Ronald McDonald House®
New York

Scan to make a year-end gift.

Alessia, 8, and her family honored at this year's Gala

Grateful for every moment

A letter from the CEO

As we enter this season of thanks, I am beyond grateful for the many ways your generosity brings warmth to families at Ronald McDonald House New York. For families navigating a child's medical treatment, the comforts we often associate with this time of year — a shared meal, holiday traditions, and time together — mean so much.

With the opening of our newly renovated Community Floor, families are experiencing that comfort. Families prepare favorite recipes and gather around the dinner table. Children play together after a long day of appointments. Parents connect with others who understand exactly what they are going through.

These everyday moments offer families a sense of belonging amid the unpredictability of their child's medical journey.

Your continued support of Ronald McDonald House New York allows families to connect and recharge while remaining close to the care their child needs.

Thank you for making the House a welcoming home and for surrounding our children and families with compassion throughout the year.

With gratitude,

Lucretia Gilbert

Lucretia Gilbert
President & CEO
Ronald McDonald House New York

Your Impact at the House JANUARY–SEPTEMBER 2026

52,095
Meals served to families at the House keep them nourished and focused on their child's health journey

10,802
Rides to and from medical centers allow families to reach their child's bedside without stress

906
Families stayed at the House so far, and more keep arriving through the holidays.

6,459
Visits to the Play Space and participation in Enrichment Programs help children enjoy moments of fun and connection

The Light of Ordinary Days

Alessia was born with sickle cell disease and needed a stem cell transplant at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in Manhattan. Alessia's recovery required months of care close to the hospital, far away from the comforts of her family home on Long Island.

Her parents, Maite and Dario, faced a question many families confront: How would they stay together?

Then they learned about Ronald McDonald House New York (RMH-NY). **Over the next year, the Rodríguez family stayed at the House *thirteen* times, including an extended four-month stay during and after Alessia's transplant.** With each stay, RMH-NY began to feel less like a refuge and more like home. The House gave them the practical things: a place to cook, to rest, to work when they could, to play, to meet others. The House provided normalcy.

Now, Alessia is doing all the things an eight-year-old should do. She goes to school. She reads. She climbs trees. She is, in the deepest sense, a kid.

Alessia and her family were honored at our Annual Gala. Their story of hope and resilience during their hardest times inspires us all. **Thank you** for supporting the Rodríguez family and countless others.

Arts & Crafts Open House

Beats & Lyrics

Go Gold Slime

Special Fall Moments

This fall at RMH-NY was especially exciting as we welcomed families, volunteers, partners, and supporters into the newly renovated Community Floor for the first time. Families have loved spending time in all the new spaces. Within a few short weeks, we hosted an Arts & Crafts Open House, Beats & Lyrics lessons in the 73rd Street Studio, and a Toy Story 5 movie screening. To top it all off, we celebrated Go Gold Day with gold slime in honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month!

26.2 Miles for Connor

Every November, Elizabeth Chin runs the TCS New York City Marathon in purple, her brother Connor's favorite color. Connor was just 11 years old when he was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, beginning a nine-year battle with cancer. During years of treatment, Ronald McDonald House New York provided comfort and support to the Chin family, helping ease their burdens so they could focus on being together.

Elizabeth ran her first marathon in 2024 while Connor was still alive. Just six weeks later, he passed away at age 19. Today, she continues running in his memory, alongside family and friends who have joined together as Team Connor. What began with three runners has grown to seven, united by their love for Connor and a commitment to helping other families facing childhood illness.

"Our family knows first and foremost how incredible the support is that Ronald McDonald House gives to families, and that's why we support it," Elizabeth shares.

Your Impact in NYC Hospitals

JANUARY– SEPTEMBER 2026

35,970
Family Room visits where caregivers received support through amenities and staff

8,708
Nourishing snacks and refreshments brought to children and parents directly in their hospital rooms

3,533
Fun and enriching activity packs distributed to bring moments of joy to a child's bedside

A Birthday to Remember

In addition to our House on East 73rd Street, Ronald McDonald House Family Rooms offer comfort and support to families at four hospitals across New York City.

During his extended stay in the Children's Hospital at Montefiore Einstein, bubbly Asher had a special milestone to celebrate: his second birthday! With toys, decorations, and a personalized birthday crown, RMH-NY's team brought joy and normalcy to his hospital stay.

Because of you, families continue making precious memories, even during life's most difficult moments.

Community Floor Grand Opening

This fall, we celebrated the grand opening of our newly renovated Community Floor with a special ribbon cutting ceremony. Designed with families in mind, this beautiful new space is already bringing more joy, connection, and a sense of home to the children and families we serve.

Children are playing and creating in the Hangout Hub & Play Space, discovering music in the 73rd Street Studio, and making new friends in the Recreation Cube. Meanwhile, families are sharing meals in the expanded Dining Room, preparing favorite recipes in the Family Kitchen, and connecting in the Den with others who understand their journey.

More than just a renovation, the Community Floor has truly become the heart of our House!

In supporting Ronald McDonald House, you are supporting families like mine who are struggling to stay afloat, not just financially but emotionally, whose load is very heavy. If they could give it to anyone else, they would. But we choose to carry it with dignity and grace. And you help us do that.

— Maite, Alessia's Mother

Introducing Heart Hall

Heart Hall is officially unveiled, recognizing the generosity of those who invest in our newly renovated Community Floor.

Personalized hearts are available for commitments of $100,000, $50,000, and $25,000, creating a lasting tribute to your generosity and compassion for families facing pediatric illness. We invite you to become part of the Heart of the House.

Ronald McDonald House New York

To schedule a tour, learn more about Heart Hall recognition opportunities, or explore other ways to support RMH-NY, please contact Development Manager, Kelsey Zeller, at kzeller@rmh-newyork.org or (646) 483-5181. Thank you for considering a donation to RMH-NY's families this holiday season.