

WALKING OUT, FULLY HEALED

When five-year-old Owen began to feel ill in December 2018, his parents **Kristin and Darin Coulter** never dreamed that he would be on life support after a harrowing trip to the hospital only days later.

Owen was placed on life support after 90 minutes of CPR due to myocarditis (a virus that attacked his heart). Kristin and Darin were in shock, until a social worker from Dell Children's Medical Center pulled them aside and said that she had arranged for a room right next to the hospital at Ronald McDonald House.

Knowing that they would have a place to stay so near to Owen's bedside provided an immediate

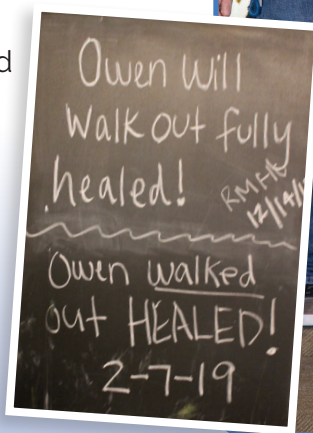
sense of relief for the family who lives an hour's drive away. When they checked into their room on December 14th, they were pleasantly surprised to find their room had been sponsored by the Round Rock Express and outfitted with a large chalkboard. As their family gathered that day, they wrote down an important intention: "Owen will walk out fully healed." 56 days later on February 7th, the Coulters realized their vision when Owen went home with his family.

Because of your generous support, the Coulters felt loved and supported and could focus on the most important thing: Owen.



"We couldn't be more grateful and appreciative for the opportunity that we had to be a Ronald McDonald House family. I just thank everyone for the time and support that the Austin community has for all of us families when we're going through what would be sometimes a parent's worst nightmare or a tragedy."

- Kristin Coulter



DONOR SPOTLIGHT DELL TECHNOLOGIES POWERING THE POSSIBLE

Dell Technologies' purpose is to drive human progress through greater access to better technology. And just as Dell believes technology is the

center of human progress, they know that when their team members get involved in supporting non-profits, the impact of their charitable efforts can go even further.

Dell is passionate about contributing in the communities in which their employees live and work. In 2018, Dell employees logged 809,000 hours (the equivalent of 92 years!) of volunteer time across 66 countries. The company gifts a \$150 voucher to anyone who logs 10 or more volunteering hours to donate to a vetted charity of their choice, and Dell matches employees' charitable donations to vetted charities - up to \$10,000 per employee, per year.

At RMHC CTX we've been fortunate to have Dell Technologies support our organization in many ways. In 2018 alone, 350 employees gave over 1,000 hours to our families. They cooked meals, provided deep cleaning and helped at our special events. In 2019 when

Garry Wiseman, Senior Vice President of the Office of the CIO in Dell Digital, learned that the RMHC CTX staff was operating with outdated computers, he stepped forward to help. Thanks to the generosity of Dell Technologies, every staff member and every public computer used by our guest families is new. Additionally, RMHC CTX was chosen as a Dell Good Gigs recipient, and a team of seasoned Dell employees are donating their time and talent to move technology projects forward within the organization. Their kindness in time, talent and treasure is not only providing great comfort to our guest families but also supporting our staff.

"The employees of Dell Technologies thrive on giving back. Our partnership with RMHC CTX is one of the most beloved by our employees. When we roll up our sleeves to cook a meal or when we are providing professional services to move the organization forward we feel the immediate impact and know we are making a difference. There is nothing more special than seeing the face of a grateful family and knowing we have made a positive impact when they are going through a crisis."

- Garry Wiseman

BE THE LIGHT for Families this Holiday Season

The holiday season is a special time, and for the families we serve at Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Texas, November and December can be incredibly difficult. Starting in 1989, our **Lights of Love campaign** allowed friends to make a donation to underwrite a light for an outdoor holiday display featured on the Ronald McDonald House. In the 30 years since, RMHC CTX has made the holidays special for our families, from the Lights of Love 5K race and celebration to festive decorations that help families feel the warmth of the holiday season while caring for a sick or injured child.

This year we need you to help light up the Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Family Rooms as a brightly lit symbol of warmth, hope and comfort. Your priceless gift will keep families together and close to the care their children need.

BE THE LIGHT • DONATE TODAY

This holiday season - your gift will be recognized on wreaths, lights, ornaments and more as we decorate for the holidays. Please visit rmhc-ctx.org/BeTheLight/ to bring the warmth of the holidays to RMHC CTX families this year.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Tune into the **Bryan Broadcasting Cares for Kids Radiothon**
FEBRUARY 27-28, 2020

Brazos Valley Radio Stations: Candy 95, Maverick 100.9, Peace 107.7 and WTAW 1620

Celebrate with us at **STARLIGHT AFFAIR 2020**
MARCH 20, 2020
Traditions Club, Bryan, TX

Put a Spring in your Step at
RED SHOE LUNCHEON 2020
APRIL 8, 2020
Brazos Hall, Austin, TX

NEW
SPRING
DATE

NEW
FALL
DATE

You'll Fall for **BANDANA BALL 2020**
SEPTEMBER 19, 2020
Beautiful New Location

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS FAMILIES

\$25



can provide
A HOME COOKED MEAL
Having a warm meal after a long day in the hospital is one less thing a family has to worry about.

\$100



is the average cost to
HOUSE ONE FAMILY PER NIGHT
at the Ronald McDonald House. Your gift can help cover the cost to ensure a family has a place to stay.

\$50



can fill a
FAMILY ROOM WITH SNACKS
so families have extra nourishment while they focus on their children.

\$350



can support our
HEALING HEARTS PROGRAM
and help cover burial costs for a family who has tragically lost a child.



a Message From
CAROLYN SCHWARZ
Chief Executive Officer

As we approach the holidays, the significance of family togetherness is in the forefront of our minds. Here

at RMHC CTX we will support dozens of families who won't be able to celebrate these occasions in their home communities with their loved ones. We are honored to be able to provide a home for the holidays for these families. And we are moved by community members who step forward, not just at the

holidays, to make sure our families have what they need – warm food, a comfortable place to sleep and all the comforts of home. Keeping families together and close to the care their children need that happens because of you.

In this season of giving, please remember the families that will be staying with us, away from their loved ones. You can BE THE LIGHT for our families. Your generosity will give them hope, love and support. Thank you!



FALL/WINTER
Wish List

Every item on our Wish List supports thousands of families that are supported by RMHC CTX. Consider hosting a Wish List drive to collect these items.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

- Clorox wipes
- Pledge furniture wipes
- Paper plates
- Recyclable/biodegradable take-out containers
- Plastic utensils
- Home Depot gift cards
- Copy paper
- Large and medium Tupperware
- Paper towels
- Writing journals
- Bathroom cleaner
- All-natural all-purpose cleaner
- Travel size toiletries
- Disposable razors

HOUSE ITEMS

- 16 oz. or less bottled water
- Coffee (caffeinated and decaf)
- Bathroom cleaner
- All-natural glass cleaner
- Gallon-sized Ziploc bags
- Quart-sized Ziploc bags
- Aluminum foil
- Disposable paper cups
- AA & AAA batteries
- Postage stamps
- Masking tape
- Sharpies
- \$10-\$20 HEB, Walmart, Target, CVS gift cards
- Powder-free vinyl gloves
- Standard size pillows
- LED light bulbs

FAMILY ROOM ITEMS

- Individually wrapped snacks
- Individually packaged meals
- Individually packaged beverages
- New adult size t-shirts
- New adult size sweatpants
- Hand sanitizer
- Clorox wipes
- Plastic cutlery
- Paper cups
- Laundry detergent

HAPPY WHEELS CART

- Individually wrapped snacks
- Bottled water
- Juice boxes
- Canned drinks
- Children's small toys and books
- Coloring books
- Pens and crayons
- Puzzles
- Travel toiletries
- Magazines and books for parents

SHOPPING ON AMAZON?

You can purchase items from our Amazon Wish List. It's an easy way to send items and support our children and families. Visit amazon.com and search for RMHC CTX.

LUNCHES WITH LOVE

Looking for a meaningful way to support our families that rely on our Ronald McDonald Family Rooms? Gather co-workers, friends and family to assemble grab and go sack lunches so our families always have a meal without leaving the hospital! You gather the food supplies, including the lunch bags, bring everything to the Ronald McDonald House for assembly and then deliver them to the Family Room. It's a wonderful way to provide our families with much-needed comfort. Interested? **Contact Molly Sandlin at msandlin@rmhc-ctx.org**



**BRINGING CHEER TO FAMILIES
LOCAL FLORIST GIVES BACK**

Every week Terrisia Schier and the team from A Flower Junction brighten the dining room at the Ronald McDonald House with fresh flowers. As a neighbor, Terrisia would often drive by the Ronald McDonald House and wonder what it was like inside. One day she stopped and came inside to see for herself. From the moment she walked in the door she realized how to make a positive impact on our guest families – through the joy of flowers. This summer when she came inside to refresh the flowers, a family asked if they could purchase an arrangement to bring to the gravesite of a deceased family member buried in Austin.

Terrisia immediately agreed but refused to let the family pay. Thank you Terrisia for your giving spirit!



**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT
ELIZABETH WILLIAMS**

From comforting families in medical crisis to leadership in the boardroom, Elizabeth Williams has volunteered with RMHC CTX for over 34 years, and now she is a RecognizeGood Legend recipient. The RecognizeGood Legend Award highlights ordinary individuals who go to extraordinary lengths for others.

Before becoming a volunteer, Elizabeth and her family were first Ronald McDonald House guests. Her daughter was hospitalized in the Dallas area and Elizabeth and her family, including her mother Mary Pendleton, stayed at Ronald McDonald House in Dallas while dealing with the medical crisis. After the family returned to Austin, Elizabeth wanted to give back and began donating her time in several capacities - serving as a board member (including as president), serving as lead for the pull tab program, volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House itself, and for the last 10 years supporting families who visit the Ronald McDonald Family Rooms that are located inside the hospitals. The Family Rooms offer a place for families to rest and regroup right at the hospital, while being moments away from their sick child.

Elizabeth's mother Mary was also a long-time volunteer for RMHC Central Texas, graciously giving her time and faithfully bringing cakes every week for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. As a multi-generational volunteer, Elizabeth faithfully carries on her mother's amazing legacy of loyalty, selflessness, positivity and simply going above and beyond for the families served.

For volunteer opportunities in Austin or the Brazos Valley, please visit rmhc-ctx.org/get-involved.

"We can all do something to positively impact the families of RMHC CTX. Collecting pull tabs or wish list items or donating money - all these things make a difference to the families. No gift is too big or too small."



WE LOVE RED SHOES!

Over 300 guests wearing red shoes, boots, pumps, sandals, wedges and even sneakers joined us at Brazos Hall on Thursday, September 5 for the annual **Red Shoe Luncheon** in support of the children and families of RMHC CTX. Together they helped raise over **\$110,000**. The Carl C. Anderson Sr. and Marie Jo Anderson Charitable Foundation supported the event with a \$15,000 matching grant.

Our guests were greeted with sparkling wine and a Kendra Scott pop-up store where a portion of the proceeds was donated to RMHC CTX.



Thank you to our Red Show Luncheon event chair, Kim Flores, the event committee and our table

Thank you to our generous sponsors

Amber Carden



KENDRA SCOTT



St. David's HealthCare | The MedSpa of NW Hills | Premiere Events | American Campus Communities
Dell Children's Ascension | Katie and Sam Owen | Women Partners in Health | RBFCU

Thank you also to our event partners:

Brazos Hall, Dynamic Reprographics, Sprinkles Cupcakes and Jennifer Bowden Floral Design.

A DAY OF CAMARADERIE

Over 150 guests joined us at our annual **Sporting Clay Classic presented by Hoar Construction** on Friday, October 4 at Texas Disposal Systems Exotic Game Ranch. They enjoyed a day of friendly competition, games and awards and helped raise **\$105,000** for our children and families.

Thank you to our committee including:

PJ Henderson (Chair), Justin Brodnax, Will Rollo, Gregg Russell, Gary Montgomery and Adam Stadler.

Thank you to our generous sponsors:

Aetna, ATX Outdoors | Axis Utilities | Benton Enterprises | Bergelectric | Big State Electric LTD | BlueCross BlueShield of Texas | Brown Distributing Company | Cardno Structural Engineering | Cigna | DNT Construction | Dynamic Glass | FRANKE:FRANKE | George D. Alan Company | H-E-B Tournament of Champions | Bitsy Henderson and Sid Mallory | Hoar Construction | JE Dunn | Construction | Jones & Carter | Keystone | LandDev Consulting | Largo Concrete Inc. | Lasco | Liberty Civil Construction LLC | O'Connell Robertson | Matoka Inc. | Pape-Dawson Engineers Inc. | Power Design | Renaissance | Texas Disposal Systems

Sporting Clay CLASSIC



RONALD MCDONALD FAMILY ROOMS CHI ST. JOSEPH

This summer CHI St. Joseph Health Regional Hospital in Bryan acquired College Station Medical Center and the facility now operates under the name **CHI St. Joseph Health – College Station Hospital**. RMHC CTX operates Ronald McDonald Family Rooms in both hospitals, and we are excited to continue serving families of critically ill or injured children in both locations.



COOL CARS FOR REMARKABLE KIDS

Honk if you see us out in the community! This spring RMHC CTX received a special delivery from GM Financial – a **Cool Car for Remarkable Kids**! The Cool Cars program creates mobility options for our families who have traveled miles from their homes for medical treatment for their sick children.

THANK YOU to our CORPORATE SPONSOR HEROES

Adopt A Room

Ashley HomeStore

Benton Enterprises, Inc.,

a local McDonald's Owner/Operator

Brookfield Residential

The Farias Family

RetailMeNot

Round Rock Express / Nolan Ryan Foundation

Samsung Austin R&D Center

Wells Fargo

Happy Wheels Cart Hero

The Meyer Levy Charitable Trust

for being our 2019 Happy Wheels Cart Hero at Dell Children's Medical Center and CHI St. Joseph Health College Station Hospital

The Tippy Bean

for being our 2019

Happy Wheels Cart Hero at CHI St. Joseph Health College Station Hospital

Family Room Hero

Bluebonnet Electric Co-op

at CHI St. Joseph Health College Station Hospital

ROUND-UP FOR RMHC

Round-Up for RMHC is a new and easy way to give back when visiting McDonald's. Use the kiosk or ask to Round-Up for RMHC when placing your next order. Donations help RMHC CTX keep families together when they have an ill or injured child.



Visit us at www.rmhc-ctx.org

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** In Memoriam*

The Season of Giving Your Gift of Time

Prepare or donate a meal

Cook a meal at the Ronald McDonald House or donate a meal at one of our Ronald McDonald Family Rooms to help our families that spend long days at the hospital

Volunteer at the House or Family Room

Assist our families staying at the Ronald McDonald House or Ronald McDonald Family Rooms to ensure they have what they need

Gather a Group

Round up your friends or colleagues for a service project at the Ronald McDonald House.

Stroll a Happy Wheels Cart

Deliver complimentary items from the Happy Wheels Cart to families waiting by their child's bedside in the hospital

For more volunteer opportunities visit rmhc-ctx.org/get-involved



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
of Central Texas

1315 Barbara Jordan Blvd., Austin, TX 78723

CONNECT WITH US!



JOIN US IN WELCOMING

Paige Deegan
Director of Development
and Communications

Kelsey Daubner
Communications
Coordinator

FUN FOR A GOOD CAUSE
HOPS FOR THE HOUSE
Members of **Friends of the House**, a young professionals group that supports the children and families served by RMHC CTX, came together on September 26 at the annual Hops for the House Fundraiser. Generous members and their guests raised **\$15,900** while enjoying craft beer, tacos and live music at Lazarus Brewing Company!



DONATE YOUR VEHICLE

— to support our children & families —

Did you know you can donate your car, truck, RV or boat to RMHC CTX and the proceeds from the sale of your donation supports our families? Your unused or unwanted vehicle can be sold to support our programs that help keep families close to their sick or hospitalized children. It's easy. **Call (855) 227-7435 and our representative will steer you through the entire process including picking up your vehicle for free.**