



For Immediate Release

26th Annual Bandana Ball Raises Over \$525,000 for Families with Sick Children

AUSTIN, TX (April 24, 2015) – More than 860 guests helped raise over \$525,000 at Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Texas' 26th Annual Bandana Ball held at The Wild Onion Ranch on Saturday, April 18. The western spirited gala supports families with critically ill or injured children who rely on RMHC CTX's comforting "home-away-from-home." Adam Curry, a radio and television veteran, was the evening's emcee and returning auctioneer, Gayle Stallings, excited the crowd during the live auction.

Upon arrival to the stunning The Wild Onion Ranch, graciously provided by Sarah and Andy Edgerton, guests were greeted with signature cocktails while they enjoyed music by Andrea Marie & The Magnolia Band. There were plenty of fun activities for guests including photos with a Texas Longhorn, selecting a Leighelena signature bracelet with an accompanying bottle of TX Blended Whiskey and tossing rings to win a bottle of wine. Using digital technology this year, guests were bidding for silent and big board auction items using their mobile phones. Dinner, enjoyed under the tent, was provided by 2Dine4 Catering followed by a live auction featuring amazing experiences such as a trip to Costa Rica, signed guitar by Paul McCartney and an original painting by Carlos E. Ortiz. The evening was complete with dessert by Amy's Ice Cream and Tiff's Treats.

Tala Matchett, a RMHC CTX board member, served as the 2015 Bandana Ball Chair. Top sponsors were the Austin-area McDonald's Owner/Operators, First Trust Portfolios, C.C. Carlton Industries, Ltd., The Wild Onion Ranch, and Silicon Labs.

"I am always amazed at how our community comes together at the Bandana Ball to help our families who have children healing in the hospital," comments Carolyn Schwarz, chief executive officer of RMHC CTX. "Their generosity will help us comfort and care for our families during an incredibly difficult time. And long after the event is over, the impact of their kindness will continue to reach our families throughout the year."



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