

## A message from our CEO

As the vibrant colors of spring begin to bloom across our city, I am reminded not only of the season's beauty but of the deep well of compassion that surrounds our mission here at Ronald McDonald House New York. This time of year, marked by renewal and growth, also brings with it a special opportunity to honor the incredible strength and love of mothers—especially those who walk through our doors each day, carrying hope through the most challenging of circumstances.

With Mother's Day upon us, my heart is filled with immense gratitude for every one of you who continues to support our work. Your generosity uplifts families—many led by devoted mothers, aunts, and grandmothers—who are navigating the unimaginable journey of childhood illness. Because of you, Ronald McDonald House New York is more than a place to stay. It is a home filled with care, comfort, and community—a sanctuary in the heart of the city where mothers and families can find strength, healing, and hope.

Your continued dedication empowers us to reach farther, care deeper, and uplift more families every day. Thank you for being an essential part of this journey.

Together in keeping families close,

Ruth C. Browne CEO & President



# In Q1 of 2025...

379 Families Stayed at the House

18,541 Meals served

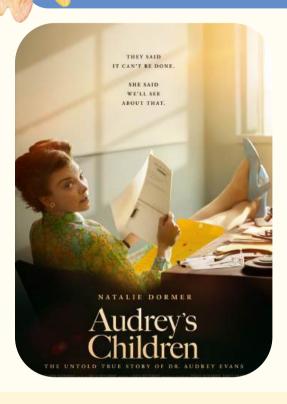
**3,394 Rides** 

342 Meetings with RMH-NY Social Workers

1,868 Wellness Center Visits

1,048 Play Space Visits

15,000+ Visits to our Family Rooms in NYC Hospitals



# They said it couldn't be done, she said we'll see about that

Audrey's Children, a film following the true story of Dr. Audrey Evans, premiered in theaters on March 28<sup>th</sup>. In addition to being a pediatric oncologist who developed a groundbreaking treatment for Neuroblastoma, **Dr. Evans co-founded the first Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia in 1974.** 

Dr. Evans' long lasting legacy is felt around the world as there are now more than 385 Ronald McDonald Houses in over 60 countries. Her mission to provide families of children with cancer and other serious illnesses a strong, caring, and seamless circle of support is still the heartbeat of our mission today.

### Pickleball fun!

The pickleball phenomenon has reached the Great Days program at Ronald McDonald House New York! This past quarter, over 35 families enjoyed several afternoon trips filled with family fun and friendly competition. Because of supporters like you, we are able to offer an abundance of activities and events for our families.

These "Great Days" activities build community, increase feelings of belonging, and create lasting memories during difficult times.







### A Mother's Sanctuary

When Nirvan's Mom, Needhika, first walked into our lobby, she was leaping into the unknown. Ahead of her stretched even more uncertainty. Her son, Nirvan, was battling a rare and mysterious illness that defied medical understanding.

As Mother's Day approaches, we're reminded of the quiet strength mothers like Needhika show every day. What began as a search for temporary housing quickly evolved into something far more significant. For Needhika, the art section in the playroom became a sanctuary. In the midst of Nirvan's ongoing medical battle, she found an unexpected source of solace: art. Her journey into art therapy began during one of Nirvan's hospital stays when an art therapist at Johns Hopkins gave her a box of supplies.

Months later, as the House became a *Home away* from Home, creating art in the playroom became her happy place. Surrounded by supplies and encouraged by the staff, she began crafting pieces inspired by her culture and her son.

Today, Needhika's artwork decorates the walls of their RMH-NY room, each piece a reminder that even in uncertainty, a mother's love can create beauty, hope, and healing.



#### A Springtime Tradition



Over 40 families lined the blooming, tree lined street of East 73<sup>rd</sup> as a classic springtime traditon took place at RMH-NY. With NYPD's signature sirens and FDNY's aerial assist, the Spring Bunny brought a vibrant celebration that was hard to miss!

#### Help Build the *Heart* of the *House*

Big things are happening at Ronald McDonald House New York! We've officially begun a transformational renovation that will turn our entire second floor into the *Heart* of the *House*—a vibrant community hub where families can connect, recharge, and find moments of joy amid medical challenges.

This reimagined space will bring the dining room and Play Space together on one floor, making it easier for families to share meals and playtime. We're also adding a brand-new music room, a dedicated homework space, cozy gathering areas, and fully upgraded kitchens—all designed to bring comfort and care when families need it most.

Every inch of this renovation is being built with love—and with *families* in mind. We need your help to create a space where families find light, laughter, and healing. Join us in shaping the future of the House.







Recognition opportunities for this project begin at \$25,000. To make an impact at RMH-NY, contact the Director of Principal Gifts, Denean Paulik at DPaulik@rmh-newyork.org.

Show the women in your life that you're thinking about them this Mother's Day by making a gift to Ronald McDonald House in their Honor

Donations go directly towards helping families. It costs \$466 each day to provide a family with housing, transportation, meals, wellness and emotional support services, and daily activities. A gift of \$5,000 helps 10 families stay at the House as they access treatment for serious illnesses in New York City.

If you make a gift in honor of someone you love, we will be sure to let them know!

#### Save the Date - Annual Gala



RMH-NY will be celebrating its Annual Gala on **September 30th 2025**, **6:00PM** at Cipriani Wall Street. Our theme is "Together in Gold" in honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. For more information, please visit <a href="https://gala.rmh-newyork.org">https://gala.rmh-newyork.org</a>

We are proud to honor:

- · Lynn Martin, President. NYSE
- Vincent Tizzio, President, Axis Capital,
- Raja Rajamannar, CMO, Mastercard,
- Richard O'Reilly, MD, Chairman Emeritus, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.