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Dell Awards \$100,000 Grant to Ronald McDonald House Charities for Work in 14 U.S. Cities

Unique Partnership Supports Families with Children Who Have Cancer

AUSTIN, Texas – (May 16, 2012) – Ronald McDonald House Charities has received a \$100,000 grant from Dell. This Powering the Possible Grant has been awarded to be shared among 14 Ronald McDonald House Chapters in cities where Dell has offices. The money is designated to support programs for families with children undergoing pediatric cancer treatment.

“Dell has proven itself to be a company which is dedicated to the health and wellness of the communities in which they live and operate,” said Ann Jerome, chief operating officer of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas. “We are very excited to be part of this new multi-city partnership between Dell and RMHC on behalf of families of critically ill children.”

The award was announced during the annual symposium of the Neuroblastoma and Medulloblastoma Translational Research Consortium, sponsored by Dell and held at Dell Children’s Medical Center in Austin. In November, Dell announced a multiyear, multimillion dollar commitment of technology and employee engagement to support childhood cancer care initiatives globally, including the world’s first personalized medicine clinical trial for pediatric cancer conducted by the NMTRC and supported by The Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen).

Receiving a portion of the \$100,000 award are Ronald McDonald House Charities Chapters in Austin, Nashville, Chicago, Central Illinois, Oklahoma City, the Upper Midwest, Greater Washington DC, and Omaha; and Ronald McDonald Houses in Boston, Dallas, Stanford, Atlanta, Providence and Akron, all cities which also have Dell headquarters or offices. In each of these cities, Dell employees will also be volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House as part of this ongoing partnership.

Jerome further explained, "Ronald McDonald Houses keep families together during difficult treatment regimens, and children heal better when their families are nearby."

[insert family story/quote here – looking to NMTRC to help ID a family who has benefited from RMHC during their child’s treatment...]

Ronald McDonald House Charities is proud of this unique partnership and hopeful for the thousands of families and children who will benefit nationwide from this generous donation.

About Ronald McDonald House Charities

Through its Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Family Room programs, Ronald McDonald House Charities in these 14 cities, creates, finds and supports programs that directly improve the health and well being of children. Since the first Ronald McDonald House opened in Philadelphia in 1974, Ronald McDonald Houses have 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.

For more information, please visit www.rmhc-austin.org.

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