



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
of South Louisiana

20
25
ANNUAL
GRATITUDE
REPORT

Our Mission + Vision

We provide essential services that remove barriers, strengthen families, and promote healing when children need healthcare.

We envision a world where every family has what they need to ensure the best health outcomes for their children.

Our Programs + Services

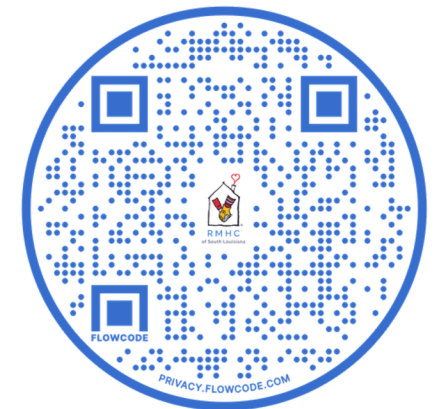
- Ronald McDonald House in New Orleans on the Manning Family Children's Hospital campus
 - Ronald McDonald Family Room in Lafayette at Our Lady of Lourdes Women's & Children's Hospital
 - RMHCSLA Hospitality Carts at Ochsner Main & Manning Family Children's Hospital
 - House to Home Case Management Program
-

Our 2025 Board

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or scan to make your gift today!**

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Gratitude from Grace

In 2025, Ronald McDonald House Charities of South Louisiana continued to stand beside families during some of the most difficult moments of their lives. Across our House and Family Room, care, compassion, and community came together to ensure families could remain close to their children while receiving critical medical treatment.

This year, RMHCSLA supported **1,231 families**, provided **7,199 nights of lodging**, and served **73,308 meals** to parents and caregivers. These numbers represent far more than services delivered — they reflect peace of mind, reduced stress, and the ability for families to focus on what matters most: their child's health and healing.

As medical journeys continued to prove more complex resulting in longer family stays, our House to Home and Peer Support programs played an increasingly vital role. In 2025, these services became steady sources of guidance and connection for families navigating extended hospital stays and life-altering diagnoses. Families received support in understanding care plans, preparing for transitions, and finding strength through shared experience. Care did not end when families left our doors thanks to our House to Home Community Resources program — it continued as they transitioned back to their home community.

Beyond programs and facilities, what defines RMHCSLA is the thousands of moments of kindness — shared meals, quiet places to rest, and compassionate conversations — all of which helped to ease the burden of long, uncertain days.

Because of our supporters, volunteers, and partners, families were not alone. They found community, understanding, and strength when they needed it most. We are deeply grateful for the role you play in making this possible.

Thank you for being part of this mission and for helping make 2025 a year of meaningful, lasting impact for the families we serve.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Grace McIntosh, MSW, MPA
CEO, Ronald McDonald House Charities of South Louisiana



Grace McIntosh, MSW, MPA

*Chief Executive Officer,
RMHC of South Louisiana*

WE SERVED

1,286  321
family members families

FAMILIES TRAVELED FROM

  
48 9 2
parishes states countries

VOLUNTEER IMPACT

1,181 volunteers
assisted our families for 5,447 hours

for a volunteer value of \$189,501

MEALS PROVIDED

 73,302

COST PER NIGHT 

\$160 \$0
our cost per family per night what families pay

FAMILY STAYS | NIGHTS

7,199 overnight stays

average nights stay 19

 312
longest stay in nights

FAMILIES SAVED OVER

\$3.26 million

by staying with us while their child received medical treatment



HOUSE IN NEW ORLEANS

281 families served

6,303 total nights

17 average nights stay

FAMILY ROOM IN LAFAYETTE

40 families served

896 total nights

21 average nights stay

HOSPITALITY CART: MANNING FAMILY CHILDREN'S

951

adults served

663

children served

2,933

snacks provided

951

toys distributed



HOSPITALITY CART: OCHSNER MAIN

238

adults served

723

children served

535

snacks provided

238

toys distributed

Muscles' Fight: 312 Nights of Hope

Malaika, affectionately known as “Muscles,” and her family are from Pearl River, Louisiana. She made her early entrance into the world on July 22, 2024, at just 22 weeks and 3 days and weighing in at only 1 lb. 2 oz. Immediately after her birth, she was intubated and then underwent tracheostomy surgery to allow her lungs to grow and heal more effectively.

Her mother, Ariel, arrived at our House three weeks later. She told us that she chose the name Malaika, because it means “messenger of God” or “Angel.” Ariel shared that Muscles displayed incredible strength—physically, mentally, and spiritually—which inspired her adorable nickname.

When Ariel first joined us, she was grappling with postpartum depression, often seen quietly sobbing throughout the House. As time passed, she became more comfortable, which was incredibly helpful as Ariel spent **312 nights** with us while Muscles grew stronger at Ochsner Baptist. Gradually, she started to connect with other families, revealing that this was her first child and that she was an art teacher.

During our Halloween party, Ariel engaged the little ones in decorating pumpkins and participated in the trick-or-treat festivities. At Christmas, she created “Thank You” coloring sheets for the children to present to our generous donors who provided gifts.

Although Ariel stayed at the House alone, her husband, Peter, visited on weekends, and she received numerous visits from family and friends, making her experience less isolating.

“Having someone to talk to about available resources and having all our meals provided alleviated so many financial burdens,” Ariel shared. She particularly valued our weekly peer support event, QualiTEA Time, where she found a compassionate ear and warm heart, helping her feel less alone in her thoughts.

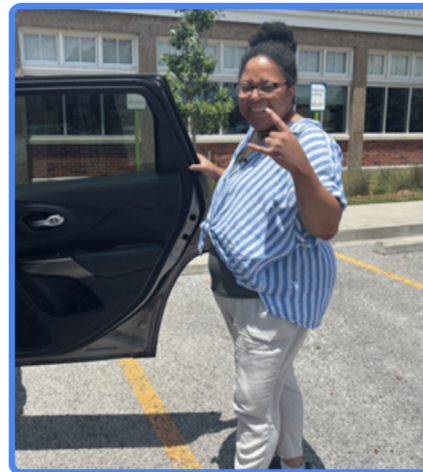
Ariel praised RMHCSLA for offering a modern, beautiful facility with caring staff and access to laundry facilities, which helped reduce her stress. Her fondest memories from her nearly 11-month stay include our “magical” Holiday Party and Halloween Trick-or-Treat. “This is the most helpful and loving charity made up of beautiful people,” Ariel remarked.

From left to right:

Muscles at the hospital

Ariel packing up the car to head home after 312 nights with us

Muscles heading home



Harmonie's Journey

When two-year-old Harmonie and her mother, Anntonett, first boarded a plane from Kingston, Jamaica, they carried much more than luggage; they carried hope. Following a sudden and devastating medical crisis in December 2023—pneumonia followed by cardiac arrest that resulted in Harmonie suffering a hypoxic brain injury—their world transformed overnight. The vibrant toddler they once knew was now battling for every milestone, and her mother was resolute in securing the specialized care she desperately needed.

Their First Stay: A Leap of Faith (November 2024 – 66 Nights)

In November 2024, after tirelessly fundraising back home, Anntonett gathered enough support to bring Harmonie to New Orleans for specialized treatment. During this first journey, the family stayed at our House for 66 nights, finding not just a place to sleep, but a community that wrapped around them with comfort and care.

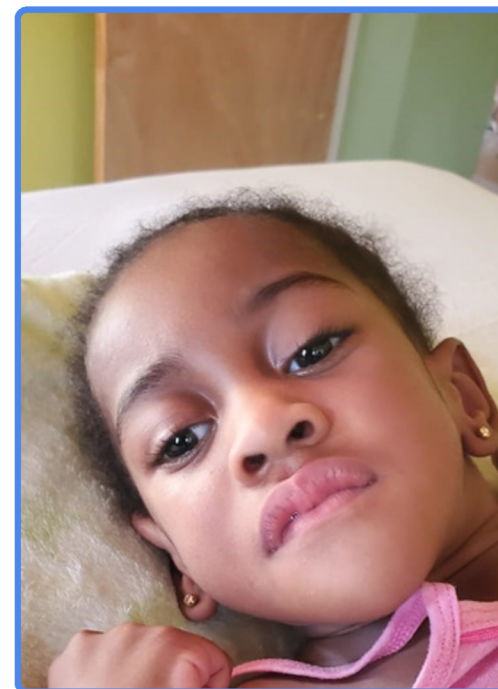
Here, Anntonett shared how relieved she felt knowing she didn't have to worry about rent or food while focusing entirely on her daughter's recovery. Slowly, Harmonie began showing signs of improvement—small victories that meant everything.

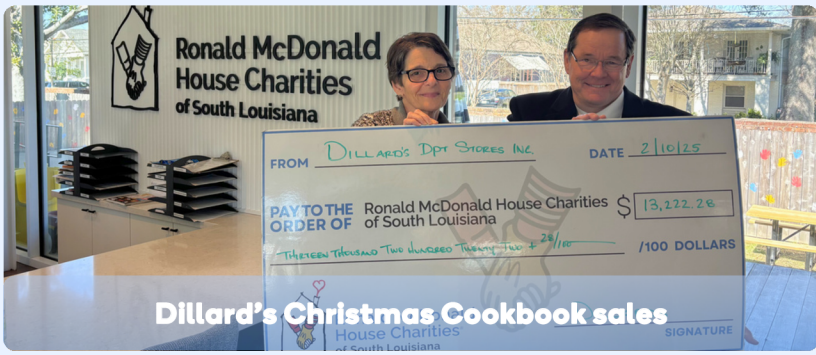
A Second Chance at Healing: Returning for More Treatment (July 2025 – 138 Nights)

Because of her progress, Harmonie was invited back to receive additional hyperbaric treatment from Dr. Paul Harch —this time as a gifted opportunity. In July 2025, mother and daughter made the long journey back to New Orleans. Their second stay here at our House lasted 138 nights, a period filled with both challenges and extraordinary resilience. During this stay, their home country of Jamaica was struck by a devastating hurricane. Travel became impossible, and uncertainty loomed. Yet even in the midst of crisis, the House remained a steady, supportive home for them.

Knowing that Harmonie needed care unavailable in Jamaica, Anntonett worked closely with our Community Resources Specialist. Together, they navigated the complex process of securing further treatment at Manning's Family Children's Hospital and beginning Louisiana Medicaid coverage—critical steps that ensured Harmonie could continue receiving the care she needed.

Across both visits, Harmonie and her mother spent a combined 204 nights with us. In that time, we witnessed a mother's unwavering devotion, a child's remarkable resilience, and a community's ability to lift a family through their hardest moments. Every day brought new challenges, but also new triumphs—tiny steps forward that reminded everyone around them of the strength found in hope, love, and togetherness. Harmonie's journey is far from over, but she and her mother continue to face each day with courage. And here at Ronald McDonald House, they will always have a family cheering them on.





Dillard's Christmas Cookbook sales



Kiwanis Club of Algiers donated our new Hospitality Cart



McDonald's Women Owners' Network



Platta Temple No. 15 Imperial Clown Unit



Valero Benefit for Children



Festival International



Ralph's on the Park Ugly Sweater Party



Combel's Custom Cruisers decorates our House for Christmas & Mardi Gras



Home for the Holidays Winner Annabelle Reed & her family



Philadelphia Eagles visit during the Super Bowl



Haley Miller & Anthony Taylor
at the Jefferson Island Sporting Clays Open



Tulane Cheer & Football visit at our Annual Holiday Party for our families



Galatoire's Christmas Table Auction



MacLaff team takes first place at our Fore the Families Golf Classic



Anthony Lopinto & our CEO Grace
at our Rock 'n' Par-tee



Jefferson Island Sporting Clays Open



- Anonymous
- Cheryl & Ray Egan
- Combel's Customs Cruisers
- Cox
- Delta Fraternity of Westwego
- EMR Southern Recycling
- Family & Friends of George Randall Frost
- Harch Hyperbarics, Inc.
- Harvey Gulf International Marine
- In honor of Byron F. Bennett by Ginny Bennett & the Tony Herques Family
- John & Rhonda Combel
- John, Nicolas, and Michael Valluzzo
- Kathy & Ray Masker Jr., Tammi & Ray Masker III
- Kiwanis Club of New Orleans
- Krewe of Bacchus
- Libby Dufour Fund
- Mike Flynn, CPA
- Platta Temple No. 15, Prince Hall Shriners
- RMHC Global
- South Louisiana McDonald's Owner/ Operators
- Terry, Carita & Samuel Wilburn
- The Chris & Lentriese Bardell Family Foundation
- The Colin Family
- The Eugenie & Joseph Jones Family Foundation
- The Goldring Family Foundation
- The Goodenough Family Charitable Trust
- The Jamjomar, Thrower & Fisher Families
- The Krampe Family
- The Marks Family
- The Miller Family in honor of Rudy & Freda Miller
- The Sue & Clarke Montgomery Family Fund
- The Whitman Family Foundation

Thank You, Cornerstone Society

Established in December of 2022, our RMHCSLA Cornerstone Society laid the foundation to make our Uptown House possible and their legacy continues through ongoing support. We will forever be grateful and always honor those who facilitated this vital expansion, as our House is more than just bricks and mortar. It embodies the love, hope, and peace that is extended to our visiting families and all who pass through our doorway.



Thank You to Our Dedicated Donors

\$20k+

MacLaff, Inc.
Our Lady of Lourdes Foundation
The Gary Goodenough Family
Denise & Chris Sadler
Butcher Air Conditioning
Valero Meraux Refinery
The Eugenie & Joseph Jones Family Foundation
Virginia Bennett
Harch Hyperbaric Inc.
South Louisiana McDonald's Owner Operators
The Sue & Clarke Montgomery Family Fund
Ray & Kay Eckstein Charitable Trust

\$10k+

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Whitman Family Foundation
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The Ella West Freeman Foundation
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U.S. Gypsum Corporation
Waste Connections

*Thank
you!*

Thank You to Our Dedicated Donors

\$1k+

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Didriksen, Saucier & Woods PLC
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Emily's Bloomin Youth Fund
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Frymaster Firepower
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Waste Pro
Weimer Congemi Foundation, Inc.
Wilburn McDonald's
Woodward Foundation

Welcome to our 2026 Board Members



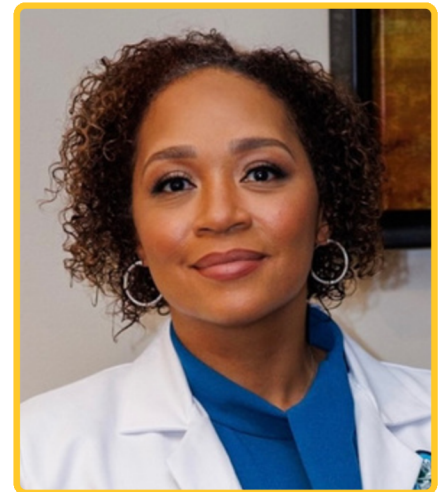
Erica Reiss



Angie Schouest



Matt Timmons



Dr. Janifer Tropez

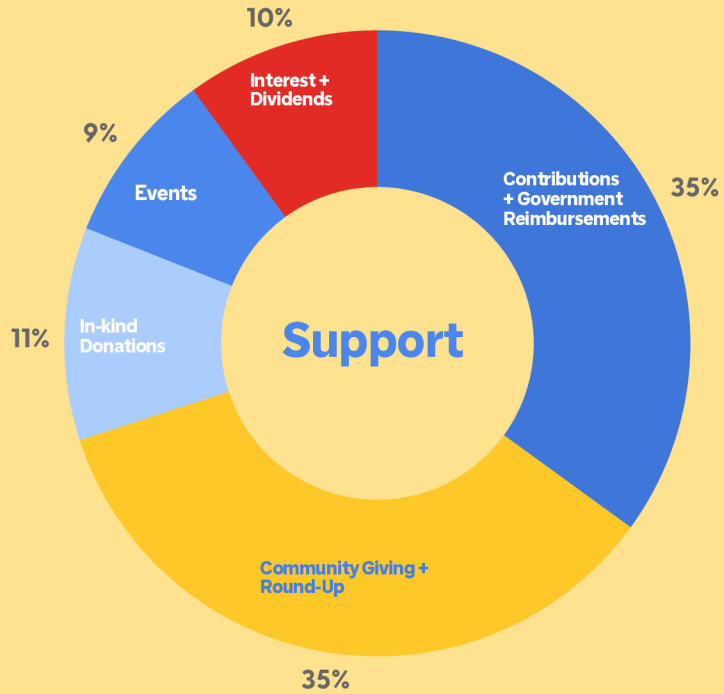


Holiday Party sponsors, Porsche Club America Mardi Gras Region & New Orleans Saints' Center, Erik McCoy at our Annual Holiday Party



Dr. Janifer Tropez & Luxury Girls Golf Club at our Fore the Families Golf Classic

Financial Highlights



- 35% **COMMUNITY GIVING + ROUNDUP**
- 35% **CONTRIBUTIONS + GOV. REIMBURSEMENTS**
- 11% **IN-KIND DONATIONS**
- 10% **INTEREST + DIVIDENDS**
- 9% **EVENTS**



- 56% **PROGRAMS**
- 22% **FUNDRAISING**
- 13% **OPERATIONS**
- 9% **MARKETING**

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