



RMHC Fact Sheet

WHAT IS RMHC?

- RMHC is Ronald McDonald House Charities of Western Washington & Alaska. We support seriously ill children and their families. At the Seattle Ronald McDonald House, we provide a “home-away-from-home” to help families through a difficult time. We also provide a van service for families staying in Anchorage while their children receive medical care.
- RMHC is an independent nonprofit governed by a local board of directors.

WHAT IS THE SEATTLE RONALD McDONALD HOUSE?

- A caring “home-away-from-home” that provides an affordable place to live for seriously ill children and their families while the child is undergoing medical treatment at nearby Seattle Children’s.
- The House has 80 rooms and in 2008 provided more than 28,000 nights of housing to more than 1,000 families annually.
- The House offers families their own individual rooms and shared spaces including a fully equipped kitchen and dining area, a stocked pantry, computer lab, laundry facilities and play areas. It also includes dedicated housing for 10 pediatric bone marrow transplant patients and their families.
- We ask families to pay \$25 a night to stay at the House; however, no one is ever turned away because of an inability to pay. Most families are struggling financially and often stay for several months to over a year. (*Actual cost to house a family per night: \$80.*)
- More than a place to stay, the Seattle Ronald McDonald House offers community and security—a feeling that families are not alone in their worry.

WHO STAYS AT THE HOUSE?

- Families who live more than 45 miles from Seattle but who need to stay in Seattle while a child receives treatment at Seattle Children’s are eligible to stay at the House. Families may include parents, siblings, grandparents and other extended family members.
- Most families come from Washington, Alaska, Montana and Idaho.
- Children staying at the House all have serious or chronic illnesses. Some examples include leukemia and other cancers, heart conditions and organ transplants.
- Approximately half of the children are under age 5; children ages 6 to 12 and teens each represent 25 percent.

WHO SUPPORTS RMHC?

- Funding primarily comes from individuals, corporations and foundations with between 15 and 20 percent contributed by local McDonald’s owners/operators through in-store canister donations and promotions.
- More than 500 volunteers contribute their time and services every month. The time they donate is equivalent to 15 full-time employees.

www.rmhcseattle.org