

 $23^{\,\rm rd}$ annual bandana ball & Auction March $31^{\rm st}$ + 2012 + Wild onion ranch

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Bandana Ball Supporters Secure the Most Important Resource for Hospitalized Children: Their Family

AUSTIN— Benefitting Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin & Central Texas, the 23rd Annual Bandana Ball & Auction will play host to over 900 guests on March 31, 2012. In true western spirit, supporters rally to raise over \$400,000 for Central Texas families with critically ill, hospitalized children.

RMHC Austin Board Member Royce Poinsett and his wife Hawley Poinsett take the lead as the 2012 Bandana Ball Chairs. Their support of the House turned personal in 2006 when their first child Roce ("Roycie") Wesley Poinsett was born prematurely, living 23 days before his passing. "We wanted to give back to the House because Hawley and I know how important it was to us, what it meant to have a refuge to sit for 10 minutes," stated Royce Poinsett, "You experience sincere effort from volunteers in providing people with a place to stay and a warm meal. It's hospitality on another level."

Held at the exclusive Wild Onion Ranch, the Bandana Ball has gained the reputation as a true original event. Dressed in cowboy chic instead of black tie, guests mingle at sunset with specialty drinks, bidding on silent auction items and taking turns living out cowboy bravado on a mechanical bull. After a delicious dinner and one-of-a-kind auction, guests will mosey over to big Texas oak trees and dance to The Spazmatics. Wanting proof of their time at the Bandana Ball, photo booths provide the perfect memory of a night celebrating the work of Ronald McDonald House Charities here in Austin and Central Texas.

About Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin & Central Texas

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin & Central Texas creates, finds and supports programs that directly improve the health and wellbeing of children. For over twenty-six years, Austin's Ronald McDonald House has addressed very simple but profound needs: most importantly, the need for parents to be near their child when that child is in medical crisis and the need for children to have the comfort of their parents in frightening times.

The Ronald McDonald House, with its 30 guest rooms for families, provides lodging and support services in a nurturing, home- like environment where families stay together while caring for their critically ill or injured children receiving treatment in Austin-area hospitals.

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