



RMHC
Of Central Pennsylvania



Keeping Families Together

NEAR CARE AND RESOURCES

SPRING 2020

Grumbine Family Story

"Having a resource like the Ronald McDonald Family Room during a very difficult time in our lives meant the world to us."

- Quote from the Grumbine Family

Danielle and Nathan Grumbine of Harrisburg, PA were expecting their first child during the summer of 2017.

"Benjamin was born a month early at UPMC Pinnacle Harrisburg," Danielle said. "Right away, the doctors knew there was something wrong with his lungs."

After a brief 48-hour stay in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at UPMC, he was transported to Penn State Children's Hospital in a Life Lion Pediatric Ambulance.

"He was placed on a high-oscillating ventilator to help him breathe," Danielle said. "He stayed on this for several days in the NICU."

During this time, Danielle and Nathan along with family and friends called the Ronald McDonald Family Room® (RMFR) home as Benjamin gained strength to breath on his own.

The RMFR is located on the 7th floor of Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, just steps away from the NICU, and Pediatric Progressive Care Unit (PPCU). This home-like space provides a place of respite and keeps families together near the care and resources they need.

"Our entire family used the RMFR as a gathering place for us to pray, cry, and celebrate together as Benjamin got stronger and closer to going home," Danielle said.

The Grumbines used resources in the RMFR such as the bathroom/shower facilities, computers, resting spaces, and enjoyed the

abundance of snacks available to families as their child received essential treatment.

"Having a resource like the Ronald McDonald Family Room during a very difficult time in our lives meant the world to us," Danielle said. "We are forever grateful to those who have supported and continue to support this wonderful organization that provides these types of resources to families."

Benjamin graduated from the NICU Follow-Up Clinic in February of 2019. He is a very active 2-year-old, who loves trains, baseball, and Mickey Mouse.

The Grumbines have given back to RMHC of Central PA by cooking meals as Guest Chefs and making donations where they can so "services can continue for other families in need."

Help us continue to provide services free of charge to families like the Grumbines, by making a donation at www.rmhc-centralpa.org/donate.

Benjamin in the NICU at Penn State Health



Letter from our Executive Director

Dear Friends,

These are truly trying times... but we know that there are brighter days ahead. We may not know when those brighter days will emerge, but we have faith that we will be able to resume normal... if not new normal... life in the near future.

Today and every day, RMHC-CP shows its compassion and commitment to the mission of keeping families together, inspiring strength and giving comfort and support to families whose children are receiving essential medical care in Central PA. What sustains us are the caring and committed people that help deliver our mission. In difficult and uncertain times, it is even more important to pause and reflect on the significant contributions our staff, our board, our medical partners, our volunteers, and of course, our faithful donors are making to help keep our families together and safe. We are truly grateful!

We often say, "One cannot drink from an empty cup". In these challenging times, how might you refill your own cup? Perhaps it is taking 10 minutes for a cup of tea, a look out the window, or deep cleansing breaths. For some, you will find strength in your set of beliefs – the mantra of "this too shall pass" has come to mind many times these past weeks. For others, it will be taking time for reflection at the end of the day. Where you find strength, where you find solace... go there and refill your cup.

While things continue to change day-by-day right now, and the impact of COVID-19 seems ever present, life does go on and so does our mission. As a result of the pandemic, we have had to suspend all of our in-hospital services, our volunteer programs, postpone or cancel fundraising events, and are no longer able to take new families into our Ronald McDonald House in Hershey.

But what the virus hasn't taken away from us is hope, kindness, ingenuity, and passion for our work. We continue to serve the families we have at the House and we recently started being able to hotel additional families, keeping them near each other and the resources they need. We continue to provide nourishing meals to our families - all thanks to you, our supporters, and at no cost to the families we serve. You will find additional ways to support our work in the pages of this newsletter. I hope you will consider our requests.

Stay healthy and safe and remember, we are all in this together!

Karla

Karla Mitchell, *Executive Director*

HOW YOU CAN HELP FAMILIES

AT RMHC OF CENTRAL PA

FINANCIAL DONATION

Support the guests staying at the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey by making a donation at rmhc-centralpa.org/donate.



To help us continue to provide essential services during this health crisis you can:

Make a Financial Gift:

We will use these donations to purchase meals and other basic items for the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey. By purchasing food and necessities ourselves, we will dramatically reduce the number of visitors to our facilities, further reducing risk to families.

Visit www.rmhc-centralpa.org/donate and choose "General" or "Feed Our Families" as the category for your donation.

Feed Our Families:

We are committed to providing families with safe, fresh dinners seven days a week. Consider sending a catered meal from a local restaurant for families to enjoy after a long day at the hospital. Contact Alyssa Noel, Volunteer and Operations Manager at anoel@rmhc-centralpa.org to identify a date on which you could provide a catered meal for our families.

Gift Cards:

Gift cards enable our team to purchase warm meals, cleaning supplies, and other provisions for our families staying at our House every day while minimizing risk to families and staff. Gift cards can be sent directly to the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey at 745 West Governor Road, Hershey, PA 17033.

While we do not yet know how long these changes will remain in effect, we will continue to evaluate the impact of the situation on our organization as the health and safety of our families, volunteers, and employees remain our top priority.

We are incredibly grateful for your support as it helps families focus on what's most important: their children.



FEED OUR FAMILIES

Cater a meal for our guest families from a local restaurant. Contact Alyssa Noel at anoel@rmhc-centralpa.org for more information.

WISH LIST

Giant and Walmart gift cards, sweet or salty single serve snacks. Visit www.rmhc-centralpa.org/wish-list/.



FACEBOOK FUNDRAISERS

Host a Facebook Fundraiser in our honor. Share the link with family and friends and encourage them to help you raise money.



RMHC
Of Central Pennsylvania

MAKE A FINANCIAL GIFT AT
WWW.RMHC-CENTRALPA.ORG

Visit www.rmhc-centralpa.org/donate to make a donation today!

Giving Programs

Interested in a sponsorship? Contact development@rmhc-centralpa.org!



Adopt A Room Sponsor



By adopting a room at the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey, you will directly impact the lives of families who will call the room home by eliminating many of the financial challenges that come with traveling long distances for medical care.

Benefits of Adopting A Room include:

- A plaque of recognition to display at your home, office or business
- Recognition in newsletters, annual report and on our website
- Recognition inside guest room
- Recognition as an Adopt A Room participant in a common area of the RMH

\$5,000 Full Room Sponsor or \$2,500 Shared Room Sponsor

Family Room Sponsor



**Ronald
McDonald
Family Room**
PENN STATE
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

By becoming a sponsor of the Ronald McDonald Family Room® (RMFR) for one month, your \$500 gift helps offset the cost to operate our programs throughout the year, so we can continue to offer our services free of charge to our guest families.

Benefits of Family Room Sponsorship include:

- Prominent signage inside Ronald McDonald Family Room
- Inclusion in at least one of our newsletters (7,500 + readers)
- Recognition in printed newsletter, annual report and on our website
- Social media mention during your sponsorship month
- Opportunity for your business (8 people max) to tour the Ronald McDonald Family Room with our Family Room Manager

\$500 Monthly Sponsorship



Save the Dates!



Diamonds & **DENIM**  **Fall 2020**
 The Englewood Barn

Nov. 21 **Moonlight Gala**
 Hershey Lodge

Light a Light - Share a Night **Nov. 30**
 Ronald McDonald House in Hershey

Contact the Development Team at development@rmhc-centralpa.org for sponsorship information.

EVENT CHANGES



CANCELED FOR 2020

Join us for our other special events this fall. We need your support now more than ever as we have had to cancel special events that support our mission!



Lancaster County Community Auction

CANCELED FOR MAY 19

Keep watch for more information on a Lancaster County event in Fall 2020!



**Ronald McDonald
House Charities®**
of Central Pennsylvania

745 West Governor Road
Hershey, PA 17033-2304

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RMHC - CP

VOLUNTEER MILESTONES

5 YEARS

Carol Martin
Maureen Mudry
Jill Walmer
Bethany Cincotta
Victoria White
Patricia DeBon
Pamela Hall
Norman Kultunovich
Judith Wood

20 YEARS

Nancy Morgan
Sandra Ballard
Linda DeLuca
Marie Stewart

25 YEARS

Flo Mattox

THANK
YOU

10 YEARS

Kenneth
Hugendubler
Bonnie Rhoads
Gina Sheller
Mary Ellen Werner
Donna Holloway
Donna Stanilla
Nancy Hopple
Richard Hopple

THANK
YOU



15 YEARS

Susan
Schulteis

30 YEARS

Joanne Brown
Margaret
Gerhart

36 YEARS

Donna Dixon
Ann Kroh
Sharon
Rohland
Polly Ribando

THANK YOU

Feed Our Families

Local Businesses



Thanks to the countless individuals who have also contributed to feeding our families with financial contributions or catered meal donations!