Laura, Daniel, and baby Nathan
Meet the Galvis Family

When Laura and Daniel were told that their baby would likely be born prematurely and require care in a NICU, they knew one of their first steps should be to find a nearby Ronald McDonald House. They had been in a similar situation a few years earlier when their first child was born.

"With our first son, we were lucky enough to stay at a Ronald McDonald House in Florida. He was also in the NICU, and during that time we were offered the chance to stay at the House. That’s when we came to know RMH and the beautiful work you do."

Laura and Daniel were relieved to find out that there was a Ronald McDonald House directly across the street from the hospital where Nathan would be born. After his arrival, they quickly arranged with their hospital social worker to stay at the House.

Laura was able to bring her two older children, Jeremy and Matthew, to stay with her, as well as her mother-in-law, Maria, to help. Daniel knew, with the pandemic in full effect and his work exposing him to the public, that the safest option was for him to not join his family at RMH. Knowing that RMH could care for his family and provide support made that decision easier to accept.

"The House helped a lot. The fact that we could stay here with the children and their grandmother meant so much. Before it was just the kids and their grandma at my house and me here, and that was stressful for everyone," said Laura.

"Really all my memories are special. I start to think about the House and my heart beats faster. You would not imagine all the fun moments that happen as a result of staying here. We are just really thankful. We feel very blessed by the people we were surrounded by at the House. We want to thank every person who had something to do with our time here and keeping us so happy. And thank you for everything you do for every family who comes to stay here."

STAYING CLOSE TO WHAT MATTERS MOST
Focused on Families

What does it mean to be a family impacted by a child requiring critical medical care in a hospital far from home?

It can mean separation of a core family unit, long commutes, and added financial burdens. Sometimes it even means that a child must be alone in the hospital without a parent during treatment. A sick child is a sick family, and Ronald McDonald House Charities of Connecticut & Western MA (RMHC CTMA) provides family centered care by keeping families together in their time of need.

2021 was an extraordinary year. After 2020, a year of stops and starts, we found the RMHC CTMA community moving forward toward normalcy. Our focus has been on providing a home away from home to those in need during a medical crisis. In 2021, volunteers returned, our Meal Program was reinstated and international families returned for prolonged care and medical resources. Fundraising events and activities expanded, community outreach grew and support of our partner hospitals evolved. It was a year of long awaited opportunities and expansion.

Your support during our time of need allowed Ronald McDonald House Connecticut and Ronald McDonald House Springfield to focus on the needs of children and families. We continue to be humbled by your outpouring of time, talent and treasure.

As long as they need us, we need you.

With Gratitude,

Stuart Young
President
Michelle D’Amore
Executive Director
CHAPTER IMPACT

Over 4,569 nights provided to families allowing them to be by their child’s side.

297 Families served

4,338 hours of service donated by volunteers.

Families saved $1,139,385 in out-of-pocket lodging and meal expenses by staying in our Houses.

Families traveled from:

22 STATES

3 COUNTRIES

81% of Nights were provided to guest families unable to contribute towards their stay.

*Reflects impact of Ronald McDonald House of Connecticut and Ronald McDonald House of Springfield combined.*
Ronald McDonald House of Connecticut

Featuring 18 guest rooms and 2 respite rooms, the Ronald McDonald House of Connecticut serves families from Yale New Haven Children’s Hospital and healthcare facilities around Connecticut. For over 35 years, the Ronald McDonald House of Connecticut has provided a home away from home for families, initially at 501 George Street and now at 860 Howard Avenue.

RMH of Connecticut Advisory Council
Cynthia Tanon-Santos – President, Eileen Baker, Diana Caty, Arthur Erickson, Peggy Fay, Ellen Good, Christine Higgins, Heidi Joseph, Hope Juckel-Regan, Larry Lazaroff, Lauren Mallozzi, Julia McFadden, Tom Mercaldo, Jennifer Mineri, Lou Proto

RMH of Connecticut Impact

43% of families stayed in RMH of Connecticut for over 1 week

$91,755 in goods, services, meals, and snacks were donated to families.

Top CT counties families reside: New London, New Haven, Fairfield
RMH of Springfield Advisory Council
Denise Walker - President, Todd Bailey, Carlene Bailey, Roberta Bolduc, Diane Brunelle, Myra Camilleri, Michelle Cayo, Margaret D’Amour, Molly Dill, Nora Drapalski, Annamarie Golden, Jessica Hagerman, Shannon Jarry, Todd Lajoie, Darlene Mark, Cindy O’Malley, Bryan Picard, Thia Ploubides, Anthony Rino, James Watts

Ronald McDonald House of Springfield
Since 1991, the Ronald McDonald House of Springfield has provided thousands of families with a home away from home, serving Baystate Children’s Hospital and Shriner’s Hospital for Children. The House provides a comforting environment where families can truly relax and focus on their child’s care and healing.

RMH of Springfield Impact
93% of nights were provided to guest families who could not contribute to their stay

- 2,104 volunteer hours cooking meals, helping at events, and serving our families.

Top MA counties families reside: Hampden Berkshire Franklin
2021 SUPPORT & IMPACT

**Top Revenue Sources**

- Public Support: $623,783
- Special Events: $651,176
- Restricted Gifts: $297,033
- McDonald's Campaigns: $219,193
- Direct Mail: $200,613
- Grants: $120,917

**Expenses**

- Program: $2,060,811
- Fundraising: $384,897
- Management & General: $185,209
2022 RMHC CTMA STAFF

Michelle D’Amore - Executive Director

Jane Capua
Donor Database Coordinator

Kaitlyn Darcy
Development Manager, RMH Connecticut

Emily Davidson
Administrative Assistant, RMH Connecticut

Melissa Funaro
House Manager, RMH Connecticut

Celine Hamilton Quill
House Manager, RMH Springfield

Marissa Hedman
Communications & Digital Fundraising Coordinator

Richard Popilowski
Chief Development Officer

Joana Pulido
Administrative Assistant, RMH Springfield

Rosemarie Zello
Development Manager, RMH Springfield

Cathy Zorgo-Bignolas
Director, RMHC Global Partnerships & Communications

Connecticut House

Night Managers
Viviana Alvarez
Melanie Burgos
Deneisha Davis
Jirina Fargeorge
Lee Grenier
Leidene LaViera
Glenda Maldonado
Stephanie Nugent
Amy Rodriguez
Stacie Tavaras
Danique Williams

Housekeeping
Anabel Caporal
Rosa Muriel
Maria Perez

Springfield House

Night Managers
Naftalia Anderson
Kyla Burgess
Shakura Coffman Meadows
Jazmin De la Cruz
Briana De Souza
Deborah Oakley
Addie Patterson
Joe Shepard
Noelia Ramos

Housekeeping
Gisela Lopez
Yamika Rodriguez

Maintenance
Luis Rivera
OUR MISSION

To create, identify and support programs that directly improve the health, education, and wellbeing of children and families in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts, including operating its cornerstone programs, the Ronald McDonald House® of Connecticut and the Ronald McDonald House of Springfield.