support the House.

Has your family also become involved (or tell us about your son’s work volunteering)?

It’s been a really good teaching opportunity to help introduce to my family the idea of reaching out and helping people less fortunate than we might be; experiencing terrible challenges in their lives and trying to cope with them. It’s a great opportunity for me to teach them to get out of their own self centered ways because children are generally caught up in their own things. It’s particularly poignant for me. At the moment, my 20-year-old nephew has been diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. It brings it home how challenging it is for our family to deal with this. (This experience] really reminds me how hard it is for these families who have very limited resources and they’re far from home. I also feel like I’m doing something to help my nephews in a sense.

What is your number one wish for the House and its families?

I wish no family had to go through any of this.

And it really is a terrible and challenging experience for them. I wish that we could be as helpful to them as possible and that every child that comes through will have a successful outcome and live a long and healthy life.

**Thank Yous**

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**Spotlight on Your Board**

As Senior Managing Director of Houlihan Lokey, Board Member David Preiser holds the title of Chairman of Houlihan Lokey (Europe). Since joining the firm in 1991, Mr. Preiser’s work in the financial restructuring business means he has played a very important role in some of the most significant financial transactions in Europe. Given our current economic climate, we’re grateful for the perspective and time that he brings to our organization.

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Youth Leadership

Spotlight on Volunteers

Why We Volunteer: The Perspective from Our Youth Volunteers

There is no better way to tell you about what motivates our young leaders than in their own words. We asked two members of our newly formed Youth Advisory Council to tell us why they contribute their time and efforts in support of Ronald McDonald House New York.

Valerie Gard:

Teens have the potential to develop a relationship with such an organization that over time, they can make a huge impact. For teens, there is no alternative of writing a check to complete their “service.” Instead, teens can be hands-on with their participation and not only help others in need, but also help themselves to become leaders of their communities. As teens get involved at an early age, they can only succeed and contribute to the development of their communities.

Gillian Presto:

For me, as a young community leader, helping others is the cornerstone of my life. Throughout my time as a volunteer, I have learned the value of hard work and dedication. I believe that by volunteering, I can make a positive impact on the lives of others.

Jonathan Manocherian

Jonathan Manocherian embodies many of the qualities that we appreciate in our young leaders. Having served as a volunteer for Ronald McDonald House New York for more than two years, he is blessed with a maturity that is beyond his years. In the time that he has worked with us at the House, Jonathan has raised more than $25,000 on behalf of families battling pediatric cancer. We wish him the best of luck as he studies at University of Miami.

Kids’ Fun Run

The 2011 Kids’ Fun Run was full of excitement for the more than 1,000 students throughout the area who came out to raise money in support of their peers battling cancer. The 13th Annual Kids’ Fun Run once again could not be possible without the assistance of the following groups who contributed to the event’s success:

- P.S. 158 (Brooklyn) - Penny Harvest
- P.S. 183 (Brooklyn) - Penny Harvest
- P.S. 77 (Lower Lab) - Donnie’s Pizza
- P.S. 3 (Staten Island) - The Margaret Gioiosa School
- P.S. 506 (Brooklyn) - Donnie’s Pizza

The 2011 Kids’ Fun Run was a huge success, with over 100 strong, and not far behind was P.S. 158 with their best turnout yet!

At the Kids’ Fun Run, everyone’s a winner. But two lucky children won the distinction of raising the most money overall, receiving a mountain bike prize. Lewis J from the Churchill School and a young anonymous donor who donated her bike and their families.

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Valerie Gard:

I feel it is especially important that young people get involved at the Ronald McDonald House New York as many of the guests are teenagers like myself. Most come from outside of the New York City area and have to stay in one of the most expensive cities in the US, where they typically know no one. By getting involved and volunteering at the house, I am able to help raise money and plan an event for guests in my age and otherwise assist in any way I can to make their stays a little easier on them and their families.

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Volunteer Spotlight

With the school year behind us, we wanted to acknowledge the many wonderful schools throughout New York City who so thoughtfully selected Ronald McDonald House New York as a charity recipient during the bake sale and Penny Harvest season:

- P.S. 6 (Staten Island) Corporal Allan F Kiefel School — Penny Harvest
- P.S. 3 (Staten Island) Georgian Court School — Penny Harvest
- P.S. 183 (Manhattan) - Talent Show and Bake Sale
- Ramaz Middle School (Manhattan) — R-ed-a-Thon
- P.S. 9 (Brooklyn) - Vane Elementary School — Penny Harvest
- Euphany Community Nursery School (Manhattan) — Day Care Bake Sale

Pop Tabs for Charity

Ronald McDonald House New York is collecting pop tabs, and we need your help. Not only will your participation help to raise much-needed funds and awareness about families battling pediatric cancer, but it will also help to make the Earth a healthier planet.

Please feel free to contact us about setting up your drop-off at the House, and arranging for a tour for your group of 5 or less.

If you’d like to simply mail the pop tabs that you’ve collected, you can also send them to:

Ronald McDonald House New York
Attn: Pop Tab Collection Project
405 East 73rd Street, New York, NY 10021

At 4-years-old, Tripp Stratton has enough energy for several children his age. With an active curious streak and a nonstop roving eye for the next fun activity, being in a room with this young man is sure to bring a smile to anyone’s face. What’s also certain about Tripp is that he’s never far from his mother, Ashle, who also possesses a great deal of energy to not only keep up with Tripp and his care while in New York City, but also manage the demands of caring for Tripp’s twin sister Trinity. Tripp was originally diagnosed with stage 4 neuroblastoma, and with his mother by his side, this courageous little boy knows no fatigue or fear.

Ashle’s first trip to New York City had already came around in 2010 when she went on a trip to New York City after finding a golden ticket in O magazine. Tripp and his twin sister Trinity were only 2½ years old at the time when their mother and father traveled to the city for this special vacation. It had been a long road for Ashle’s family as the children were born 17 weeks early.

“I came to the city for the first time literally within two weeks of Tripp’s diagnosis,” said Ashle. “So I was able to explore New York before all this even started. My kids were born premature and my then-husband and I had not been out of town since we had the kids. We knew something was going on with Tripp before we even left, but we hadn’t quite figured it out. Instantly that New York has since become our second home. The Kansas pace is much different from the New York pace.”

Stay at Ronald McDonald House New York

A former public relations professional with a tremendous desire for helping others, Ashle found the experience of coming to New York City to be humbling in a unique way. They began staying at Ronald McDonald House New York in July 2010, and have returned periodically since then.

“I will never forget the first feeling of coming to Ronald McDonald House,” said Ashle. “It was that first night sitting on the deck when the reality of this place hit me.”
Tripp as a Caregiver to his Peers

One of the more striking aspects of Tripp’s personality is his developing instinct as a caregiver, despite his own circumstances. His sister Trinity has cerebral palsy, and the same love and caring assistance that Tripp provides at home is further evolving as he makes friends here in New York City.

“As we all know Tripp has tons of energy, which keeps the House entertained many times,” said Ashle. “He knows that his sister is a little bit different than him and he comes to therapy with a lot. When she’s trying to walk, he will come up and try to hold her hand or he’ll get in another walker next to her while she’s practicing in her walker with her therapist. And that’s carried over to here. Because one of his friends here has a little bit of weakness on one side and when we were at the playground, he waited for her and helped her get up one of the bigger steps at the playground. He’s carrying it over to his friends here, too.”

Tripp is currently receiving treatment for his neuroblastoma at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center where he was one of the first three children to receive the high dose 3F8 antibody therapy. He began the trial in December 2010, and has been receiving it ever since. Tripp is currently taking low-dose chemotherapy and radiation. They began 17 days of low dose radiation once per day before moving on to three rounds of low-dose chemotherapy with a plan to do two more. The family is currently assessing their options and taking it day by day to determine the next course of action.

“Ashle is like the energizer bunny. I think she just keeps going no matter what — in good times and not so good times — she’s always upbeat and positive and energetic and happy and has a great spirit,” said Chaplain Cheryllyn Frei, director of Family Support at Ronald McDonald House New York. “She has a great spirit that emanates from her. It’s visible and palpable and affects people in a positive way, and you can see that reflection in her son. He’s very upbeat and positive and a little energetic child. He’s a happy child.”

“When you think about your child going through cancer, you think of all of these visions that you have or adults that you know,” said Ashle. “But then, I see Tripp who is at the hospital usually with a nurse on each hand dragging them to the play room, flitting, flitting and then he does the same thing there at the House. You can never forget what you’re doing, but you get to experience the normalizers that you get with a regular child. Because he’s kind of a little entertainer, he could walk in with the pink hat on or whatever it is that’s the most fun of choice and he can brighten other people’s days.”

The Importance of a Good Support Network

Ashle doesn’t hesitate to point out that they have an excellent support network back home in Wichita. Her mother Terry and father Bruce Burnett, as well as Ashle’s grandparents also assist with Tripp and Trinity’s care. Ashle’s grandmother has even accompanied them to New York City for one of Tripp’s rounds of treatment.

“She has a great family support network in place,” said Chaplain Frei. “We try to support as well as we can here with our women’s wellness, but I’m sure her family has a great support network at home and she utilizes it to the best of her ability. Ashle utilizes her community in a very positive way.”

Unforgettable Moments

In addition to visiting Central Park, the Children’s Museum and so many other wonderful sights around New York City, Ashle and Tripp have had a lot of unforgettable moments. One in particular from December 2010 remains a wonderful memory of a lifetime.

“Kansas State University was playing in one of the football games and we met the coach at the hospital. We got tickets to that game, so we took Tripp to the game and while we were there it was really cool because it was our first time at Yankee Stadium. We got to watch a Kansas team play a sport here and then we got the call that Tripp, it was first time that he had no evidence of disease,” said Ashle. “It was kind of like this monumental moment that we were in Yankee Stadium, watching a Kansas team and then you get this phone call that you pray that you’re going to get at some point during this battle. It was December 30, 2010, and I’ll never forget it.”

The other “that’s so New York” moment was a little on the comical side: “This was the one time I got to bring Trinity out here and we decided to go on a horse carriage ride through Central Park not realizing that the St. Patrick’s Day parade runs for six hours. Well, we got caught in the parade and that was pretty hysterical. We were trying to cross Fifth Avenue with all of these hands and people while carrying two kids. People had green hair. Tripp was so in tune to what’s going on, he kept asking, ‘What’s that? Why’s that hair green?’ I think it was also one of the most entertaining times to go on a carriage ride through Central Park. You can think about coming here and you can think about the things that make you smile, and not about the fact that you’re here for such an unfortunate circumstance.”

Home Away from Home Where Kids Can Be Kids

While they continue their battle against cancer, the Strattons know that the Ronald McDonald House New York is definitely their home away from home. When speaking about how they feel about the House, Ashle says, “What I love is the fact that I can watch my son play with other kids his own age, and to this, is a normal world. That’s a huge benefit. They get to chase bubbles, they get to see clowns, they get to play with balloons, they do all of these things and their friend also happens to have a tube hanging out of their chest. I think it’s so comforting that these kids get to be kids. They’re not just sick kids going to the hospital and getting treatment, they’re getting to have very, very fulfilling lives.”

“One of my best friends now is someone who I met here at the House. It’s those moments that you realize that there’s other people out there like you, and there’s other kids like your kids. Now, one of his friends, they both woke up asking for each other when they come out of radiation. We take up first thing out of anesthesia asking for each other because they just want to play. That’s the best thing because you’ll never forget why you’re here, but you get to be normal.”

With the aggressive nature of neuroblastoma, it’s uncertain which direction the family will go in regarding next steps for Tripp’s treatment. But no matter where Tripp’s treatment takes him, one thing for certain, the family will always have Ronald McDonald House New York to call their home-away-from-home.
Community Snapshots

At the home-away-from-home for families coming from all over the world in their battle against cancer, our “community” is a broad one. Here are a few highlights of some of the people who have recently touched our hearts at Ronald McDonald House New York.

Congratulations to the Winner of the 2012 Honda Pilot

Congratulations to Ryan Lake, winner of the 2012 Honda Pilot that was raffled off during this year’s 18th Annual Skate with the Greats event in February. Mr. Lake (center) is featured here with his wife Karen (featured right), and our Director of Development Richard Martin (featured left).

Happy Birthday Lillie!

In April, we celebrated the birthday of one of our beloved therapy dogs, Lillie. Lillie’s owner Kristina Newman brought in a delicious cake for the enjoyment of our young residents, and it was definitely Lillie’s special day to celebrate.

Goldman Sachs

Many thanks to the team members of Goldman Sachs who spent the entire day helping to paint our facility.

Greek Division Dinner with AHEPA

When the Order of AHEPA-Chapter No.517 from Holmdel, N.J. served dinner one night in May, there were smiles all around.

The Camuto Group

Many thanks to Board member Louise Camuto and Vince Camuto of The Camuto Group for their generous donation of shoes for our families. With entertainment activities available in the library for our youngest shoppers-to-be, our moms and teenagers were able to try on and select some of the hottest styles in footwear.

2012 Executive Assistants Dinner

There’s nothing quite like expressing one’s appreciation for a kind, and thoughtful job well done. An annual tradition held at Ronald McDonald House New York is our Executive Assistant’s Dinner, where we acknowledge the support staff members of our board members, major donors and other friends of the House. This year’s theme, “Mardis Grac” allowed us to transform our Macy’s Living Room and transport our guests to New Orleans French Quarter with live music provided by Dr. Sherrie Maricle and the Diva Jazz Band.

Great News!

We recently received some wonderful news about a young man who stayed with us many years ago. So inspiring was the news, we thought we’d share with our dedicated supporters. Please join us in congratulating a remarkable young man, Reece Campbell Fiebich, in attaining the degree of Bachelor of Science in Applied Physics, graduating with honors from the University of California, Santa Cruz. We couldn’t be more proud and happy for the Fiebich family.

Citrin Cooperman

When Citrin Cooperman visited Ronald McDonald House New York in June, the accounting firm’s employees came on a feel-good mission: to donate $15,000 to the House and participate in a day of cleaning. We’re thankful for their support.

Annaly Ribbon Cutting

When a group of volunteers from Annaly Capital Management was introduced to the House via the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, they soon became inspired to do something unique to help the families. They “put their heads together” and came up with the idea to shave their heads in support of the brave, young residents of Ronald McDonald House New York, making a fundraiser of the event.

In June, the employees of Annaly celebrated their unique achievement by donating proceeds in the amount of $330,000 (via our Adopt-The-House program) in honor of their Chairman, President & CEO Michael A. J. Farrell. Mr. Farrell, who himself was undergoing cancer treatment at the time of the fundraiser, was joined by his family during the ribbon cutting ceremony to re-introduce the “Heart” kitchen.
Welcome New York!

On June 9th, as part of the first phase of the House’s new hospital initiatives, Ronald McDonald House New York opened its doors for the first time to families and patients at four partner hospitals: Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital, New York-Presbyterian Weill Cornell Medical Center, the Hassenfeld Clinic at NYU Langone Medical Center, and the Hospital for Special Surgery. This event held a special significance primarily because it catered toward children and families who are not currently staying at RMH-NY due to eligibility requirements or other circumstances; however, the children are currently receiving treatment for pediatric cancer.

Once the families arrived, our Programs, Family Support and Operations departments rolled out the red carpet in grand style! The children and their families from these hospitals enjoyed an afternoon of entertainment, food and fun that began with a greeting by none other than Ronald McDonald himself. It was a major team effort where Angel on a Leash therapy dog volunteer teams greeted families entering the lobby, and the Operations department worked overtime to create a lasting impression for the families who enjoyed visiting the world’s largest “home away from home” for families battling pediatric cancer.

Our Programs Department had a diverse array of fun activities planned for the visiting families, including a roving performance by the legendary Maurice Hines accompanied by Sherrie Marcelle and the DIVA Band; a family portrait session with Angela Babin, and also tutoring with Dr. Sherrie Maricle, M3 Karate; a performance by the legendary Maurice Hines accompanied by Sherrie Maricle; and a family portrait session with Dr. Sherrie Maricle. The smiles on everyone’s faces and wide-eyed looks at everything around them were also tell-tale signs of a fun time for all.

As we continue to move forward with our new initiatives, we anticipate a fall rollout for “Magical Music” with Dr. Sherrie Maricle, M3 Karate with Angela Babin, and also tutoring and English as a Second Language. It was a major team effort where Angel on a Leash therapy dog volunteer teams greeted families entering the lobby, and the Operations department worked overtime to create a lasting impression for the families who enjoyed visiting the world’s largest “home away from home” for families battling pediatric cancer.

Giving News

The family of Board Member Ed Malloy placed a leaf on our Tree of Life in his honor during our “Builders of Hope Event.”

The Tree of Life

As our stories continue to add new detail to the rich history of Ronald McDonald House New York, the Tree of Life wall sculpture continues to flourish with new leaf additions. The financial support generated for Ronald McDonald House New York from the Tree of Life enables us to offer more than just a place to sleep when families travel to New York City for their child’s cancer treatment.

The Vivian Harris Society

The Vivian Harris Society honors the memory of the founding president of Ronald McDonald House New York. During Vivian Harris’ 25-year tenure as president, she nurtured the families residing at the House and inspired our staff and volunteers. She was a tireless and gracious leader with an innovative vision for improving services for families battling childhood cancer.

Members of the Vivian Harris Society embody our founder’s triumphant spirit and help sustain her vision by including Ronald McDonald House New York in their planned giving. We invite you to join the Vivian Harris Society by making a gift to the House in your estate or retirement plan.

Leaves are engraved with a message and the name of the honored person. Each leaf may be purchased for $2,500. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will help us continue to offer services to families arriving tomorrow and in the years ahead.

For more information or to purchase a leaf, please contact Nikki Margarites, Director of Major Gifts at (212) 639-0207, or email at nmargarites@rmh-newyork.org.
Event Highlights

20th Annual Gala

The most generous hearts of New York City came together to celebrate two decades of giving to help families and their children battling pediatric cancer. This year’s theme of “20 Reasons to Celebrate” struck a strong chord among the crowd gathered to help raise much-needed funds for this temporary ‘home away from home’ for pediatric cancer patients and their families. Held at the Waldorf=Astoria, the 20th Annual Gala Event surpassed its goal to raise nearly $3.5 million. ABC-TV broadcast the Gala Event and held its own fundraiser.

Personality Barbara Walters was at the helm of the evening’s festivities. The evening also served as the official introduction of recently-named Ronald McDonald House New York Youth Ambassador, Jake T. Austin. Among the attendees at this year's event were: actor, musician and Ronald McDonald House New York volunteer Jill Hennessy; Brooklyn Nets head coach Avery Johnson; Ronald McDonald House New York Vice Chairman Tina Lundgren; Joseph Gormek; Louise and Vince Camuto; The Camuto Group; Robert Kapito, president of BlackRock, Inc.; Kenneth Cole; and president of Iconix Brand Group, Inc., was also named an honoree, representing the retail industry. Last night’s ceremony also served as the official introduction of recently-named Ronald McDonald House New York Youth Ambassador, Jake T. Austin.

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The gala also featured three rousing performances by students from the New Studio on Broadway in the Department of Drama at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts. The songs were composed by creator Michael McElroy and the Broadway Inspirational Voices performers, as well as inspired by residents of the House who also participated. 

Hogs for Hope

This year’s annual Hogs for Hope event launched from a new location at Croton Gorge Park, a perfectly picturesque setting featuring a gorgeous waterfall backdrop to set the tone for a nice ride. The ride culminated in Yonkers where members of some of Westchester’s bravest as well as numerous bike clubs enjoyed live music, a pig roast and a chili cook-off between the fire houses.

Many thanks to our event’s Chairman Ken Geiger, the Yonkers Fire Department volunteers, RMH-NY volunteers, as well as the Westchester Parks Department and Police Departments!

In Memoriam: Edward J. Malloy

The New York City construction and building trades industry gathered at Ronald McDonald House® New York (RMH-NY) for the 2nd Annual Builders of Hope Award Reception. The reception recognizes outstanding individuals in the construction and building trades industry who dedicate their time and energy to worthy causes. This year’s award recipient was Charles F. Murphy, senior vice president and general manager at Turner Construction Company. Mr. Murphy was honored for his dedication and vision toward helping the House promote its mission within the building industry.

The 2012 Builders of Hope event raised more than $350,000 under the leadership of event co-chairs Richard T. Anderson, president, New York Building Congress, Peter J. Davoren, president and CEO Turner Construction Company, and Susan L. Hayes, president and CEO, Cauldwell/Wignon.

The event also served as a memorial honoring RMH-NY board member, Edward J. Malloy who recently passed away. Mr. Malloy was a long-time advocate of the House who worked tirelessly to pull together the construction industry to help build the House’s current location and who was the founder of this reception one year ago.

Builders of Hope

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In Memoriam: Edward J. Malloy

Ronald McDonald House New York is deeply saddened at the loss of Board Member Edward J. Malloy, a former President of the New York City and New York State Building and Construction Trades Council. Mr. Malloy served on the Board of Ronald McDonald House New York for seven years. Under his supervision, construction was completed on our location at 405 East 73rd Street with donated time. Mr. Malloy’s influence can be seen high and low throughout New York City, most notably the Tappan Zee Bridge, as well as the mobilization of union workers to volunteer their time after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Ronald McDonald House New York will forever be grateful to Mr. Malloy for his leadership and his caring contributions to our mission.

www.rmh-newyork.org
Event Highlights (continued)

Children’s Champion

The inaugural Child’s Champion awards dinner was held at the New York Athletic Club honoring Ray Merritt, president of the Cygnet Foundation, for his work using his talents as an attorney and distinguished author to further causes related to the welfare of children. The event, held in conjunction with the New York Rotary raised, $83,000.

Hudson National Golf Outing

The run couldn’t stop these determined golfers from hitting the greens in June when representatives of the insurance industry came together to support Ronald McDonald House New York at Hudson National Golf Club. Under the leadership of event Chairman Timothy Mahoney, president of Global Risk Management at Marsh, the event raised $350,000. This year’s golf outing held a special emotional appeal as attendees learned just how closely cancer can hit home. Many were surprised, yet moved when they learned that one of their own, Margaret Ditolla of Marsh, had come to stay at Ronald McDonald House New York just this past winter. With her son recently diagnosed with a rare form of cancer, Ms. Ditolla, who resides in Suffolk County, stayed at Ronald McDonald House New York while her son underwent surgery. Ms. Ditolla and her family will continue with their fight against cancer, and we’re very grateful to her and the insurance industry for their warmth and determination to help our families in their fight against cancer.

Open Arms

More than 600 people attended this year’s volunteer fundraiser event, “Open Arms.” Led by Co-Chairpersons Bruce Duphlinthera, Jeff Campion, Clemenza Colon-Neyland; this year’s event raised more than $500,000 in cash and in-kind donations. “Open Arms” was held at the beautiful Guastavino’s, located underneath the 59th Street Bridge, and featured a sumptuous feast from sponsor Tony DiNapoli, with music by DJ Mr. Biggs and Gotham Roost Orchestra. Considered the ultimate party with a purpose, the funds raised from the event will support programming activities for our children and families. To the members of Team Ronald’s nightly volunteer teams and so many other volunteers who pour their heart and soul into the production of this event, we are grateful.

Calendar of Events

Children’s Happy Faces Foundation’s Annual Golf Outing and Trump National Golf Club

Tuesday, October 2, 2012 · 9:00 AM Golf Registration with 11 AM Shotgun Start

Children’s Happy Faces Foundation (CHFF) will once again host its annual day of golf and fun at Sleepy Hollow Country Club, with overflow foursomes to play at Trump National Golf Club. To date, CHFF has raised more than $1.5 million on behalf of children battling pediatric cancer, and this year’s event will aim to raise more in support of activities for families staying at Ronald McDonald House New York. Sponsored by Century Management Services, the event will conclude at Sleepy Hollow with an awards presentation, live music by the Parker Riddle Band, a live auction sponsored by Sotheby’s and a swatch tasting. For more information or to register for golf at Sleepy Hollow or Trump National, visit www.rmh-newyork.org/happyfaces or contact Jerome Kelson at 212-639-0212 or jkelton@rmh-newyork.org.

Annual Kids Charity Fun Run

Saturday, November 10, 2012 · 10:00 AM

To find out where the biggest hearts reside in New York City, one needs to look no further than the city’s young philanthropists. On Saturday, November 10, children from public and parochial schools throughout the tri-state area will participate in the 14th Annual Kids’ Fun Run, with proceeds from the event to benefit Ronald McDonald House New York.

With more than 1,000 participants, the Kids’ Fun Run provides New York City-area youth with an opportunity to help children who are just like them, but are battling cancer. Kicking off with warm-ups by Ronald McDonald, 4-year-olds are the starting “heat” with a 500-yard run followed by other age groups ending with teenagers at the half-mile. Each participant receives an official running bib number, and a tee shirt with the event sponsors printed on the back. To find out more about participating, contact Anthony Cardiello at (212) 639-0100, or acardiello@rmh-newyork.org.

Fifth Annual Block Party

Saturday, September 29, 2012 · 11 AM – 5:30 PM

Our annual block party fundraiser is part-street fair, and part-festival, offering an like no other in New York City! Enjoy, games, rides, great shopping and great fun right with the families, volunteers and staff of Ronald McDonald House New York. Admission is free, and open to the public. For more information, visit www.rmh-newyork.org, or call (212) 639-0100.

Save the Date

First Annual Family Fun Dog Walk

August 18, 2012

9:00 AM

Riverside Park

New York, NY

An Evening of Cabaret

September 24, 2012

6:30 PM

Feinstein’s at Loews Regency

540 Park Ave. (at 61st St.)

New York, NY

Fifth Annual Block Party

September 29, 2012

11:00 AM – 5:30 PM

East 73rd Street Between First and York Avenues

New York, NY

Children’s Happy Faces Foundation’s Annual Golf Outing and Trump National Golf Club

October 2, 2012

9:00 AM Golf Registration

Sleepy Hollow Country Club and Trump National Golf Club

ING NYC Marathon

November 4, 2012

6:00 AM

Five Boroughs

Kids Charity Fun Run

November 10, 2012

10:00 AM

New York, NY

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5th Annual Block Party
Saturday, September 29, 2012
11AM-5:30PM • Rain or Shine!

Part-street fair, part-festival, our Block Party is our way of saying thank you to our loyal supporters throughout the community.

Fun! Food! Rides & Games! Shopping! NYPD and FDNY!

Admission is free, and open to the public. For more information visit www.rmh-newyork.org, call (212) 639-0181 or email fmurdy@rmh-newyork.org.