

## WATERLOO DISC GOLF CLASSIC RAISES \$9,000 FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE



*Stevie Barnes and Gordon Maxim-Kelley (right) presents Carolyn Schwarz, chief executive officer of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Texas, with the proceeds raised from the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Waterloo Disc Golf Classic. The Waterloo Disc Golf Club has been supporting RMHC CTX since 1998 and have donated nearly \$100,000 since RMHC CTX became one of their charity partners.*

**AUSTIN, TX (January 21, 2015)** - Since 1998, the Waterloo Disc Golf Club has supported families that rely on Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Central Texas (RMHC CTX) as a “home-away-from-home” while their children heal in the hospital. Their annual fundraiser, the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Waterloo Disc Golf Classic, raised a record \$9,000 this year for RMHC CTX to help families as they cope with the emotional stress of their critically ill or injured children. In addition to raising money, the Waterloo Disc Golf Classic also collects in-kind donations including food and household items and thousands of aluminum pull tabs that are redeemed for cash.

Sixteen years ago, Waterloo Disc Golf Club wanted to support a local charity that provided a great service to the community. RMHC CTX fit all those qualifications plus it had another aspect that no other charity had. The Ronald McDonald House was once located at the site of the tournament at the corner of Waterloo Park in downtown Austin.

During their first year of supporting RMHC CTX, the tournament raised \$1,754 and it has steadily increased since then. Waterloo Disc Golf Club’s total financial contribution since the tournament’s inception now stands at \$98,500. Money raised at the tournaments come from a portion of the entry fees, silent auctions, putting games, tournament sponsors and donations from players.

“We had no idea back in 1998 that in 17 years we would raise over \$98,500 in cash plus lots of food, goods, and pull tabs,” says Gordon Maxim-Kelley, president of Waterloo Disc Golf Club. “Back then we just thought \$1,000 or so per year would be incredible. Now we are on the verge of crossing the \$100,000 threshold, and we will definitely do that in 2015 at the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Waterloo Disc Golf Classic on October 16-18, 2015.”

“We are so grateful to the Waterloo Disc Golf Club for supporting the thousands of families who rely on our services while their children heal,” says Carolyn Schwarz, chief executive officer of RMHC CTX. “Their efforts to organize and host this event makes a big impact on how we care for our families - especially now since we have recently been 100 percent occupied with a waiting list. We are truly fortunate to be their charity partner.”

For more information about Waterloo Disc Golf Club, visit [www.austindiscgolf.org](http://www.austindiscgolf.org); for more information about RMHC CTX, visit [www.rmhc-ctx.org](http://www.rmhc-ctx.org).

###

#### **About Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Texas®**

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Texas, a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization, creates, finds and supports programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children. Through its Ronald McDonald House® and Ronald McDonald Family Room® programs, RMHC Central Texas provides stability and resources to families to keep them together as their critically ill or injured children receive treatment in Austin-area hospitals. The Ronald McDonald House is a 30 guest room, nurturing home-like environment and the Ronald McDonald Family Rooms are located within three Austin hospitals. For more information, visit [www.rmhc-ctx.org](http://www.rmhc-ctx.org).