

# heartstrings

Helping give sick children what they need most... their families.



## SHINING BRIGHT: A STORY OF STRENGTH AND RAYDIANCE

In the fall of 2013, Jennette Bone and her partner Craig Finley were thrilled to learn they were having twins. They would be identical brothers: Raydiance and Remington.

That winter, after a routine screening test came back abnormal, Jennette visited doctors in her hometown of Brandon, as well as Winnipeg and Toronto, before finding out that there was a serious problem. The twins had been diagnosed with “Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome”, a rare disease in which the flow of blood to the twins becomes unbalanced. With TTTS, the smaller twin does not get enough blood, while the larger twin receives too much. After an intensive surgery at Toronto’s Mount Sinai Hospital, all Jennette and Craig could do was wait.

Jennette recalls December 19th as the day her life took a turn for the worse. Doctors began an emergency blood transfusion after complications from the first surgery arose. “Four short hours after the procedure,” recounts Jennette, “I lost ‘Remi’”.

The days and weeks that followed saw Jennette facing weekly trips to Winnipeg, countless fetal assessments, and a lot of time spent on bed rest – all of which came to a head on January 26th, four months before her April due date.

“I knew something was wrong,” explains Jennette, who recalls how strong the early contractions were, “It was horrible to think of delivering a non-living, non-breathing baby, but even more frightening was to think about our other son not surviving.” Three hours later, Raydiance Finley was born. At just 11lb 12oz and 13 inches long, Raydiance would need to be taken to the NICU for support, but not before Jennette spent a few precious moments with her newborn son. For someone so little, Raydiance’s strength never wavered - just hours later he was breathing on his own, and to this day he continues fighting hard to keep growing stronger.

Minutes after Raydiance’s birth, Remington was delivered. In reflecting on the time she did spend with Remington, Jennette describes her experience as at once heartbreaking, wonderful, and horrifying. “I layed him on my chest. I felt relief that it was over. No more suffering, for both of us.”

As a result of the support of generous donors, Jennette and her family found comfort in the fact that they had a safe and caring place to stay during this incredibly difficult time. Five days after giving birth, Jennette would arrive at Ronald McDonald House Manitoba, the place she credits for

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# CONTACT Us

## Ronald McDonald House Manitoba

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## Ronald McDonald Family Room

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[www.rmhmanitoba.org](http://www.rmhmanitoba.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Vanderhorst <i>President</i>	<i>Board Members:</i> Dave Einarson
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Laura Workman <i>Secretary</i>	Ryan Turner
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holding her family together while Raydiance continues to astonish doctors with his progress. "It is an amazing place to be, and I am proud and happy to call it my "home" while I am here." Without the support of the house, Jennette says it would have been impossible for them to stay in Winnipeg and look after their family. Jennette and her family have been at the Ronald McDonald House for over two months, and continue to benefit from the supportive community and programs designed to make it easier for parents and families struggling with the most difficult times in their lives.

When asked about sharing her story, Jennette admits, "It took me a week to finish writing... words cannot express how I feel or what I've been through." She does, however, want people to know that Raydiance continues to fight hard every day, has moved to full feeds, and is really enjoying his time with Mom and Dad. Jennette is looking forward to being a happy, whole family again – but until then is thankful for the services that Ronald McDonald House provides.

We know that Jennette and other Ronald McDonald House families appreciate the generous support from you, our donors, who give what you can, when you can. These acts of kindness are truly what allow us to continue keeping families together when they need it most.

"People here really touched our hearts," she says, "we will never be able to repay them for the things they do,"

Sometimes, the best news a family can hear when they are going through one of the most difficult times in their lives is that there is a place they can stay. With your support, Ronald McDonald House Manitoba can continue to support children and families that need a safe and caring place to stay just minutes away from their child at the Children's Hospital. A donation to RMHMB helps to guarantee access to healthy meals, a number of programs that reduce stress and financial burden, and a safe, caring community here at the House.

**Will you please help us today with your donation?**

# HELP SUPPORT RONALD McDONALD HOUSE MANITOBA

S14

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation:  30\$  50\$  \$100 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Details:  Visa  Mastercard  Cheque

Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Cheques made payable to Ronald McDonald House Manitoba  
Charitable tax receipts will be provided for donations of \$20.00 or more.

I have left a donation to RMHMB in my will.

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to speak to someone about leaving a donation to RMHMB in my will.

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Ronald McDonald House Manitoba  
566 Bannatyne Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3A 0G7

**Contact:** 204 774-4777  
[www.rmhmanitoba.org](http://www.rmhmanitoba.org)  
[info@rmhmanitoba.org](mailto:info@rmhmanitoba.org)

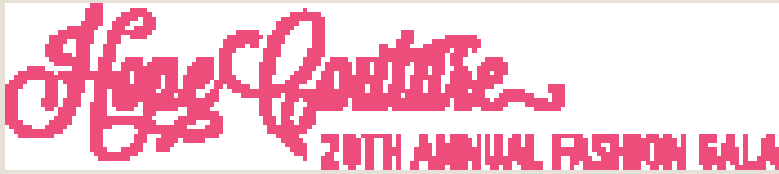
## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Allison Kesler with two of our youngest RMH guests

Here at Ronald McDonald House Manitoba, the beginning of spring means it's time for two of our biggest events: McHappy Day (May 7th) and the Hope Couture Fashion Gala (May 9th). While these events play a big role in the successful operation of the House, we need your help now more than ever. With a House that is consistently at capacity, your support means that we can continue providing services and programming to the families and children that need it most.

Jennette's powerful story is one of many that unfold here at the House, and whether it is a long-term illness, serious injury, or unexpected emergency – Ronald McDonald House Manitoba relies on your support to keep acting as a "home away from home" for these families.



presented by:



This year, Ronald McDonald House Manitoba will host its 28th Annual Hope Couture Fashion Gala on **May 9th, 2014**. This is our premier fundraiser for the House and we are truly excited to be introducing some new and exciting additions to our evening.

We are combining the thrill of a fashion show with new and innovative entertainment. After dinner, we will be introducing a new aspect for the evening that is complete with music, dancing and a night that will be geared towards both men and women, so bring your dancing shoes!

Our Fashion Gala would not be complete without the Haute Couture Collection, Lane of Hope and - new this year - the Style in Motion Silent Auction to offer everyone the opportunity to take home some amazing prizes.

So please join us for a unique evening of fashion and fun in support of the seriously ill, chronically ill, and injured children and their families at Ronald McDonald House Manitoba.

*Tickets can be purchased online at [www.rmhmanitoba.org](http://www.rmhmanitoba.org) or by phone at 204 774-4777.*



## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT

On November 14th, Ronald McDonald House Manitoba was thrilled to show our appreciation for our dedicated volunteers. Over 30 volunteers came out to the Golf Dome for a fantastic evening of miniature and virtual golf!

The theme of the evening was "No One Holds a Candle to You" and was our way of showing our volunteers how important the work that they do is to the success of Ronald McDonald House Manitoba. We were happy to present each of our volunteers with a special blown glass tealight candle holder as a token of our appreciation.

Without the dedication of our volunteers, we would not be able to provide the programs and services that make Ronald McDonald House Manitoba such a caring and safe space for the families that stay here

To learn more about getting involved with RMHMB, visit [www.rmhmanitoba.org/](http://www.rmhmanitoba.org/).



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [RMHMANITOBA.ORG](http://RMHMANITOBA.ORG)**



# COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR RONALD McDONALD HOUSE MANITOBA



**Winnipeg High School Football League Food Drive**



**Sanford Collegiate Hockey Team Home for Dinner**



**Ralph Island Jewellers presents \$1100 donation on behalf of Canadian Jewellery Group**



**MTS Volunteers deliver a donation of 8 LCD TVs and 5 Blu-ray Players for the House and Family Room**

*Ronald McDonald House Manitoba supports the health and well-being of children by providing a “home away from home” and other services for critically ill, chronically ill and seriously injured children and their families.*



**Santa and Mrs. Claus** celebrate the holidays at Ronald McDonald House.



**MC College** pampers children and families staying at the House.



Canadian Olympic figure skater **Patrick Chan** spends some time with the kids at RMHMB.



Students from **Garden City Collegiate** deliver tutus and superhero capes for children at the House.

## HOME FOR DINNER



**Home for Dinner** is a volunteer-based program at Ronald McDonald House where groups provide home cooked meals for families who are staying at the House. It is a great team-building opportunity and very appreciated by our families.

We are very thankful to **TD** who volunteered their time on November 14th and November 28th to help guarantee that families staying at Ronald McDonald House Manitoba have a warm, nutritious, home cooked meal.

If you or your group are interested in participating in the Home for Dinner program, please contact Kerry at 204 774-4777 or [kerry@rmhmanitoba.org](mailto:kerry@rmhmanitoba.org)



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [RMHMANITOBA.ORG](http://RMHMANITOBA.ORG)**



# UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEW PROGRAMS AT RMHMB



## CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

This fall, Ronald McDonald House Manitoba launched its first ever **continental breakfast** program at the House. Started with funding from the **Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce**, this program is now receiving support from a multitude of donors.

As a result of this program, families and children staying at the House are guaranteed access to a daily meal consisting of hard boiled eggs, bagels, english muffins, yogurt, fruit, cereal, and juices.

## McHAPPY DAY - MAY 7<sup>TH</sup>

2013 saw the most successful McHappy Day in history - with McDonald's restaurants all over Manitoba working together to raise over **\$85 000** for Ronald McDonald House Manitoba.

We were excited to have **Patrick and Janice Cyrenne** and their son **Christian** as part of McHappy Day 2013. Christian is a survivor of liver cancer and we were honoured to have him and his family with us at many of our restaurants and media interviews.

On **May 7th**, make sure to get down to a McDonald's restaurant and pick up a Big Mac, McHappy Meal, or McCafe beverage in support of RMHMB.



## SOUP DAY AT THE FAMILY ROOM

The **Ronald McDonald Family Room** is a home within **Winnipeg's Children's Hospital** for any family with a sick child - regardless of location.

On November 13th, an amazing group of volunteers at the Family Room took it upon themselves to combat Winnipeg's cold winter months by bringing in all of the necessary ingredients for homemade soup and biscuits. They worked hard every Tuesday to provide all of the guests of the Family Room with a nourishing bowl of hot soup.

## TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 2013 Tournament of Champions Golf Tournament raised a record **\$116 525** to support Ronald McDonald House Manitoba, and we could not be more thankful for the support of our many sponsors and participants.

**Thursday, September 4th** marks the date of the **25th Annual** Tournament of Champions. Hosted at Breezy Bend, it is sure to be a great day out on the links in support of the children and families supported by Ronald McDonald House Manitoba.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [RMHMANITOBA.ORG](http://RMHMANITOBA.ORG)

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



The following organizations and individuals have contributed to Ronald McDonald House Manitoba and our programs with monetary and in-kind donations over \$500 from September 2013 to April 2014.

Karen Blais  
Brett & Tara Cameron  
Angela Chapdelaine  
Dr. Emmett & Karen Elves  
Douglas Fawcett  
Jeremy & Maureen Gordon  
Ralph Ireland  
John Kennedy  
Brad Munn  
Allen Munro  
Susan Norman  
Jo Anne & Dave Phillips  
Tanya Pilat  
Sherry Thiessen  
Carol Unrau  
Mike Vanderhorst  
Kirby & Jessica Watson  
A. C. Wilton Investments Ltd.  
ABCO Services & Supply Ltd.  
Air Wise Inc.  
AMOS  
Aon Reed Stenhouse Inc.  
Bayer Inc.  
BDO Canada LLP  
Beautiful Saviour Lutheran School  
Benjamin Moore & Co., Limited  
BFI Waste Services  
BrandSource  
Canada Post Customer Service  
Canadian Jewellery Group  
Cargill Seeds & Oils  
Christmas Décor  
City Bread Co. Ltd.

CN Rail  
Coca-Cola (Canada) Ltd.  
Confidence Management Ltd.  
Cossette Communication Group  
Dairyworld Division of Saputo Milk  
Danamark Water Care  
Dauphin's Country Fest  
Eco-Green for Lawns and Trees  
Ecolab  
Estate of Eileen Lillian Clarke  
Exchange Income Corporation  
Freedman AV  
Friesens Corporation  
Fusion Capital Corporation  
General Mills Canada Corporation  
Georgian Bay Development Ltd.  
Giftpact Foundation Inc.  
Gilles Lambert Pest Control  
Global TV  
Great West Life Assurance Company  
H & K Canada Inc.  
Health Sciences Centre Security Department  
Herzing College  
Homestead Manitoba Inc.  
Independent Jewellers  
Inner Wheel District # 555  
Instant Imprints  
Knights of Columbus-Beausejour  
Koehn Farms Ltd.  
Kruger Products Limited  
La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries  
Lexmark International Inc.

Mac Top Publishing Inc.  
Mad About Style Boutique  
Manitoba Egg Farmers  
Martin-Brower of Canada, Ltd.  
Marwest Management Canada Ltd.  
MC College  
McCaine Electric Limited  
McCain Foods (Canada)  
McDonald's Restaurants of Canada  
McDonald's Restaurants of Manitoba  
McRim Service Centre  
Mercedes-Benz Winnipeg  
Microsoft Canada  
Mid West Packaging Limited  
Mike Pilat Golf Tournament  
Morden Sommerfeld Sunday School  
Mother Parkers Tea & Coffee  
Mr. Electric of Winnipeg  
MTS Volunteers  
NRS Consulting & Mail  
Northlands Parkway Collegiate  
Number Ten Architectural Group  
Payworks  
Petals West Inc.  
Pet Smart  
Polar Ray-O-Max Windows Canada  
Polo Park Shopping Centre  
QX104/FAB 94.3  
RBC  
RBC Foundation  
Revenue Management Solutions  
Richlu Sportswear Ltd.

Ronald McDonald House Charities  
Rotary Club of Winnipeg - Assiniboine  
Royal Canadian Legion #60 - Souris Branch  
Silver Jeans Co.  
Spectra Energy  
Stampin' Up  
St. Vital Centre  
Taillieu Construction Ltd.  
Taylor McCaffrey  
TD Waterhouse Private Banking  
The Bargain! Shop  
The Winnipeg Sun  
Veron Consultants Inc.  
Visual Lizard  
Wawanesa  
Westjet  
WGI Westman Group Inc.  
Wildwood Transport Inc.  
Winnipeg Building & Decorating Ltd.  
Winnipeg Football Club  
Winnipeg Free Press  
Winnipeg Goldeyes Field of Dreams Foundation  
Winnipeg High School Football League  
Winnipeg Jets  
Winnipeg Parking Authority  
Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra

## WISH LIST

### KITCHEN SUPPLIES

Individual size yogurts  
Frozen dinners  
Single serving snacks  
Frozen Minute Maid orange juice  
Baking margarine  
Potatoes  
Frozen vegetables  
Dishwashing detergent  
Dishwashing rinse aid

### LAUNDRY SUPPLIES

HE laundry soap  
Fabric softener  
Stain remover

### OFFICE SUPPLIES

Paper (8.5"x11", white)  
Post-it notes  
Letter size file folders  
Masking Tape  
Packing Tape

### RECREATIONAL ITEMS

Movie passes  
Tickets to special events  
Tickets to sporting events  
Toys 'R Us gift cards  
Gas gift cards  
Restaurant gift cards  
New baby strollers  
New Little Tikes wagon  
New board games for all ages

### MISCELLANEOUS SUPPLIES

Lysol disinfectant wipes  
Heavy duty canister vacuum  
Lysol spray  
Lavender Pine Sol  
Garbage bags (small, white)  
Garbage bags (large, white)  
Long distance calling cards

On behalf of our families, volunteers, and staff, a heartfelt **thank you** for your support. Your outstanding generosity helped to check off many of the items on our Wish List. The items below are still in need and will help us continue to support families into 2014.