

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LaGrange Family Benefits from Ronald McDonald House in Austin

Grandmother's Business Supports Bull Bash Fundraiser to Benefit Families Like Hers

AUSTIN, Texas – (April 18, 2013) - What motivates you to give to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin? For Melissa Barta it was her grandson, 17 month old Slade Weston Moziek. When Slade was born in November of 2011 in La Grange, Texas, his pediatrician became concerned about his breathing, and before the night was over Slade was airlifted by Star Flight to St. David's Pediatric ICU in Austin. Looking back, Melissa says that the ordeal, which separated the mother and baby, was especially scary for everyone involved. Melissa says, "What was a normal and happy day suddenly became very scary."

The following day mother, father and baby Slade were reunited and that's when the nurses at St. David's informed the family about the Ronald McDonald House. Melissa said that as a mother it gave her great peace of mind to know that her daughter and her family were going to be able to stay close to the hospital and have their basic needs met. In all, the family stayed at the Ronald McDonald House for four nights.

Last spring when Melissa was approached at her job at D & G Business Machines & Office Supplies in La Grange to provide printing services for Rooster Norsworthy's upcoming [Backyard Bull Bash](#) benefiting RMHC Austin, she knew that donating their services for this community fundraising event would be in small part, a way for her to give back to the organization that was there for her daughter's family in their greatest time of need.

"There are few things that are close to my heart like the Ronald McDonald House that I participate in, but this is something I would do every year. I couldn't ever imagine what I would have done knowing my child had to stay either in a waiting room, or hotel room," Melissa explained.

Slade, the sweet little boy who inspired this act of generosity, is now a healthy, energetic toddler and his grandmother's pride and joy.

The donation of printing services by D & G Business Machines & Office Supplies helped get the word out about the annual event which has raised more than \$12,000 for RMHC Austin in the past two years.

Ann Jerome, Chief Development Officer of RMHC Austin, has come out to the event the past two years and loves it. "The Backyard Bull Bash has become my Memorial Day weekend tradition! Rooster, Karl, Melissa and so many generous companies and people of LaGrange make a huge

difference to the Ronald McDonald House and all of the families of hospitalized children we serve from Fayette County and beyond.”

This year’s Backyard Bull Bash will be held on Sunday, May 26 at Rooster Norsworthy’s bull riding arena. If you’d like to sponsor this year’s Backyard Bull Bash, contact Karl Johnson at anblick@anblickphotography.com or 979-966-3138 for more information.

Sponsor levels:

Gate and Fence Sponsor (\$1,000 & up): Your name and/or business are announced throughout the event and your banners are placed on an arena gate or fence panel and along FM 2145 two weeks prior to event.

Gate Sponsor (\$500): Your name and/or business are announced throughout the event, and the banner you provide is placed on an arena gate or fence panel.

Section Sponsor (\$250): The Back Yard Bull Bash is divided into sections. Section Sponsors are announced throughout their section.

Rider or Bull Sponsor (\$50 each): Your name and/or business are announced when the rider and/or bull perform.

About Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas

Through its Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Family Room programs, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas (RMHC Austin) creates, finds and supports programs that directly improve the health and well being of children and their families. In 2012, RMHC Austin served 1750 families when their children were hospitalized in Austin.

For more information, please visit www.rmhc-austin.org, or Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rmhcaustin>

About the Backyard Bull Bash

The 8th Annual Backyard Bull Bash put on by Rooster Norsworthy is Sunday, May 26 at 3:00 p.m. at the Buckin ‘N’ Arena, 8539 FM 2145 in La Grange. It is a benefit for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin. With great bulls and bull riders, mutton busting, more sponsors, and a bigger crowd, we hope to donate more than \$10,000 this year. For questions about the bull bash, contact Rooster Norsworthy at 979-249-6900. For questions about sponsoring the bull bash, contact Karl Johnson at 979-966-3138.



Backyard Bull Bash, 2012 (above).

Beverly Seffel of RMHC Austin, with Melissa Barta and photo of her grandson, Slade (below).

