

no place like home

SPRING 2012

Ronald McDonald House® Manitoba



Danika Carriere, our Winnipeg “celebrity for a day” is all smiles with her sister Katie. Front and centre is our friend Ronald McDonald.

Over \$60,000 raised on McHappy Day®!

We were overjoyed to be selected again in 2012 as the McHappy Day charity recipient for McDonald’s Restaurants in Winnipeg, Altona, Morden, Portage la Prairie, Selkirk, Steinbach, The Pas and Winkler.

Collectively these restaurants contributed \$1.00 from every hot McCafe® beverage, Big Mac® and Happy Meal® sold on May 2nd, raising over \$60,000.00 for Ronald McDonald House Manitoba and its programs such as the Ronald McDonald Family Room® in Children’s Hospital.

The excitement of the day began bright and early as families, staff, and volunteers from Ronald McDonald House embarked on their restaurant tours. We managed to visit many restaurants in Winnipeg and even stopped in at a few rural locations to say hi and most importantly, thank you.

Families traveled with us to bring a special word of thanks to McDonald’s owner-operators, employees and customers. It was wonderful to see the support and love from so many Manitobans.

The generosity of McDonald’s Restaurants of Manitoba dates back to the House’s inception in 1984 and is one of the main reasons we continue to be able to keep families together. As the namesake charity, McDonald’s commitment in donating funds from McHappy Day goes a long way in helping the House keep its doors open.

A big thank you to all the McDonald’s Restaurants and volunteers who participated in McHappy Day! Our families thank you for your ongoing support.



Premier Greg Selinger (centre) takes a McCafe break to support McHappy Day 2012.

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2012 Stats (to date)

We have served over **184 families** at the House.

We have accommodated families for **1,083 nights!**

We have seen over **8,000 guests** through the doors of our Family Room at Children’s Hospital.

Our sleeping room occupancy at the Family Room is **89%**



Manoir Ronald McDonald House
MANITOBA



Stacey Grocholski, Executive Director
Ronald McDonald House Manitoba

Message from our Executive Director

What an incredible past few months we have had here at Ronald McDonald House! Between fundraising events, staff additions and new projects on the go we have been running non-stop since January.

I would like to welcome Kasia James to our team in the position of Family Room Coordinator. She joins us with an extensive background in volunteer and program management and has been a great asset since she started in February. With her taking on the Family Room program, we were able to move Kristin Mitchell into a Communications & Development role. This is an exciting step forward for us and will allow us to take our fundraising efforts to the next level.

Our calendars are jam packed as we move into summer. Our 26th annual fashion show was a spectacular success and we enjoyed being part of McHappy Day again this year. Moving forward we are excited to host our 23rd annual Tournament of Champions golf tournament on June 19 and a few other events along the way. Here's to a warm, fabulous summer, and thank you for your continued support!

Stacey Grocholski

Board of Directors

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www.rmhmanitoba.org

Family Room Turns Two

May 2, 2012 marked two years of keeping families together at the Ronald McDonald Family Room in Winnipeg Children's Hospital.

We are excited every year to mark this occasion with an open house for hospital staff and other guests. This year because of McHappy Day falling on the same day we decided to host the event a week later on May 8.

Since opening, over 47,000 guests

have walked through our doors and we have provided over 1,670 nights of accommodations to families.

The Family Room was a joint program initiated by Ronald McDonald House Manitoba in partnership with Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg and Ronald McDonald House Charities of Canada. It relies on approximately 100 volunteers to ensure the program runs smoothly 7 days a week from 9am-9pm.



Judi and Diane, two of our loyal Family Room volunteers, served delicious homemade cookies to guests who visited during our anniversary celebration.



The Nault/Carriere Family: Alain, Danika, and Barbie.



'Model for a Day' Faith takes a proud walk on our runway.

26th Annual Fashion Show combines fun and fashion for a great cause

On April 19th Winnipeg gathered for its favourite fashion event of the year: the Ronald McDonald House Fashion Show presented by Polo Park Shopping Centre.

In its 26th year, the show has become a staple in the community for offering a fun-filled evening for a great cause.

The highlight of the show was undoubtedly our "models for a day", Danika and Faith, as well as Danika's dad Alain, who shared heartfelt words from his experience at the House and Family Room while Danika was recovering from a motor vehicle accident:

"I can't even begin to imagine what we would have done without these facilities. The staff and volunteers assisted us through the most difficult time in our lives. One never anticipates or is ever prepared for tragedy and we are so grateful for the support we received.

Even though we were in a partial fog and reeling from the fact that our daughter was in critical condition, I still remember one of the nurses telling us that they had booked a room for us at the Ronald McDonald Family Room. We had no idea that this place even existed. It was very ironic that our tour was on Thanksgiving Monday because we certainly became thankful over the next few months for this wonderful oasis within the walls of the hospital.

As you can imagine, it was very difficult at first to leave Danika's bedside but you soon realize that the condition in which Danika was in would require us to look at this as a marathon and not a sprint and that we would need to take care of ourselves and reenergize. I remember counting the seconds and steps with my wife between the Family Room and PICU.

The amazing volunteers would prepare fresh baked goods and coffee, answer questions and sometimes just offer words of encouragement.

When Danika was transitioned from the PICU to one of the wards, I also transitioned from the Family Room to Ronald McDonald House. This facility, which was also amazing, became my new home away from home.

It's odd, isn't it? People face tragic situations every day and the world goes on like nothing happened. But when it's a person you love, you think everyone should stop and take notice. That they ought to cry and light candles and tell you that you're not alone. We certainly never felt alone because of the incredible support we received from family, friends and volunteers as well as having a place to call home."

Presenting Sponsor



Platinum Sponsors



COSSETTE



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



Save The Date



Tuesday June 19, 2012

The 23rd annual Tournament of Champions Golf Tournament in support of Ronald McDonald House Manitoba is scheduled for Tuesday, June 19 and registration is almost sold out!

We will be hosting the event at Glendale Golf & Country Club again this year and know our loyal golfers

will enjoy a day of fun on these prestigious links.

We are looking for prize donations for our live and silent auction, as well as sponsorship support. A few spots are still available!

For more information call Kristin at (204) 783-9523 or kristin@rmhmanitoba.org

Northern Lights

BARREL FUTURITY & DERBY

SEPTEMBER 1-2, 2012

Westoba Agricultural Centre of Excellence - Brandon, Manitoba

FUTURITY
(5 years & under)

DERBY
(7 years & under)

Manitoba Bred Awards

Stallion Incentive

Amateur Rider Awards

9th Annual OPEN 4D "Race For Charity" Fri.
\$\$\$ Added Open Jackpots Sat. & Sun.



Details & Entry Forms Online
www.NLfuturaity.com

Plus! Rocking W Trainer's Challenge
26th Annual Rocking W Performance Horse Preview & Sale
www.rockingW.com



FUTURITY
\$7,000 Added
DERBY
\$5,000 Added

CANADIAN
Barrel Futurities

CBHT



Sponsor Spotlight: TD



Our relationship with TD dates back to the inception of the House in 1984. Rick Adams, the

founder of Ronald McDonald House Manitoba, developed a partnership with TD and opened an operating account for the organization.

As a result of this account, the relationship grew to a place where TD sponsored both the Tournament of Champions Golf Tournament and the Hope Couture Fashion Show fundraisers at the Bronze level.

In 1998 Britta Spiring began managing our account and she developed a passion for the House and what we did for families.

Britta became a long-standing volunteer, board member, committee member, and House supporter. Since she retired we have been carefully managed by other Account Managers, all of whom became close friends of the House and supported us in whatever ways they could.

Our relationship with TD has evolved from one of a banking nature, to a supportive, advisory partnership.

This support continues today in so many aspects of what we do. TD is a loyal partner and continues to help our fundraising

efforts through corporate sponsorship and corporate tables at our fashion show and founding sponsorships for programs like our Ronald McDonald Family Room.

We are grateful for the support we receive from TD at every level: corporate, Private Banking, and the branch level.

We are proud to highlight them as a feature sponsor in this issue of our newsletter and look forward to a continued supportive partnership!



New opportunity to keep families together

On April 1 we proudly re-launched our Adopt-A-Room program. This unique development opportunity allows donors to contribute directly to the impact Ronald McDonald House and the Ronald McDonald Family Room have on families.

"We're excited to offer this program in a new format because it's the best way for our donors to connect with families and offer the greatest level of support," explains Stacey Grocholski, Executive Director.

At the House there are 14 bedrooms and 2 common areas available for adoption, and at the Family Room there are 3 bedrooms and 1 common area.

For an annual commitment of \$5,000 (bedroom) or \$10,000 (common area) your organization, family, or community group can adopt one of these rooms and help us keep more families together.

Recognition and naming opportunities are available for all adoptions.

There are a limited number of spaces available so interested groups should contact Stacey as soon as possible at (204) 779-9751 or stacey@rmhmanitoba.org

A brochure with more information is available for download on our website at www.rmhmanitoba.org

Cozy corner receives comfy facelift



This popular spot in our basement common area was well-used by families but also in desperate need of a makeover to create a more inviting space for families and bring it up to date.

Just like any house, we are always on the look-out for an upcoming renovation. After our bathroom renovation in 2011 we decided to take on the basement fireplace.

With the help of many friends including Liz Sellors from NumberTEN Architectural Group, Antex Western, Vantage Millwork La-Z-Boy Furniture and Tandus Carpets we were able to completely transform this popular area into a cozier corner for families and kids to relax.

Projects like this take a considerable amount of resources to complete and we are very grateful for the support we received. If you would like to help with our next project call Stacey at (204) 779-9751 or stacey@rmhmanitoba.org



Today this beautiful new space is one of the coziest spots in our House and families flock to the comfy couches at all times of the day for a few minutes of rest and relaxation.

Connect with us



www.facebook.com

Facebook is a social networking website that allows users to become fans of organizations and connect

with them through sharing stories and photos.

“Ronald McDonald House Manitoba”



www.twitter.com

Twitter is a social networking tool that provides users with short tidbits of information from other users that they

are “following.” In 160 characters or less you can send your followers status updates, information, or just a fun greeting.

@RMHManitoba



www.linkedin.com

LinkedIn is a social networking website that creates connections among users that can facilitate new networking

opportunities or strengthen existing ones. Primarily used for business, users can upload resumes, change their status and find new colleagues.

“Ronald McDonald House Manitoba”



Jets wives and girlfriends visit with Grayson at the Ronald McDonald Family Room.

Jets wives visit Family Room

We are always excited to have special guests at our House and Family Room programs and our families really enjoy it too.

In March we were fortunate to have a visit from the wives and girlfriends of the Winnipeg Jets.

They took time out of their busy schedules to visit the Ronald McDonald Family Room, greet families and do an Easter craft with families.

We are very excited to have an NHL team back in Winnipeg and couldn't be more happy to have the wives and girlfriends of the players supporting

our organization. In April they also hosted a “Home for Dinner” night for families and enjoyed interacting and answering all kinds of questions from curious moms and dads and staff members too!

A special thank you to Emily Glass who helped coordinate the events and has been a friend to the House ever since!

We're looking forward to another great season of hockey in 2012-2013 and a fun-filled partnership with the wives and girlfriends on the team.

2012 Annette Nagler Volunteer Award

Cade Arason

Every year we struggle to select just one of our special volunteers to recognize with the Annette Nagler Volunteer Award. As you can imagine, it's a difficult process to highlight the contributions of just one person. However, our recipients are always deserving and this year is no exception.

Cade Arason first became involved with Ronald McDonald House Manitoba back in 2002 when he joined our board of directors as our treasurer. He quickly became a strong advocate for the House and our programs and became involved in our annual fashion show and golf tournament.

In 2005 he moved into the role of Vice

President, and two years later became President. During this time he worked tirelessly to achieve our fundraising goals and included his corporate connections in the process. The company he worked for became significant sponsors at our events and he helped foster that relationship.

Perhaps his most heartfelt contribution to our organization was his dedication to seeing our Ronald McDonald Family Room open its doors in Children's Hospital. He chaired our project committee, oversaw the launch of the project and was proud to see the program open in May 2010.

Through it all, he has maintained his support through events and volunteer efforts at the House. In addition to his

accomplishments with us, he is also a husband and proud father to his daughter and twin boys



Stacey Grocholski presents Cade with his award

Thank you, Dufresne!



We were so excited to be selected as one of Dufresne's "1 Million Charity Challenge" organizations! Many local charities benefited from this generous program, which provided matching grants for programs that would directly benefit the community and families.

The \$5,000 grant we received allowed us to expand our Home for Dinner program so we can offer more home-cooked meals for our families staying at Ronald McDonald House. Like every program, there are hard costs associated with Home for Dinner and we are thrilled to be able to offer this more often.

Thank you Dufresne for keeping more families together!

Daytime volunteers needed

We currently have a strong need for House volunteers during daytime hours.

If you are retired, work shift work, or attend university, this may be the perfect fit for you!

Hours are flexible between 9am-5pm Monday through Friday and duties may include running errands, shuttling families between the House and the hospital, light cleaning, room preparation, interacting with families, baking, or other tasks depending on the day.

As we continue to promote a 24-hour staffing model to serve families better we are always looking for ways to offer more comfort and service to families. Having consistent daytime volunteers helps us achieve that goal.

Contact Kerry at (204) 774-4777 or kerry@rmhmanitoba.org for more information, or visit our website to submit an application. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and be able to produce a clear criminal record check and child abuse registry check.



Thank you for your support!

The following organizations and individuals have contributed through cash and in-kind donations over \$500 to Ronald McDonald House® and its programs from September 2011 through May 2012.

102.3 CLEAR FM/92 CITI FM
Barefoot Wine
Benjamin Moore & Co. Ltd.
Anita Berndt
BFI Waste Services
BrandSource
Cadillac Fairview Corporation Limited
(Polo Park Shopping Centre)
Cargill Ltd.
Cattleman for the Cure
Angela Chapdelaine
Christmas Decor
City Bread Co. Ltd.
Coca-Cola Ltd.
Copy Plus Printing
Cossette Communication Group
Dairyworld Division of Saputo Milk
Henry & Loretta Enns
Douglas Fawcett
Eco-Green for Lawns & Trees
Ecolab
Evolution Presentation Technologies
Friesens Corporation
FYi Eye Care Services & Products Inc.
Amy Gauthier & Dirk Koster
General Mills Canada Corporation
Global Television
Great Finds
Health Sciences Centre Security
Herzing College

Kay Chemical International
Knights of Columbus - Beausejour Council
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Kruger Products Limited
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Manitoba Government Employees Union
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McCaine Electric Limited
McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Ltd.
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Hendrik Mills
Montana's Cookhouse
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Richlu Sportswear Ltd.
Ronald McDonald House Charities
Rose Packing Company Inc.
Royal Canadian Legion #60 - Souris Branch
Salon Centre

Sets on Fort
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Star Building Materials
Swan River Valley Mennonite Church
Taillieu Construction
TD Commercial Banking
TD Private Banking
TD Private Trust
TD Waterhouse
Terracon Development Ltd.
The Dufresne Foundation Inc.
The Grocery People
The Winnipeg Foundation
The Winnipeg Goldeyes Field of Dreams
Foundation
The Winnipeg Sun
Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP
Visual Lizard
Wawanesa
WestJet
Winnipeg Brewmasters
Winnipeg Building & Decorating Ltd.
Winnipeg Convention Centre
Winnipeg Free Press
Winnipeg Parking Authority
Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
Winpak Ltd.

Wish List

We have an ongoing list of items that we would love to see walking through our doors. If you would like to put together a donation basket we encourage you to use the list below.

Contact Kerry at (204) 774-4777 or kerry@rmhmanitoba.org for more details or to find out if an item has been donated yet.

- Tickets to events
- Paper (white, 8.5" x 11")
- Serving platters
- Cookie/muffin scoops
- Canned goods
- Kraft Dinner
- Frozen dinners
- Sugar (white/brown)
- Eggs
- Chocolate chips
- Raisins
- Coconut
- Flour
- Baking margarine
- Cookies
- Potatoes
- Frozen vegetables
- Single serving snacks
- Ziploc bags
- Bedding plants
- Nintendo Wii games
- Xbox 360 games
- PS2 & PS3 games
- Dolls
- Family DVDs
- Fabric softener
- Stain remover
- Toothbrushes
- Hand cream
- Disinfectant wipes
- Lysol spray
- Lavender pine sol
- Garbage bags (small white, large green)
- Batteries
- Dish towels
- Grocery gift cards
- Toys 'R Us gift cards
- Restaurant gift cards
- Walmart gift cards
- Gas cards

