



# WORDS OF HOPE

Stories, News & Inspirations from RMHC New England

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

GRETCHEN MANNING

Dear Friends,

Our fall newsletter is full of hope and inspiration!

You will be able to meet some of the incredible children staying with us, like Isabella and Nicholas; celebrate with us as we welcome back many of our long-serving volunteers, as well as those new to the RMHCNE family; and learn about new ways that you and your friends and family can help us Keep Families Close! As we transition to the beauty and splendor of fall in New England, we are also excited to share opportunities for you to get involved with some of our upcoming events and initiatives.

As the pandemic continues to be a challenge for all nonprofits to raise funding for critical missions, RMHCNE has decided to pivot from traditional resource development programs. Instead, we are encouraging individuals (of all ages, including kids helping kids) and corporations to support our family-centered programs through creative means of giving: the Families First Fund, the Heart of the House Society, and our newest initiative the RMHCNE Student Challenge are just a few ways you can get involved. We are grateful to all of our supporters who have contributed to date and invite you to learn more about opportunities to make a significant difference in the lives of the critically ill children and families we serve. Additionally, we are looking forward to being back in person for our 13th Annual Women's Classic Road Race and the Fall Boston Marathon! Our Hearts of Gold Awards Gala will be a virtual event that will undoubtedly fill your screens with love.



This year we are honoring Shamrock Home Loans with our Corporate Sponsor Award; Sean Young with our Volunteer Award; and Dwight Barnes with our Lifetime Achievement Award. These recipients have put tremendous effort into helping the children and families we serve. If there is one thing this past year has shown us, it is the importance of family and being together. We sincerely appreciate all of YOU, our generous supporters and partners. It's because of you that we are able to provide critical resources to families who need them at the most challenging of times. Thank you for being part of the hope and inspiration of our chapter too!

### WHAT'S INSIDE

Family-Centered Care Programs • 2  
Ways to Give & Supporter Spotlight • 3  
Upcoming Events & Initiatives • 4  
Adopt A Room • 5  
Family Stories • 6

## Family-Centered Care Programs

### Meals With Love

We're kicking off our **Meals With Love** series with an exciting first episode featuring guest chef, McDonald's Owner/Operator, and RMHCNE board member, Michael Gambino! This program will give you a taste of the love we're cooking up for our families! Don't miss a meal! Check our socials and [Meals With Love webpage](#) for updates, recipes, and ways to get involved!

### Care Mobiles

Our Care Mobiles are driving through communities with many incredible services on board! Whether it be dental, medical, or outreach services, our **UMass Memorial Ronald McDonald Care Mobile out of Worcester, and Molar Express out of Rhode Island** are ready to help. This program is available to children without insurance and walk-ins are welcome. Visit [rmhcne.org/care-mobiles/](http://rmhcne.org/care-mobiles/) for more information.



“ I just wanted to say thank you for the craft night bag. Although we weren't able to make it to the zoom call because of my son's testing, I was still able to do the craft for his hospital room. I hung it right over his crib. Please let Our Space know we say thank you and appreciate it. We appreciate all that you guys do. ”

- Nealy Family, RMH Boston Harbor, September 2021

## Ways To Give

### Families First Fund

**The CEO's Families First Fund** was created by our CEO, Gretchen Manning, in the inaugural year of her position, and will support excellence in family-centered care programs and services. The CEO's Families First Fund also supports the expansion of our wrap-around programs and services including, but not limited to Meals With Love, Pet-Therapy Visits, and our overall focus on holistic hospitality.

Make a Donation [HERE](#)



### Heart of the House Society

**Our Heart of the House Society** celebrates the generosity and commitment of our major donors. By becoming a Heart of the House Society member, you will have a direct impact on families who stay at both RMH Boston Harbor and RMH Providence. You will help to keep families close to the critical medical care their child needs.

Become a Member [TODAY](#)



## A Closer Look at Our Sponsors

The RMHCNE community is grateful for our partners, especially during these challenging times. We'd like to recognize our Diamond Level Virtual Gala Sponsor **Y-mAbs Therapeutics** for their remarkable contribution to Ronald McDonald House Charities of New England! Y-mAbs Therapeutics is on a mission to change the course of cancer and its outcomes. 20% of families we serve here at RMHCNE are receiving medical care for a cancer diagnosis. Y-mAbs Therapeutics' **gift of \$10,000** will help our families access critical care, all while staying close to what matters most—each other!



## Upcoming Events & Initiatives



### 13th Annual Women's Classic

Football Sunday? How about Women's Sunday! **Sunday, October 10th**, we're celebrating women, for their health and their accomplishments. The 13th Annual Women's Classic is the only all-women's 5K Race in Rhode Island! Women of all ages and abilities, from the slowest walkers to the fastest runners, unite for one very special event! Don't miss Cardi's Furniture & Mattresses 3K Walk while you're there! Click [HERE](#) for more information. Participants may register in person, on race day morning. Proof of vaccination required.



### 2021 Boston Marathon

It's time to switch out your flip-flops for running shoes! **Monday, October 11th**, Ronald McDonald House Charities of New England is proudly partnering with the John Hancock Non-Profit Boston Marathon Program! Last year, John Hancock nonprofit runners raised more than \$10 million for over 140 different local organizations. \$30,000 of this was generated by the incredible members of our 2020 virtual Marathon Team! Our 2021 team is racing to hit both the pavement and those fundraising goals! Help our runners cross the ultimate finish line by cheering them on with a [donation](#).



### Virtual Hearts of Gold Awards Gala

Your support is something worth celebrating! Join our Virtual Hearts of Gold Gala for a night of hope, gratitude, and love. On **Saturday, November 20th**, RMHC New England will be honoring our inaugural Hearts of Gold Award recipients for their tremendous impact on our families. This event will recognize the overwhelming generosity we see from our Donors and Sponsors. We thank you!

Interested in Becoming a Donor? [Click Here](#)



### Calling All Students: Raise Love, Inspire Hope, Create Community!

From now until Giving Tuesday (November 30th), RMHCNE is rallying around the **Student Challenge** initiative. Students from kindergarten to college will be raising love for our families by showing off their skills and their competitive spirit! Whether you are participating with a team, group of friends or as an individual, this is a project we're sure you're going to ace, and your impact will be felt! Together students will help provide over 300 nights of housing, comfort, and support for families seeking critical medical care for their child. [Join The Challenge!](#)

## Adopt A Room

### About Our Program

Our Adopt A Room program is a year-long sponsorship of a bedroom, apartment, or common room at RMHC New England.



**By sponsoring a room, you will have a direct impact on the families who call Ronald McDonald House "home".** Your support helps us Keep Families Close while they access critically needed pediatric healthcare at some of the best hospitals in the country, right here in New England.

**Interested in our Adopt a Room Program? There are still plenty of rooms to sponsor! [CLICK HERE](#)**

### A Temporary Home With A Lasting Difference



“ RMH at Boston Harbor was a lifesaver to us. A home away from home during the worst time. **The apartment gave us comfort, peace of mind, and a place to connect.** We didn't have to worry about much more than taking care of Sophia. By the way, my daughter is now in remission. May it last forever! ”

- The Murillo Family

### Our Adopt A Room Sponsors

#### RMH Boston Harbor

- DCU
- The Mattina R. Proctor Foundation
- Shaun & Bonnie McConnon
- TJX
- The Lawson Family
- McKay Family Charity Fund
- John & Maria Riccio
- Robert Family Charitable Fund
- John C. Morrison and Eunice B. Morrison Charitable Foundation
- AMOA (Amusement & Music Operators Association)

#### RMH Providence

- The Lawson Family
- Centreville Savings Bank
- The Waterson Family
- ECSA Electric Boat
- Corporation of Quonset Point
- McLaughlin & Moran, Inc.
- Sean Young
- Dwight Barnes
- MetLife
- Grampy's Charities
- Textron
- Cardi's Furniture & Mattresses
- CVS Health
- The Duchin and Smalletz Families
- Ronald McDonald House of Providence Running Club
- Research Engineering & Manufacturing Inc.
- The Joseph and Rosalyn Sinclair Foundation
- University Orthopedics
- Berkshire Bank
- Amica Companies Foundation
- Medtronic
- Hasbro Children's Hospital
- Arden Engineering

## Stories that Inspire



### ISABELLA'S STORY

After Isabella passed out at her soccer game, she was diagnosed with a congenital heart defect. Isabella and her family stayed at the Ronald McDonald House at Boston Harbor while Isabella received medical care at Boston Children's Hospital.

Her mother shared, **"Ronald McDonald House has been absolutely amazing—the kindness and generosity is overwhelming honestly, it's such a relief to not have to stress about housing and finances!"**

[Read More About Isabella and Her Family HERE](#) ➤



### NICHOLAS' STORY (UPDATED!)

You may remember Nicholas! After being diagnosed with severe OCD, Nicholas stayed at the Ronald McDonald House in Providence while enrolled in the Intensive Treatment Program at Bradley Hospital.

Two years and a global pandemic later, Nicholas shares, "I will have this challenge for the rest of my life, but, with the skills and tools I obtained at Bradley Hospital, I know that I can succeed if I put in the effort and work." His mother further insists, **"staying at Ronald McDonald House truly changed our lives forever."**

Nicholas is currently working part-time while completing his undergraduate studies in Art. He also enjoys spending time with friends!

[Read Nicholas' Original Story HERE](#) ➤

Ronald McDonald House Charities of New England

45 Gay Street Providence, RI 02905

401.274.4447

250 1st Avenue Charlestown/Boston, MA 02129

617.398.6458

[rmhcne.org](http://rmhcne.org)