

Join us in celebrating the love of family!



Ronald McDonald House Charities®
Manitoba



Celebrate 5 Weeks for Families from Mother's Day on May 14th to Father's Day on June 18th!

Learn more at rmhmanitoba.org

Family is the greatest gift of all. For over 30 years, Ronald McDonald House Charities® Manitoba has kept families together with their sick child. This year, RMHC Manitoba invites you to celebrate **5 Weeks for Families**, the beautiful time between Mother's Day on May 14th and Father's Day on June 18th. See below for highlights of five RMHC Manitoba family stories. Visit rmhmanitoba.org to learn more about each family as their story is revealed each week! **Find out how you can help keep families close during 5 Weeks for families!**

WEEK 1

Melanie has stayed at Ronald McDonald House® since Joy was born and continues to be a guest as she receives special care for a rare genetic disorder known as cystic hygroma. Special medical procedures and a second surgery in 2016 have improved Joy's condition. Melanie is hopeful. Looking to the future, the family hopes to soon transition to their home in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

"She defies the odds every day. I don't know where we would be without Ronald McDonald House. I believe in miracles and she is my little miracle." - RMHC Manitoba guests, Melanie & Joy Finnimore from Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.



WEEK 2

Lucy Lau was born premature at 23 weeks. She was immediately flown in from Churchill to receive immediate medical attention at HSC Children's Hospital in Winnipeg. During Lucy's journey, her parents, Ian and Cynthia, were always by her side while staying at Ronald McDonald House or spending time at the Ronald McDonald Family Room®.

"The help RMHC Manitoba provided allowed us to focus care on our wee daughter, born in the remote town of Churchill. Her thriving and growth were made possible because her parents were supported and looked after."

- RMHC Manitoba guests, Ian, Cynthia & Lucy Lau from Churchill, Manitoba

Turn over to see how you can help.

WEEK 3



"Two years ago, Katrina was diagnosed with a second inoperable brain tumour leaving her blind in her left eye and with low vision in her right. With no living arrangements and a requirement to stay for several months as Katrina received medical treatment, the family contacted RMHC Manitoba to get the care they desperately needed. "Staying at Ronald McDonald House allows us to provide better care for Katrina and reduce the financial burden on our family", says RMHC Manitoba guest, Kristen Breemersch.

"RMHC Manitoba allows my parents and family to be there for me during my treatments and health challenges. I am forever grateful. The House and Family Room are amazing and filled with love!" – RMHC Manitoba guest, Katrina Breemersch from Brandon, Manitoba.

WEEK 4

After numerous antibiotics, blood and platelet transfusions, spinal taps, chemotherapy, steroids and medication, Alyx's leukemia is in remission and her body is free of cancerous cells. Alyx has regularly undergone treatments and tests in Winnipeg since receiving the news in 2014. During this time, Ronald McDonald House has always been a comforting place to stay for the family as Alyx heals.

"Ronald McDonald House allows us to breathe a little easier when Alyx needs to go in for treatments. The staff and volunteers of this wonderful, welcoming space are like family to us." – RMHC Manitoba guests, Jody, Reg, Hayden and Alyx Delaloye from Neepawa, Manitoba.



WEEK 5

After some tests and X-rays, it was discovered that Karsen was born with collapsed lungs. Tests revealed his bladder was refluxing, causing damage to both kidneys, especially to the right side. A little under one-third of Karsen's young life has been spent at the Ronald McDonald Family Room in HSC Children's Hospital and many other days spent going to the hospital for testing and treatments.

"The Family Room is a tremendous resource and has helped bring us some normality to an otherwise chaotic situation. It truly is a 'home-away-from home'!" – RMHC Manitoba guests, Jeremy and Karsen Kehler from Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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- Please send me information on volunteer opportunities.
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