

WINTER 2016



NEWSLETTER



SHOW YOUR STRIPES



Speaking of events made great by our community,
the 30th anniversary

"SHOW YOUR STRIPES" 5K WAS A ROARING SUCCESS

Carol of Clark Summit was the lucky winner of the Chevy Camaro and had a big heart to use it to help the Ronald McDonald House of Scranton get a brand new van. This will allow us to continue giving rides to and from the hospital to our families. There were many other lucky winners of all the generously donated baskets and every single child who participated in our fun run received a prize. The cook-out proved to be a great deal of fun as people joined together to eat hot dogs and celebrate the "House that Love Built". To the excitement of all, there were more fluffy friends than ever in attendance to make noise for all the wonderful runners and walkers. Congratulations to all our winners and participants. Thank you so much to everyone who attended and made this event so lovely. Feel free to check out all the pictures on Facebook, and post some of your own. A big big thank you to all the volunteers who turned out in force to make this event a grand celebration of everything that the Ronald McDonald House is about. We hope to see you again next year with more stripes, more animal friends, and more goodies.





VOLUNTEER CORNER

With Joyce Petrulak



Joyce's eyes glow with a gentleness and personhood that draws you in. She's been a volunteer with the Scranton Ronald McDonald House for five years, and after exclaiming her surprise at having been a member of our volunteer core for this long already, she looks forward to her ten-year anniversary with the Scranton House.



Q: What made you choose to get involved with RMH?

A: I had a grandson at CHOP with leukemia when he was young. He's healthy now, but my daughter and her husband stayed at the House. I wanted to give back and I thought of them first.

Q: What do you do on a normal day at the RMH?

A: I have office knowledge so I'll do data entry, filing, and copying to help get mailings out. I'll clean the rooms, change sheets, and do laundry after the client leaves. They always leave the room in such good condition, but I really want it to be perfect for the next family. I like how surprised clients are when they see how nice and private the rooms are. I'll water plants, pick up litter from the property -- anything I'm asked to.

Q: What is your best memory of a child/family you helped while volunteering with RMH?

A: A family a few years back just had their 4th child. They had three adorable children who were under ten. They were at the house and seemed to think it was a vacation. They would tell me to come play with them. They were just so adorable that you wanted to. I really enjoyed showing them the games, toys, and around the house and yard. I sense if they want to talk and then I'll listen. I played a lot with the kids while their parents would eat or have a quiet moment. They would ask me to take pictures of them and I still have some of the pictures on my cellphone.

Q: Has a loved one ever used the RMH?

A: Yes, my daughter and her husband stayed in it while my grandson was in the hospital. He was five and it was such an awful time. Parents have enough to worry about without food, a place to stay, and that other stuff. It gets in the way of them staying with their child. So they would switch off staying in the Philadelphia House or being with him in the hospital.

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: Pasta, Italian food, especially shrimp linguini with fettuccine.

Q: What is your favorite quote?

A: My mother always told me "Don't wish your life away. There's so much to do. You'll find how fast life goes. Enjoy it". That's why I started volunteering. Maybe "Moms Know Best" is the quote.

Q: What is your favorite TV program?

A: Anything with a family is nice, but I really love NCIS.

Q: Most bizarre talent?

A: I don't really have a bizarre talent. I'm sure my children could tell you a list, but I can't think of anything.

Q: Anything else to add?

A: For me, volunteering is all about making time for what I love. My friends always ask me lots of questions about why I volunteer here. I don't think everyone understands what it means to give a home away from home to people.



Our 30th anniversary has been a fantastic year. This November 9th, the Ronald McDonald House of Scranton was honored to accept the SAGE People's Choice Award. We were humbled to share the Ronald McDonald House of Scranton's story due to the great support of our community. Yet beyond the recognition of our peers and award, what was most inspiring was the knowledge that our community had selected us for our work. We are lucky to come into work every day to provide a "home away from home" for sick children and their families. We get to see the relieved faces and send the families home to brighter futures. Just as we always believe each family that copes better and heals faster is a success only made possible by our community, this award can only be attributed to our community. Thank you to every single one of you who took time out of your busy schedules and lives to vote for us. Thank you for all that you give our families, community and home. You can check out our Executive Director's acceptance speech and pictures from the evening on our Facebook.



Students from Jeanne's Dance Studio presented a check for \$800.00 from their annual dance recital to the Ronald McDonald House of Scranton. The studio is under the artistic direction of Jeanne Voytek.

Left to right: Aiden Dyer, Ella Valentine, Charleigh Veater, Abigayle Dyer, Anna Tekce, Caroline Dougher





MEET THE STAFF



Jaka Wescott
Operations and Development

Jaka Wescott is a Scranton Native and has stayed in Ronald McDonald Houses across the North East as a child. After graduating from the University of Scranton with a B.A. in English and volunteering for the Ronald McDonald House Family Room, she was lucky enough to come back to a mission, that has been home to her for so many years to work in Operations and Development. She's excited to see the mission from the other side and provide the great service that was given to her and others.



Volunteers



Emily Noble
Assistant to the Director/
Office Manager

Emily Noble is new to the Ronald McDonald House of Scranton as the Assistant to the Director and Office Manager. She is from a small town, in the middle of nowhere, near Honesdale. Emily recently graduated from Summit University of Pennsylvania with her Bachelor of Science degree in Counseling. One of the things that she loves about her job is getting to know the volunteers and being able to serve the families alongside of them.



Volunteer Cooks



Richard Bradshaw
Executive Director



Bridget Slagan
Family Room Coordinator



Benjamin Loomis
House Manager





RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE WISH LIST



Kitchen & Dining Supplies

- Grab and Go Snacks
- Grocery Gift Cards
- Freezer Bags
- Frozen Dinners
- Silverware
- Dishwasher Detergent
- New Teflon Pots and Pans
- Pot Scrubbers
- Microwave Meals

Cleaning Supplies

- Clorox Wipes
- Window Cleaner
- Febreze
- Paper Towels

Laundry Supplies

- Starch
- Fabric Softener

- OxiClean
- Laundry Detergent
- Bleach

Office Supplies

- New Guest Computer Laptop
- Copy Paper
- Cannon Print Cartridges
- HP Color Laser MFP M277 DW Printer Cartridges
- White and Clear Labels
- Flash Drives
- 516 Laser Computer Labels
- New 300 + DPI Digital
- Masking Tape
- Scotch Tape
- Staples
- Paper Clips
- 8 1/2 x 11 Paper

- Pens
- Pencils
- Post It Notes
- Scissors
- Legal Pads

Guest Room Supplies

- Twin Bed Quilts
- New Queen Quilts
- New Sheets and Pillowcases
- Afghans
- Dorm Style Refrigerators
- Alarm Clocks
- Hair Dryers
- Women Hair Bands
- Sippy Cups
- Premie and Size 1 Diapers
- Combs and Brushes
- Hand Sanitizer
- Tissues

Guest Gifts

- Movie Tickets
- Event Tickets
- Phone Cards
- Children's Movies
- Soaps
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Razors
- Moisturizers

Miscellaneous Supplies

- Postage Stamps
- Batteries
- Light Bulbs (LED/Energy Efficient)
- Toilet Paper
- Small Picture Frames
- Gift Cards (Amazon, grocery, etc.)



1900+
Meals Served

91%

of families have said that our core programs have significantly lessened their burdens and helped improve their child's stay in the hospital while keeping family close



7100

Volunteer Hours



2343

Overnight Stays



10.7

Length of Stay

12,149

Family Room Visits



RONALD MCDONALD
HOUSE OF SCRANTON



NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Ronald McDonald House Family & Community,

I have to say that I love this time of year for so many reasons. It is always a time for me to reflect and be thankful for the great many blessings we have received. In 2016, we have had so many wonderful things to celebrate. This summer reached a fantastic milestone of thirty years of #KeepingFamiliesClose to their ill and injured children right here in Northeastern Pennsylvania. To think back over my time as the Executive Director, I am humbled by the privilege it has been for me to serve so many precious families in their hour of trial. The honor it has been for me to work alongside our selfless volunteers and capable staff to do what we can for those who need us. There are very few who realize how many people are behind the scenes Showing Their Stripes on behalf of our mission every day. We are very thankful for the countless people who support us by volunteering, giving, and supporting our fundraisers. Many of you Crowd-Fund for us, Facebook with us, visit Roba's Family Farms, and attend our Gourmet Gala to support our mission. Runners and walkers show their stripes at our very popular 5K, all to make sure that the "House That Love Built" goes on strong for another 30 years to come. We are grateful to have a committed board of dedicated volunteer directors to govern and help sustain our vital mission. It is through their services and wisdom that we are able to fulfill our mission to families at a greater capacity. My thankfulness for all who support our mission grows greater over the years.

For many of us in this great country of ours we seem to sometimes forget all of the freedoms provided and the blessings bestowed upon us. I ask that you take some time this Christmas and holiday season to be thankful for all that we have. I hope that you all find Hope, Peace, and Love this season and always.

Sincerely,

Richard Bradshaw
Executive Director



GUEST MAILBOX

"Thank you and your helpers for everything. We had a great night's sleep, warm and comfortable. Our new baby is doing great so we are heading back o NYC this morning. Again, thank you. P.S. The milk kept really well in your freezers."



"Please accept our thanks and deepest appreciation for the kindness you extended us during our stay at the Ronald McDonald House in July. Our baby is now thriving at home with us. Please use the enclosed check to help support the work of the Ronald McDonald House of Scranton."



"You run a beautiful home and we are very grateful for this wonderful facility. When we arrived back and have Pete's health under control, we would like to make a donation. Thank you for your friendliness, generosity and helpfulness when we were visiting our son in hospital. You have made our time here a lot easier!"



"We can't thank you enough, from the bottom of our hearts, for making this our home away from home over the past 3 weeks in order to be close to our baby boy, Kyson, while he was in the NICU. We can't even begin to express how much this has meant to us and has helped us tremendously during the toughest time of our lives. You are a group of amazing people with the biggest hearts! We will never forget the kindness and generosity that you've all welcomed us with and will forever be grateful!"

TEXT HOME TO 20222 TO DONATE



SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, March 26th

Call today, tickets sell out fast!

30th

Gourmet

GALA

Springtime
in PARIS

Check our new easy flow layout.

Sponsored By **Community**
 **Bank** N.A.

Music By: *Picture Perfect Band*

5PM - 8PM at Mohegan Sun Convention Center
1280 Highway 315, Wilkes-Barre, PA

TEXT HOME TO 20222 TO DONATE



RONALD McDONALD
HOUSE OF SCRANTON

332 Wheeler Avenue
Scranton, PA 18510

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Scranton, PA
PERMIT 331



TEXT HOME TO 20222 TO DONATE

The Ronald McDonald House of Scranton needs volunteers who are reliable and are interested in working closely with seriously ill children and their families. Our volunteers have kind hearts, big smiles, and want to make a difference. They cook, clean, play with and give toys to children, and sometimes perform light office tasks. They do this to help ease the burden of sick children and their families. Positions are available at the House and Moses Taylor Hospital.

For more information, please contact us at (570) 969-8998,
email rhmhscranton@comcast.net,
or go online to rhmhscranton.org
to get more information to get involved.

Strap on your
big, red shoes,
show your stripes, and get ready to
help sick children and their families!

