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CONGRESSMAN MCCAUL PRESENTS SPECIAL CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION TO RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES®

AUSTIN, TX (October 26, 2015) – Over 125 guests joined Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Texas at their Heritage Celebration on October 15 at the home of Dr. Craig and Susan Lubin. The Lubins along with Congressman Michael McCaul and his wife, Linda, served as co-chairs for the event. The celebration was a culmination of year-long festivities to honor RMHC CTX's 30th anniversary.

Several friends who were instrumental to RMHC CTX's history and success in supporting families with critically ill or injured children were honored. The **Founders Award** was presented to Bitsy Henderson and the late Hal Levenson for their efforts to rally the Austin community and establish RMHC CTX in 1985.

The **Champions Award** was presented to those individuals who are passionate and committed to RMHC CTX's mission. Local Central Texas McDonald's Owner/Operators, Kenny Jastrow and the employees of Temple Inland, Danny Baker, former general manager of KTBC, and former board presidents and capital campaign co-chairs, Tomi Winstead and Carol Crowley were recognized for their unwavering support of RMHC CTX.



The individuals who worked tirelessly as staff to build the success of RMHC CTX were presented the **Heart and Soul Awards**. Kent Burress, former CEO of RMHC CTX, Judy Avery, the organization's first executive director who served for 15 years, Carol Lineback Nelson, who was the first house manager of RMHC CTX and Rhoda Swanner Montgomery, who served as resident house manager for more than 11 years, were recognized for their dedication to serving families and children.

Congressman Michael McCaul and his wife, Linda, presented a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for RMHC CTX's efforts to support and care for more than 15,000 families with critically ill or injured children in Central Texas since 1985. The McCauls have been actively involved with RMHC CTX through the National Charity League.

“Our Heritage Celebration was an amazing evening that brought together many longtime friends who were instrumental to our success as well as many new supporters who believe in our mission,” comments Carolyn Schwarz, chief executive officer of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Texas. “It was gratifying to be with our guests who stand by our side and are passionate about helping thousands of families. It's because of their generosity that we are able to comfort and care for our families with hospitalized children.”

To view all photos from the Heritage Celebration, click [here](#).

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