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Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
of Central Pennsylvania

Emma, Age Five

Keeping families close®



OUR MISSION

Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Central PA is keeping families together, inspiring strength, and giving comfort and support to families whose children are receiving essential medical care.

Letter from our Executive Director and Board President

Dear Friends,

Last year, families from 18 different states and Canada came through our doors at the Ronald McDonald House® in Hershey, finding a comforting place to stay, nourishing meals, a listening ear and compassionate support. When children have to travel long distances to access top medical care, accommodations for families can be extremely expensive or not readily available. Our programs at Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Central PA (RMHC-CP) help families stay close to their ill or injured children, enabling them to focus on their child's recovery.

While there is much in 2018 indicating a successful year, most notable to report includes:

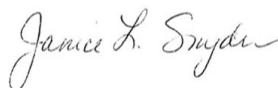
- Our cornerstone program, the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey, served 1,388 families compared to 1,209 in 2017. This equated to 8,458 Occupied Room Nights throughout the year. We had 31,843 House and Ronald McDonald Family Room® volunteer hours and prepared 460 House meals for our families.
- Significant gains were made towards meeting our strategic goal to strengthen and expand our core programs and organizational effectiveness. Dialogue and planning meetings put us on the path to expand our geographical footprint and add to our programming services through a new medical partnership with Lancaster General Hospital. Our new Ronald McDonald Hospitality Kiosk opened September 25, 2019 to pediatric families; providing a welcoming environment and a place of respite.
- Our community partnerships continue to be the foundation of our success and a key focus in serving our families. We've worked diligently to strengthen and grow these mutually beneficial relationships that are central to our future. Without You – our contributions and special events wouldn't have raised over \$1.7 Million allowing us to be unique and fortunate in providing services at no charge to our families.
- In order to prepare for future sustainability, we set a lofty goal of raising \$5 Million for our Endowment Fund! We are very excited to share with you that while there is still a gap to make up, we have raised a little over \$3 Million towards our goal, thanks to your amazing support which is vital to our future success.

As an organization, RMHC-CP is thriving, all thanks to our volunteer leadership, staff, donors and community champions and partners. We hope you will read the following pages with great personal pride, as you are very much responsible for all of the wonderful things we have accomplished this year. Whether you have made a financial gift, prepared a meal, donated in-kind items, or volunteered your time, YOU have made a difference.

Sincerely,



Karla Mitchell
Executive Director



Janice L. Snyder
Board President

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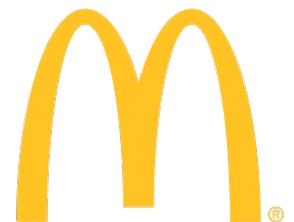
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**Special thanks to
our Founding
Mission Partner,
McDonald's**

OUR IMPACT

For 35 years, Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Central PA (RMHC-CP) has served children and their families by providing compassionate support through family-focused programs and healthcare partnerships.



RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE® IN HERSHEY

35 Bedrooms

- 1,388 Family Visits
- 8,458 Overnight Visits
- 460 Meals Prepared
- 314 Pet Therapy Visits
- 25,180 House Volunteer Hours Logged



RONALD MCDONALD FAMILY ROOM®

Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center

- 6,663 Ronald McDonald Family Room Volunteer Hours Logged

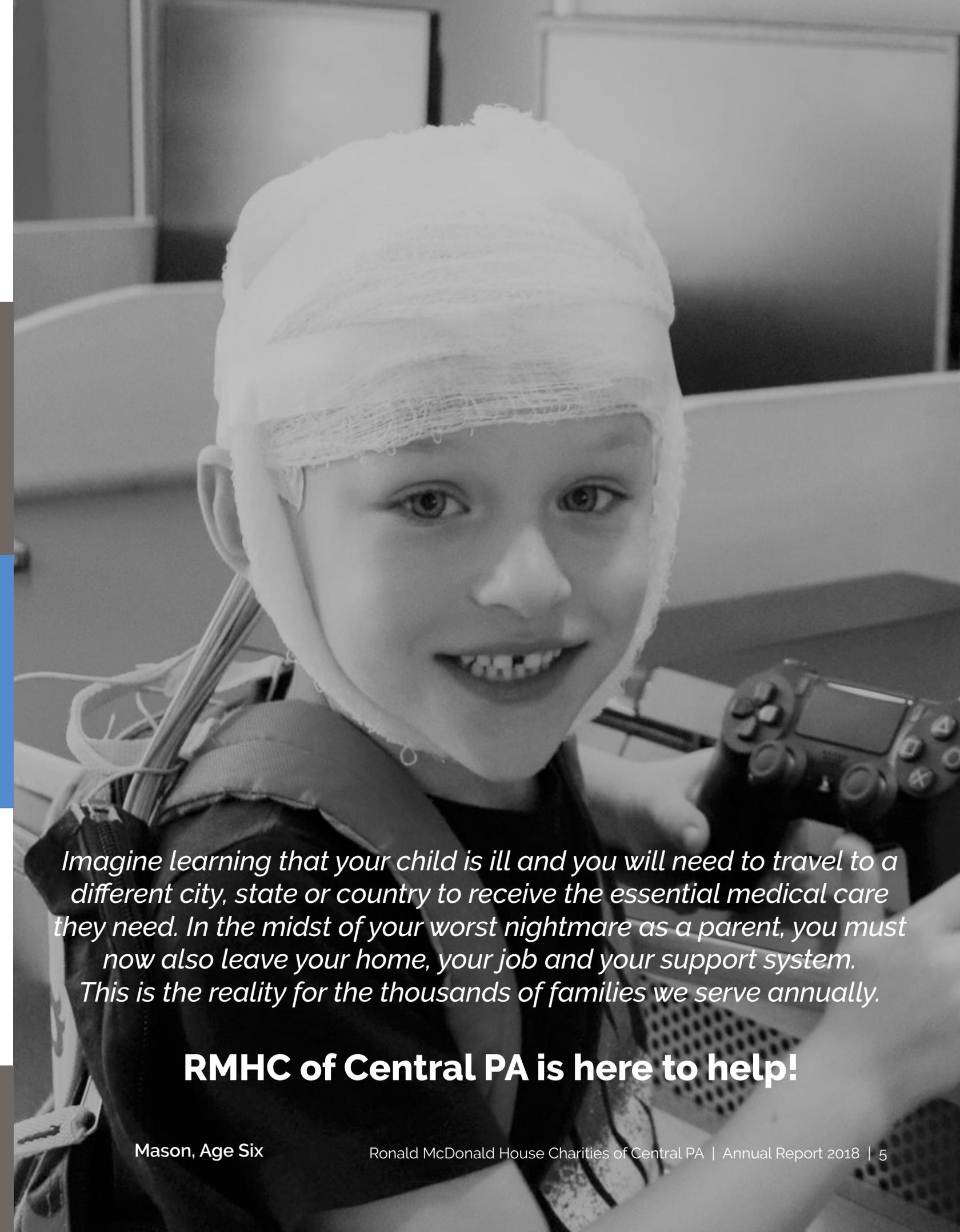


HOSPITALITY CART

Penn State Children's Hospital

- 11,614 Family Members Served
- An Average of 32 People Visited the Hospitality Cart Daily

Interested in getting involved with RMHC of Central PA?
Visit rmhc-centralpa.org to find out how you can help the families we serve!



Imagine learning that your child is ill and you will need to travel to a different city, state or country to receive the essential medical care they need. In the midst of your worst nightmare as a parent, you must now also leave your home, your job and your support system. This is the reality for the thousands of families we serve annually.

RMHC of Central PA is here to help!



BONE
MARROW
BUDDIES
FOR
LIFE!
DAY 1

OUR FAMILIES

Baxter Family Story

“Since Emma was born, she has been in and out of the hospital battling frequent infections,” said, Emma’s mom, Amanda Baxter. “When we were presented the option of a bone-marrow transplant years later, we had to consider it.”

Severe Congenital Neutropenia, Emma’s official diagnosis, had a higher probability of turning into Leukemia if not treated.

Emma was only 4 years old when presented with this very difficult decision.

“We asked her what she would rather do,” Amanda said. “Be really sick for a short period of time or be a little sick for the rest of her life.”

Emma and her family chose to go through with a bone-marrow transplant and they knew that her 3-year-old sister, Paisley, matched seven out of eight tests.

Amanda and her husband, Alex, decided to move forward with Paisley as the bone-marrow donor because they felt it gave Emma the best chance for success.

The Baxter family from Hanover, PA visited Penn State Children’s Hospital in April for a three-week span while Emma had preliminary testing. During this time, they learned about the services provided by the Ronald McDonald House (RMH) in Hershey.

[Continue reading on page 8...](#)



"I had heard of the Ronald McDonald House before but I didn't know what it was or how it helps families," Amanda said. "It is such a blessing being able to be nearby and have a shuttle service that takes you to the hospital and back."

A few weeks later on May 1st, the Baxter family checked into Penn State Children's Hospital to start prepping for Emma and Paisley's bone-marrow transplant day. On May 29th, they checked into the RMH to continue their "positive days."

"For patients receiving bone-marrow, there are negative days (chemo and conditioning) and day zero is transplant day," Amanda said. "After transplant day, you have positive days, and that is when we checked into the RMH as you're required to stay nearby for 100 positive days."

As bone-marrow patients have specific requirements due to weakened immune systems, the RMH offers accommodations in a suite that includes two rooms conjoined with a small kitchenette and living space for families like the Baxters.

"It has been so nice to have more room as a family since Emma cannot leave the suite," Amanda said. "It is like having our own apartment here in Hershey."

Amanda, Paisley and Emma have stayed at the RMH in Hershey for more than 130 nights so far.

Alex, Amanda's husband, travels for work and visits his family as much as he can. They can't wait until they are back together at home.

"Without the RMH, our family would have a lot more that we would have to be worrying about besides our child getting better," Amanda said.

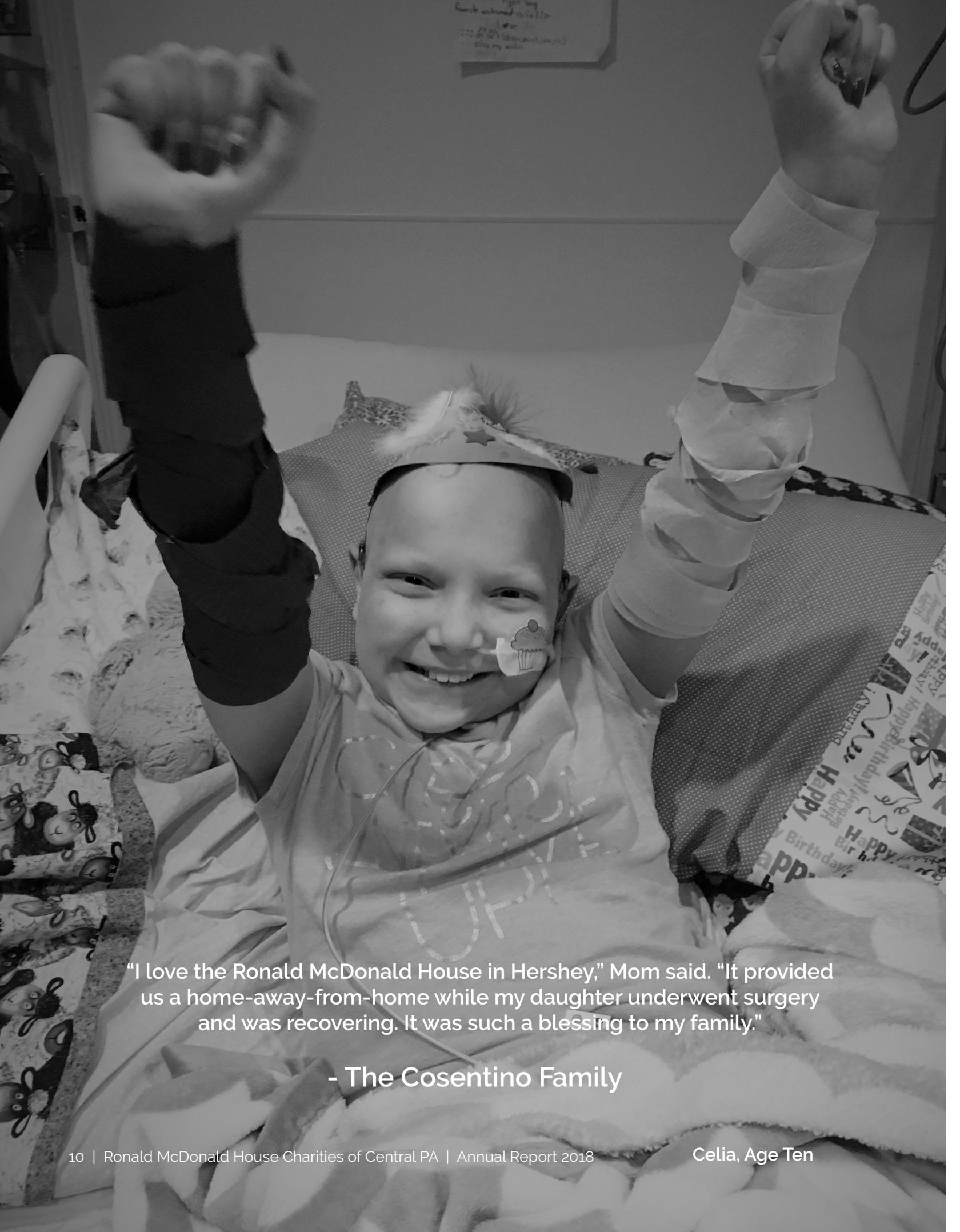
Emma turned five years old in August and celebrated with her favorite cupcakes and big balloons filling her suite at the RMH.

"Emma has had a lot of big moments here," Amanda said. "She turned five here. She learned how to ride a bike here. And although it was not at our house in Hanover that these moments happened, I'm happy they were at our second home, the Ronald McDonald House."

Please consider making a donation to help us continue to provide services, free of charge, to families like the Baxters.



Emma, Age Five



"I love the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey," Mom said. "It provided us a home-away-from-home while my daughter underwent surgery and was recovering. It was such a blessing to my family."

- The Cosentino Family

OUR FINANCIALS

	2018	2017
Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets		
Assets	\$ 11,671,626	11,353,740
Liabilities.....	59,129	52,396
Net Assets.....	\$ 11,612,497	11,301,344

Summary of Revenue and Expenses

Revenue

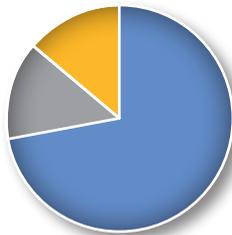
Contributions	\$ 1,416,419	1,349,438
Special Events Revenue, Net.....	334,898	347,103
Donated Goods & Services.....	305,416	328,751
Investment Revenue.....	272,821	286,173
Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets.....	(22,075)	(570)
Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments.....	377,535	95,799
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments...	(885,291)	660,087
Total Revenue.....	\$ 1,799,723	3,066,781

Expenses

Program Services - RMH & RMFR	\$ 1,089,496	1,036,479
Program Services - Grant.....	0	221,098
Management & General.....	178,087	172,758
Fundraising.....	220,987	234,237
Unallocated payments to RMHC Global	0	40,046
Total Expenses.....	\$ 1,488,570	1,704,618

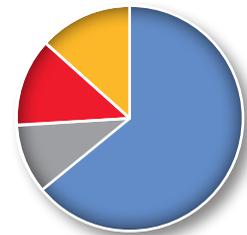
2018 Annual Operating Expenses

-  RMH & RMFR... 73%
-  Fundraising.... 15%
-  Management and General... 12%
-  Grants... 0%



2017 Annual Operating Expenses

-  RMH & RMFR... 62%
-  Fundraising.... 14%
-  Management and General... 14%
-  Grants... 10%



Total Operating Expenses.....	\$ 1,488,570	\$1,664,572
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GIVING PROGRAMS

Invest in keeping families of sick children together and near the care and resources they need by partnering with Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Central PA on one of the following:

Partners in Caring

\$1,000 

Partners in Caring contribute to the success of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central PA's (RMHC-CP) programs through contributions of **\$1,000*** or more annually.

*Giving Programs are not inclusive of sponsorship contributions.

Cornerstone Society

\$5,000 

Members of the Cornerstone Society have made a profound impact on our guest families through a donation of at least **\$5,000*** (for individuals) and **\$10,000*** (for businesses/organizations), in the current year.

Without volunteers, our work would not be possible. Thank you to our amazing RMHC-CP volunteers for your continued support of our mission.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

25,180

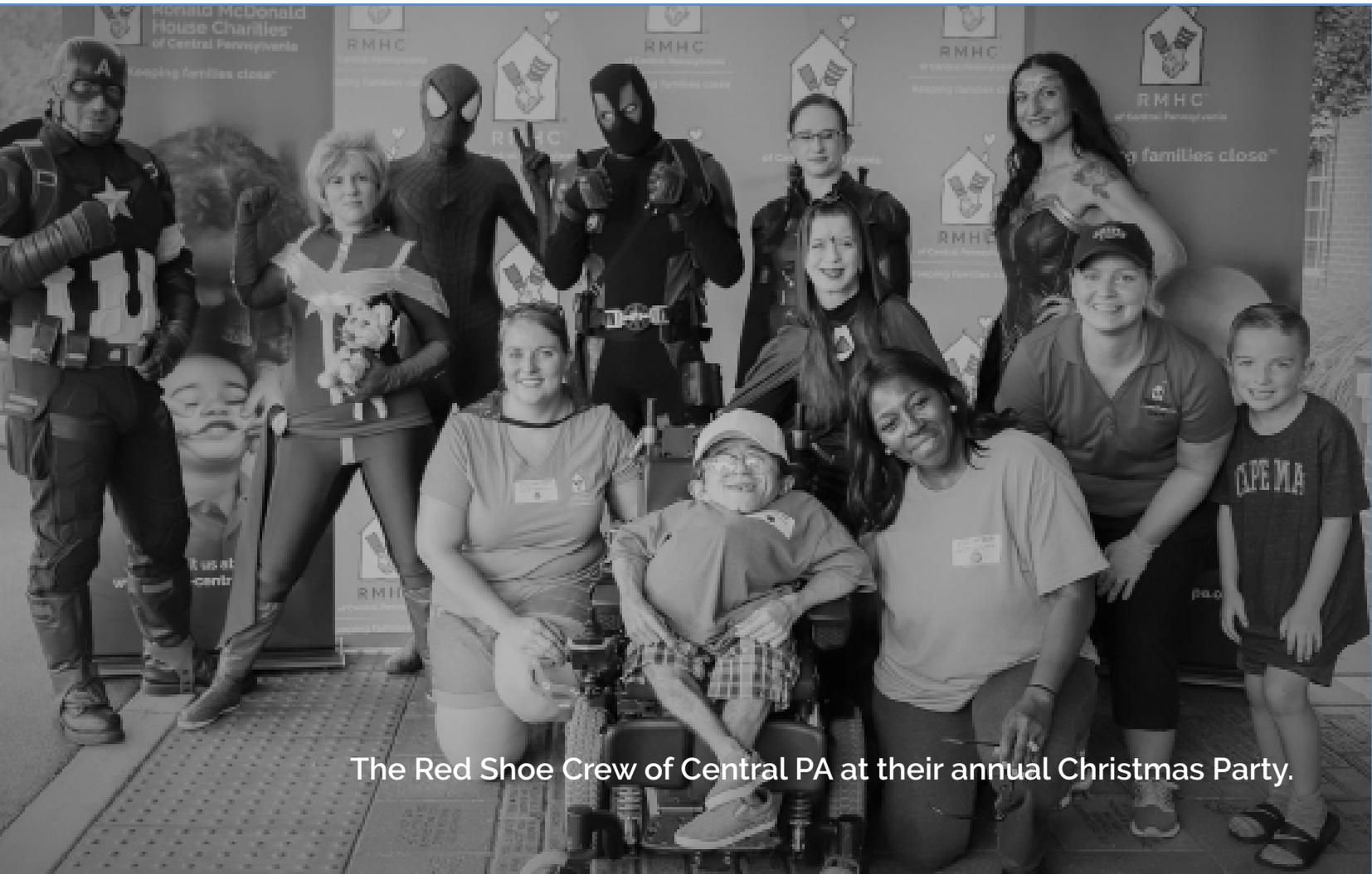
House Volunteer Hours Logged

6,663

Ronald McDonald Family Room
Volunteer Hours Logged

RED SHOE CREW

The Red Shoe Crew (RSC) is an enthusiastic young professionals group that supports the mission of RMHC of Central PA. In 2018, they grew their membership, held 2 networking events and continued to support RMHC-CP's events.



The Red Shoe Crew of Central PA at their annual Christmas Party.

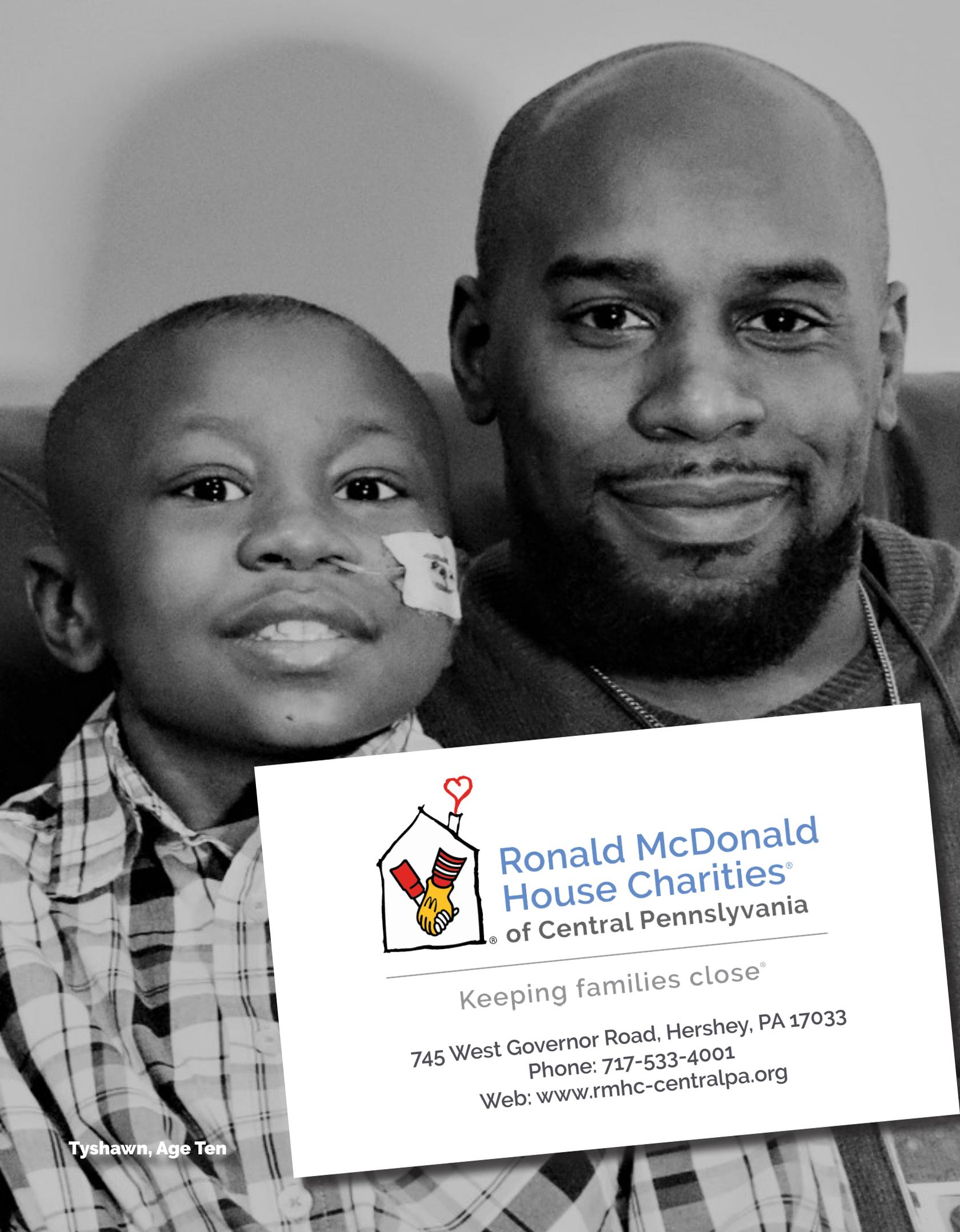




OUR DONORS

Thank you to our 2018 donors. Your support helped us keep families together for a total of 8,458 nights at the Ronald McDonald House® in Hershey at no cost to our guest families.





Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
of Central Pennsylvania

Keeping families close®

745 West Governor Road, Hershey, PA 17033

Phone: 717-533-4001

Web: www.rmhc-centralpa.org

Tyshawn, Age Ten