Dear Friends,

As I look back over the past year, I am truly honored to be a part of an organization that has supported so many families during the most challenging times in their lives. Whether through our two Houses, our two in-hospital Family Rooms or Kiosk, or our Ronald McDonald Camp, I am humbled that we have been able to play even a small role in making a very difficult and oftentimes overwhelming journey easier for families who many times have nowhere else to turn. Our dedicated staff, volunteers, board members, and donors are the key to making sure that we are there for these families—either by offering a quiet room with the comforts of home close to the hospital, a cup of coffee and a bite to eat in the Family Room or at the Kiosk after a long and exhausting day of treatment, or a moment of carefree joy in the yoga yurt or on the lake during the week of camp—and for that I am so deeply thankful.

However, looking at the past year, I am actually most struck by what we couldn’t do—by the number of families we simply couldn’t serve. In 2015, we had a staggering number of family requests to stay with us—5,316 just at Chestnut Street—that we could not accommodate because we were full. During the summer last year—our busiest time—there were days we turned away up to 34 families because our waitlist was just that long. That means 34 families had to struggle to find somewhere else to stay—an unfair burden on top of their child’s illness. And this happened again and again for thousands of families last year.

Each one of these numbers is a real family. Families like the mom, dad, and one-year-old sibling from South Carolina who were turned away 64 nights while their newborn daughter was in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Families like the mother from Tennessee who was turned away 25 times while her 13-year-old daughter received treatment for cancer. And families like the mom, dad, grandmother, and five-year-old sister from Virginia who were turned away 52 nights while their one-year-old son received care for a serious heart condition. There are thousands more stories just like these. Sadly this has become the norm for us, not the exception.

Every time we tell a family we are full, their day gets a little harder, their night gets a little longer, and their money gets a little tighter. Their future—many times unclear—gets a little more uncertain.

We do our best. We refer families to our hotel partners for discounted rates. We reach into special funds to pay the cost when we can for the most financially devastated families. But it is nowhere near enough. And again, as I think back over the past year, this is what keeps me up at night—that more than 5,000 times, we just couldn’t be there for all the families who needed us.

That’s why we need your help. As you review our 2015 Annual Report and see what the tremendous impact has been for the families we could accommodate, keep in mind the many, many families we could not. We’ve already started moving forward with our expansion plans for the Chestnut Street House—with the goal of growing from 45 to more than 100 bedrooms to address this very urgent challenge—and have put together an amazing team of architects, engineers, and designers to make this dream a reality. Most of all, however, we will need all of you—our wonderful, passionate supporters who deeply understand our mission and our work—to help us answer the call to be there for more families. To ensure that in the near future we will never have to turn down 5,000 requests again. And to make sure that no families ever experience the heartbreak of having a critically ill child in the hospital and simply having nowhere to go.

On behalf of all of the families we were able to serve, I again offer my sincere gratitude. I look forward to working with each and every one of you in the months and years ahead as we come together to make the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House a beacon of comfort, support, and hope for everyone who needs it.

Warm Regards,

Susan Campbell
Executive Director
“The House is such a great environment. There are friendly people and wonderful home-cooked meals.”

— Amber, Rykien’s Mom

Rykien Evans has been a fighter since day one, explains his mother, Amber. “A routine ultrasound at 17 weeks revealed that our son had a life-threatening condition—something no parent-to-be is ever prepared to hear,” says Amber. After genetic testing, it was revealed that Rykien had Arthrogryposis—meaning he would be born with joint contractures, making it difficult for joints to move and grow normally. While the Evans family was devastated by their son’s diagnosis, they found some relief in knowing that the condition is congenital—meaning it cannot be passed on to future children through the parent’s genetic makeup.

The Evans family was prepared for the worst and had to have difficult conversations with their prenatal care team to determine what next steps would be once Rykien arrived. “We knew our son would have to be placed in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) following birth and we anticipated that it would be for a long time,” says Amber. “However, when Rykien arrived he surprised everyone—including the medical staff—he was prepared to fight this battle and was quickly moved from the NICU to a step-down unit.”

“We knew this would be a lifelong journey for our family,” says Amber. “We spent hours upon hours researching our son’s condition and were determined to do everything we could to provide our son with a happy, healthy, and fulfilling life.” Doctors in the family’s home state of Utah encouraged the Evans to consider leg amputation, but the Evans family was determined to find another solution—a solution that existed in Philadelphia at Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Around Rykien’s first birthday, the family traveled to Philadelphia for their initial meeting with doctors to discuss treatment for their son. “We received a lengthy plan of serial castings to increase the range of motion in Rykien’s joints and learned he would have to undergo multiple painful surgeries that involved cutting through the bone to improve how the joints line up and to change bone position,” says Amber. As anyone can imagine, this information was difficult for Rykien’s parents to digest, but it also instilled in them a sense of hope for the first time and they knew it was the right move to come to Philadelphia.

Ready to start the long process of correcting Rykien’s condition, the Evans family packed their bags and traveled to Philadelphia to stay at the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House at Front & Erie. That initial stay was in 2012 and the family has stayed at the House 12 times since—all for various lengths of time.

“The House is such a great environment. There are friendly people, wonderful home-cooked meals, and it’s clean and inviting,” says Amber. Not only does the House provide basic amenities such as a clean room to sleep in and meals, but it provides parents and children alike with opportunities to unplug from the monotony of the hospital setting by hosting an array of events like pet, music, and art therapy. “The art therapy allows us to interact as a family—something I’m very grateful for,” says Amber. And while Amber appreciates the bonding experience that art therapy provides to her and her family, Rykien is like most five-year-olds and prefers watching movies in the theater and playing songs on the jukebox while singing and dancing along.

The Ronald McDonald House provides support tailored to parents and children—making it a truly special place. “We call the House our ‘second home’,” says Amber. “In fact, when we arrive at the airport, I always tell Rykien that we’ve arrived in Philadelphia. He insists that we have not… until we pull through the gate at the House, at which time he announces, ‘Okay, now we’re in Philadelphia. My second home’.”

His second home indeed, Rykien celebrated his 5th birthday at the Front & Erie House this past February. “It was so special. We came down to dinner and the entire dining room was decorated for him. There was a cake and presents and everyone sang Happy Birthday to him,” says Amber. With a heart full of gratitude, Amber says, “We just can’t thank the House enough.”

While the Evans family’s gratitude is palpable, it’s Rykien’s infectious smile and positive attitude towards all that he does, despite the challenges he faces on a daily basis, that brings joy not only to his family, but to the entire House and the other guests at Front & Erie.

The family is currently making plans to complete an important surgery this year—a surgery that will enable Rykien to walk on his own—a feat that this little fighter has been working towards all his life and a feat that the Ronald McDonald House has no doubt he will accomplish. Thank you, Evans family, for allowing us to be a part of your journey.
For Brenna and Christopher Denney, parenthood has come with some unanticipated challenges, but that has not stopped them from spreading positivity and bright spirits to everyone they meet. Hailing from Athens, Georgia, the Denneys—now proud parents of triplets—came to Philadelphia seeking the best possible treatment during pregnancy.

Their specialist in Athens alerted them that identical twins in the womb could have Twin-Twin Transfusion Syndrome, a very serious complication in which the twin fetuses share a placenta and one takes nutrients away from the other. The specialist urged them to go to The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) for testing. Brenna also learned that the doctor who pioneered surgery for Twin-Twin Transfusion is one of the head surgeons at that hospital and that he travels around to other hospitals teaching his procedure. Brenna and Christopher felt confident that this would be a good choice.

However, choosing to have tests, procedures, and monitoring done at CHOP meant that Brenna would have to stay in Philadelphia for at least three months, requiring the Denneys to find a place to stay—and it would not be easy to afford to stay at a hotel for such a long period of time. Fortunately, Brenna’s sister heard about the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House early on through a social worker at CHOP who recommended that they request a room. In late March they checked into the Chestnut Street House after the twins were diagnosed Twin-Twin transfusion syndrome, and Brenna has been staying here since while her children undergo treatment.

During this long stay, the Denneys have found comfort through the House. As Brenna describes it: “I love it—absolutely love it. It is my home for now, and I am comfortable with that. When I am ready to leave the hospital, I say ‘I am going home now’. It feels natural, instead of saying ‘I am going to the hotel’ or wherever else.” One of the largest sources of comfort that Brenna has found is the company of other mothers who understand what she’s going though. “It’s a community,” says Brenna about the House. “One woman has become a very, very good friend of mine. She is an expectant mother, who I am actually going to miss dearly. I know I am going to keep in contact with her for a very long time. I’ve formed relationships with a few other women who have kids in the neonatal intensive care unit right next to ours, so we reassure each other. Just last night we made a couple of friends while doing laundry, even though their child has a completely different ailment,” she says.

While Christopher cannot stay at the House most of the time, due to his work obligations back in Georgia, he travels to Philadelphia as often as he can, usually about every three weeks. And when he visits, he is encouraged by what he sees at the House. “It’s amazing that this type of place is available for families,” he says. “Otherwise who knows what we would do. While we waited for the diagnosis, she stayed in a hotel, and I can’t imagine what it would have been like if she had to be alone there all this time. I think what helps in our situation is that everyone here also has a kid at CHOP or a local hospital. It’s something we can identify with—we are not the only ones going through this situation.”

In addition to the support system they’ve found at the House, the Denneys are grateful for the other services that are available. “I was surprised about the food—having dinners provided every night,” says Brenna. “There’s a fully stocked kitchen, so if we want a bowl of cereal or a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, it is all there.”

Brenna notes that another aspect that has made their time in Philadelphia less stressful is the compassion she has experienced. “The volunteers are wonderful. The people who drive the shuttles are so sweet. For Mother’s Day, we received a special menu, volunteers took our order and brought us food and flowers, and the House even gave us a gift. The compassion and caring go above and beyond and everyone welcomes you with open arms,” she says.

While the Denneys look forward to taking their triplets home with them to Georgia, they are grateful for the staff, volunteers, and fellow families at the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House who made their difficult time a little easier.
2015 YEAR IN REVIEW — House Programs

In 2015, our two Ronald McDonald Houses together served up to 65 families each night, enabling families to stay close by their children in the hospital at little to no cost while offering an array of supportive services.

**OUR HOUSES**

- **2,279** Family Stays
- **9.19** Nights in the average family stay
- **264** Longest number of consecutive nights for one family
- **5,965** Families we could not accommodate because we were full
- **91%** Average occupancy rate

**TOP HOSPITALS SERVED**

(by number of family stays)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hospital</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia</td>
<td>1,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children</td>
<td>497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shriners Hospital</td>
<td>486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHOP/Roberts Proton Therapy Center</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wills Eye Hospital</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHOP/Wills Eye Hospital</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DOMESTIC FAMILIES SERVED**

We served families from 49 states with the majority traveling from PA, NJ, and NY.

- **34%**
- **22%**
- **8%**
- **5%**
- **3%**
- **2%**
- **1%**
- **0%**

**INTERNATIONAL FAMILIES SERVED**

We served families from 20 countries, 2 U.S. territories, and 2 British territories including:

Anguilla  Australia  Bermuda  Canada  Costa Rica  Curaçao  Dominican Republic  Ecuador  Ghana  Greece  Haiti  Hong Kong  India  Mexico  Netherlands  Philippines  Puerto Rico  Russia  Saint Lucia  Sweden  Tanzania  United Kingdom  U.S. Virgin Islands  Venezuela

**TOP SERVICE DEPARTMENTS**

- **Orthopedics** 26%
- **Oncology** 23%
- **Cardiology** 13%
- **Other** 12%
- **Neonatology** 10%
- **Pulmonary** 5%
- **Neurology** 4%
- **Gastroenterology** 3%
- **Surgery** 2%
- **Endocrinology** 2%

Other represents over 20 additional service departments.
While we opened our doors for 2,279 family stays, there were 5,965 requests that we could not accommodate because we were full—a devastating statistic that both highlights the demand for our services and compels us to find a way to be there for the families who need us.

**TURNAWAYS**

- **Combined**: 5,965
- **Chestnut Street**: 5,316
- **Front & Erie**: 649

Most families turned away in a single day:

- **Chestnut Street**: 34
- **Front & Erie**: 18

**OUR HOUSES’ IMPACT**

- **94%**
  - Families who agree that staying at the House provided support they would otherwise not receive

- **99%**
  - Families who agree that staying at House allowed them to spend more time by their child’s side

- **98%**
  - Families who agree that staying at the Houses helped reduce their stress levels

- **97%**
  - Families who agree that staying at the House made it easier to access treatment

- **99%**
  - Families who agree that sleeping is more restful here than at the hospital

- **99%**
  - Families who agree that staying at the House helped them maintain their well-being
2015 YEAR IN REVIEW—Ronald McDonald Family Rooms

Our two Ronald McDonald Family Rooms, located on the Oncology and Cardiology Units at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, create a respite space in the hospital where families can rest and recharge, complete with comfortable seating, televisions, kitchen access, complimentary meals and beverages, activities, and more. The Ronald McDonald Family Rooms enable us to extend our reach to local families who are not able to stay at our Houses because they live within a 25-mile radius.

### RONALD MCDONALD FAMILY ROOMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Family rooms at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98</td>
<td>Patient rooms served each day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92%</td>
<td>Families who agree the Family Rooms were a valuable resource during a difficult time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91%</td>
<td>Families who agree the Family Rooms helped them maintain their well-being while their child was in the hospital</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HOSPITALITY KIOSK

In March of 2013, the Hospitality Kiosk at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children opened to serve families with children on the critical care units. The Kiosk provides complimentary healthy snacks, beverages, and other amenities to families in order to help improve their overall hospital experience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>Patient rooms served each day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,186</td>
<td>Times the kiosk was accessed by individuals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Individuals who agree that the Hospitality Kiosk made it easier to access healthy food and beverages while in the hospital</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2015 YEAR IN REVIEW — Ronald McDonald Camp

Our one-week overnight Ronald McDonald Camp—located in the Poconos—provides the opportunity for children with cancer and their siblings to experience the joys of summer camp each August. In 2015, Camp celebrated its 30th anniversary and welcomed more campers than ever before.

**RONALD MCDONALD CAMP**

- **224** Total Campers
- **152** Patient Campers
- **72** Sibling Campers
- **152** Unique Families
- **95** Junior Campers (Age 7 to 12)
- **119** Senior Campers (Age 13 to 17)
- **104** New Campers
- **5** Counselors In Training

**CAMPERS SERVED BY GEOGRAPHIC ORIGIN**

In 2015, 65% of campers came from Pennsylvania and 32% came from New Jersey. The remaining 3% came from Maryland, New York, and Virginia. The majority of campers came from the Greater Philadelphia Region.

**CAMP’S IMPACT**

- **98%** Parents who agree that Ronald Camp has a positive impact on their child’s well-being
- **99%** Parents who would recommend Camp to other families with children with cancer
- **99%** Parents who agree that Camp has helped their child build confidence and become more independent
- **99%** Parents who agree Camp helps their children develop new friendships
Whether checking in families, preparing meals, driving the shuttle van to the hospital, hosting an activity at the Family Rooms, volunteering at an event, dedicating a week of summer vacation as a camp counselor, or helping in an endless number of other ways, our volunteers are truly the heart of our organization. Hundreds of volunteers complement the work of our staff of 52 and make what we do possible every day of the year. For that we are truly grateful.

- **335** House, Family Room and Kiosk Volunteers
- **29,328** Annual House Volunteer Hours
- **66** Community Service Groups
- **1,309** Guest Chef Meals
- **3,472** Shuttle Van Trips
- **124** Volunteer Camp Counselors and Medical Staff
- **756** Family Activities
**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**
(For year ended December 31, 2015)

**ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assets</td>
<td>$32,658,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td>$1,401,479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
<td>$31,256,663</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUMMARY OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$11,354,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Revenue</td>
<td>$81,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guest Fee Revenue</td>
<td>$166,886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>$71,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$11,674,556</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$4,514,466</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Contributions include annual operating contributions and capital campaign pledges for expansion project.

**EASING FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suggested Guest Fee Per Night</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual Cost of Providing Services Per Night</td>
<td>$122.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Families are never turned away due to inability to pay and many have the nightly fee waived or reduced.

**ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>76.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Administration &amp; Management</td>
<td>9.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>14.18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Houses</td>
<td>89.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp</td>
<td>7.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Rooms</td>
<td>2.75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HOW DOES MCDONALD’S HELP**

McDonald’s played a vital role at the inception of the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House, the first Ronald McDonald House in the world, which opened on October 15, 1974. After 42 years, Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) and our local McDonald’s owner/operators remain committed to supporting our programs.

Each year, the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House receives 10 percent of its annual budget from the local chapter of RMHC – RMHC of the Philadelphia Region. RMHC of the Philadelphia Region is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that receives its support from the owners/operators of the more than 300 McDonald’s Restaurants in the region (including the greater Philadelphia area, Southern New Jersey, and Delaware). This funding comes from in-store canister donations, Shamrock Shake sale proceeds, and other promotions and annual gifts.

The McDonald’s Owner/Operators of the Greater Philadelphia Region involvement extends beyond monetary support as:

- McDonald’s owner/operators participate as members of our Board of Directors.
- McDonald’s owner/operators and suppliers work to raise money and awareness through promotional and fundraising events.
- Local McDonald’s employees are dedicated volunteers.

The remaining 90 percent of our annual budget comes from the generosity of individuals, corporations, and foundations.
CIVIC, CORPORATE, FOUNDATION AND INDIVIDUAL DONORS

$50,000+
The Barbara Bradley Baekgaard
Family Foundation
The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
R.K. Mellon Family Foundation
Ronald McDonald House Charities
Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Philadelphia Region

$25,000 - $49,999
Aberdeen Asset Management, Inc.
Anonymous
Mr. Scott R. Emerson
McDonald’s Faro Blanco Invitational Tournament
JPMorgan Chase & Co.
Mr. Ron Krancer & Family
McDonald’s Lehigh Valley All-Stars Football Classic
Philadelphia Foundation - Edward M. Story Memorial Fund in memory of his father, Samuel Story, & his mother, Mary Grosvenor; the Alice H. & Joseph W. Campbell Fund #1; & the Ira Jewell Williams Fund
St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children
United Way of Greater Philadelphia & Southern New Jersey

$10,000 - $24,999
The 1830 Family Foundation
The Alan & Jill Miller Foundation
Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Louis W. Blanco
Pine Forest Camp, Lake Owego Camp, & Camp Timber Tops
Dr. & Mrs. Twining Campbell
Coldwell Banker Preferred
Denny Parisan & the County Corvette Toy Drive
Mr. & Mrs. Dries Darius
DII
FirstTrust Bank
97.5 The Fanatic 6th Annual Mike Missanelli Open
H&K Group
Harley-Davidson of Long Beach
Jazz Pharmaceuticals
Jersey Shore Harley Owners Group
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas J. Karamatsoukas
Katie’s Krisaders
Keystone Foods Corporation
Kramer Insurance Group
Louis & Bessie Stein Foundation
Servicing Contractors Association of Greater Delaware Valley
The Merck Foundation
The Montufar Family
Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation
The Persinger Cookie Throwdown
Pfizer, Inc.
Philadelphia Insurance Companies
Philadelphia Police Department
Reed Elsevier
Shari & Mark Rosenberg
St. Christopher’s Foundation for Children
Time After Time

$5,000 - $9,999
20th Annual Reunion Cup Charity Golf Outing
Anonymous (5)
The American Benefactor Foundation
Dan & Edwina Amoroso
Anthony & Sylvan Pools
APEX & FirstLease
Aramark Conference Centers
AutoTrader.com
Employees Community Fund of The Boeing Company
Ms. Tish Brey
The Brian Seibert Memorial Fund
Ms. Lorraine F. Brut
Bucks County Farm Bureau
Catherine G. Butler Memorial
Chapman Auto Stores
Mr. Russell Cox
Hope Brings Strength
Crowley Chemical Company
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Degnan
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Delaney
Chester "Chet" Derbyshire Memorial
Di Bruno Bros.
Dominic V. DiCicco Memorial Trust
Dr. Pepper Snapple Group
Adam Drapczuk Memorial
The Eden Charitable Foundation
Elliott-Lewis
Endo International, plc
ERT
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas B. Fenerty
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Ferro
Mr. & Mrs. Don S. Follett
Fox Rothschild Attorneys At Law
Alfred J. Frungillo, Jr. Irrevocable Trust
Gemini Bakery Equipment Co.
GlucoSmithKline
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Goldenberg
Independence Blue Cross
Innovative Print & Media Group
Jack Miller Family Foundation
Johnson & Johnson - Matching Gifts Program
Just Born Quality Confections
The Katie Kirlin Fund
Cindy Keaveney
Klein Hersh
KPMG
John Christian “Baby Jack” Lanyi Memorial
Lauren’s First & Goal Foundation
Dr. & Mrs. Elliot Menkowitz
Mr. & Mrs. Michael G. Menkowitz
Sandy & Bernie Nelson
NFL Alumni & Philadelphia Chapter Cheerleaders
Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Pecarsky
Lucinda Perez Tribute
Permorth Plastics, LLC
Philadelphia Eagles
Pilot Freight Services
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Probinsky
Red Bank Veterinary Hospital
CJR Memorial Foundation
Jill & Neill Reiff
Andrew Renzi Memorial
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth S. Resnik
Estate of Shirley A. Resnick
McGladrey LLP
Ms. Anne Scardino
The Heroes Tournament - Sean M. Morris Benefit & Barry Bush Memorial
Courtney Seda
Mr. Brent Senseney & Ms. Linda D. Cluck
Noah Skinner Memorial
Andrew J. Snyder Memorial
Soros Fund Charitable Foundation Matching Gifts Program
Taylor Rental Media/All Event Party Rental.com
The Don & Mibs Follett Family Charitable Fund
UAS Inc.
Mr. Frank Unterwald
The Van Aken Family Foundation
Ms. Elaine Walker
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Wendolowski
Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania
Mr. & Mrs. Fred White
The William Penn Foundation
Wills Eye Hospital
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Wolfson
Young Lawyers’ Section of the Delaware County Bar Association

$2,500 - $4,999
Mr. Richard J. Adelizzi
Allstate Foundation
Amber Nicole Trowbridge Memorial Fund
American Heritage Federal Credit Union
American Kitchen Machinery & Repair
Anonymous (2)
Mr. & Mrs. James Averill
Barry L. Bush Memorial Scholarship Fund
The Benevity Community Impact Foundation
BFF Friendship Foundation
Bloomingdale’s
The Boeing Company
Brinker Capital
Broughton Foundation
Brulee Catering
CAPTRUST
Capital Solutions, Inc.
American Kitchen Machinery & Repair
Anonymous (2)
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Chambers
Checking for Cancer
Mr. Peter Ciarroccchi
Coca-Cola Company
Comcast Spectator
Conestoga Bank
Construction Financial Management Association - Philadelphia Chapter
Contemporary Staffing Solutions
Cornerstone Bank
Cornwells Elementary School

$5,000 - $9,999
20th Annual Reunion Cup Charity Golf Outing
Anonymous (5)
The American Benefactor Foundation
Dan & Edwina Amoroso
Anthony & Sylvan Pools
APEX & FirstLease
Aramark Conference Centers
AutoTrader.com
Employees Community Fund of The Boeing Company
Ms. Tish Brey
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Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Delaney
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Di Bruno Bros.
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Dr. Pepper Snapple Group
Adam Drapczuk Memorial
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Mr. & Mrs. Thomas B. Fenerty
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**The Brown Family**

Then: Early in their pregnancy, Kelly and Chris Brown found out that their baby boy, Matthew, had a very complex and rare combination of serious heart defects. Already parents to three healthy children, Matthew’s life-threatening diagnosis was a foreign concept for them. Within the first three years of his life, Matthew underwent two open heart surgeries and although his condition was still present, he was stable enough to start preschool and progressed like other children his age.

During the winter of 2013, Matthew’s parents began to notice that their son’s energy levels were low and that he had no appetite. On Christmas night, Matthew’s oxygen saturation levels fell dangerously low. The day after Christmas, Matthew was medevaced to The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Matthew’s mother was able to check into the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House the day after his hospital admission.

In February of 2014, while staying at the House, Matthew’s family again received shattering news—Matthew would need a new heart in order to live. “I spent my days at the hospital by my son’s side and waiting each night so I could meet the nurse who would care for him while I went back to the Ronald McDonald House to recharge for another day. Life was moving in slow motion, but I looked forward to returning to the House in the evening knowing that a home-cooked meal was waiting, along with a comfortable bed, and other families who reassured me that I was not in this by myself,” explained Kelly.

Now: Matthew received a new heart in June 2015—the transplant was a complete success. Kelly said, “I will forever be grateful for the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House for allowing me to direct my energy to where it was needed most: the well-being of my child.”

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**The Moses Family**

Then: In 2014, Cheyenne Moses stayed at the Chestnut Street House with her parents, Demetris and Stacy, while she received treatment at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia for a brain tumor. At the time, Cheyenne’s mother shared, “The House keeps your mind off of what’s really going on. It’s our home away from home, and it’s great for Cheyenne because she doesn’t have to worry. It relieves us as parents because we don’t have to worry about our child when she’s here.”

As Cheyenne underwent radiation and took the final steps towards recovery, the House provided a place of solace for both her and her parents. The Moses family greatly benefited from the daily interaction they had with the other families staying at the House, staff, and volunteers. As Cheyenne’s mother stated, “The Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House is something for my daughter to look forward to every day. The environment has helped her a lot on this journey.”

Now: Cheyenne, now 11 years old, received a clean bill of health just two days before her tenth birthday—a milestone her family was anxiously awaiting. She is thriving in the 5th grade and her mother says, “Cheyenne is always upbeat.” Cheyenne is involved in after school activities and loves to cook. As Stacy reflects on their time at the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House, she says, “We constantly talk about the House. When it was time to leave and go back home, Cheyenne cried because she didn’t want to leave. At the time it was strange to me that she didn’t want to leave and go back to her home, but it’s a testament to how special the House is. We don’t know what we would have done without the Ronald McDonald House. This organization gave us comfort, peace of mind, and financial help—it was a true blessing.”
The Grosshans Family

Then: When George and Barbara Grosshans moved to China ten years ago, they never dreamed they were about to become parents again. “I remember when I walked my youngest daughter down the aisle. After the wedding, I thought we were done,” says George. “And we were done, until we met Peter.” In their fifties, and with two grown daughters, the Grosshanses were returning to China to continue work they’d started with their first move to Hong Kong in 1971. Since then, they had split time between China, the U.S., and Canada, with George teaching English throughout China and Barbara working at orphanages. It was there that she encountered Peter. “I remember the first time I saw him. He was sitting on the floor of the orphanage playroom. He was two years old but he could not walk yet,” Barbara says. The growth plate in the bone below Peter’s knee had died due to infection, making his left leg unable to grow, and causing him to be given up for adoption.

The Grosshanses decided to concentrate on finding a family for Peter. “I started out thinking we’d find a nice young couple to adopt him,” says Barb, sure that one of their many contacts would work out. That year, 35 babies were adopted from the orphanage where Peter was staying, but there was still no home for Peter. As the Grosshanses neared the end of their year-long commitment, they knew they just could not leave Peter. “Words came of my mouth that I never dreamed I’d speak: ‘Maybe he’s for us,’” says George. Barbara immediately agreed and they began an 18-month journey of welcoming Peter into their family. Once the adoption was complete, the Grosshanses focused on Peter’s medical care. Shriners Hospital took Peter on as a patient and began the process, through multiple surgeries, of lengthening his leg. The family stayed at the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House at Front & Erie while Peter underwent a procedure to attach an external fixator to his leg to facilitate lengthening and the family returned often to continue his treatment. “One of the greatest miracles is the combination of PRMH and Shriners Hospital,” says George. “If we had to find accommodation, we could not afford it and would have had to forgo the hospital.” Barbara agrees. “I can’t imagine what it would be like without the Ronald McDonald House.”

The House provides more than just a place to stay for Peter and the Grosshanses. “It suits Peter’s lifestyle to a T.” Peter made great use of his time during his stay, giving a virtual tour of the House to his classmates in China and also speaking at a local elementary school about his experience. “He’s an amazing child,” says Barbara. “Peter is the joy of our lives,” says George. “We call him our life’s serendipity.”

Now: Peter, now 18 years old, is completing his high school requirements and applying to universities where he plans to major in architecture. As his father, George states, “It’s hard to believe that seven years have passed since Peter had his first fixator applied to his leg for lengthening.” Using the fixator method twice, Shriners has added a total of six inches to Peter’s left leg. And while Peter has been wearing his current fixator since October 2014, he and his family look forward to its removal in early summer—resulting in both of Peter’s legs being the same length and the end of a long road filled with medical treatment and surgeries.

As Peter’s parents reflect on their time at the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House George says, “We have stayed at the House each year since our son was four years old. Without the Ronald McDonald House providing accommodations and meals while in Philly, and Shriners Hospitals for Children providing the necessary treatments, this journey to wholeness would not have been achievable. We are so thankful to the Ronald McDonald House and all of the staff and wonderful volunteers for helping to make this journey possible…and for making the House the ‘home away from home’ it truly is.”

The Kovoor Family

Then: In 2014, the Kovoor family’s world came crashing down when their oldest daughter, Nidhia, was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Nidhia’s doctors in her hometown quickly referred her to the The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, where she underwent radiation and chemotherapy. From September to October, Nidhia stayed at the Chestnut Street House with her mother Anna, and both were involved in the excitement surrounding the House’s 40th Anniversary Celebration—many may even recognize Nidhia from the PRMM’s 40th Anniversary video. As Nidhia explains, “The Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House is a home away from home—it’s amazing, everyone is so nice. It didn’t feel like I was going to treatment every day because I was making a ton of friends at the House and I still keep in touch with them.”

Now: Nidhia is now 17 and a junior in high school. Once she was cleared by doctors to return home, she had to continue taking oral chemotherapy for six more months, but started experiencing allergic reactions to the treatment so her doctors discontinued treatment. Nidhia’s MRIs and blood work came back clear; however, several months ago, her bloodwork indicated hypothyroidism (a possible effect of radiation). Nidhia remains upbeat and positive despite this challenge and her mother says, “Everything is so much better for our family; we have our lives back and things are normal again.” Nidhia is back to enjoying the things she used to like going to school, playing field hockey, and spending time with her friends and family. When asked what she aspires to be when she grows up she replies, “I want to be a pediatrician and would like to go to Penn State.”
The Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House supports families of seriously ill children by creating a community of comfort and hope.

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