



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES®  
ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD PRESIDENT AND ELECTS SEVEN NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

**AUSTIN, TX (February 5, 2018)** – Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Central Texas (RMHC CTX) is pleased to announce the election of **Tala Matchett** as board president and the addition of seven new board members: **Christopher Born, Nicky Brennig, Ariadyn Hansen, Katie Owen, Kyle Parks, Molly Sherman and Chris Szeliga.**

**Tala Matchett** is the Director of Business Development for Hoar Construction, where she builds strong relationships and secures new projects. She is an innovative thinker with a gift for fearless leadership and strategic growth. Tala joined the RMHC CTX board in 2015 and served as the Development Committee chair, 2015 Bandana Ball chair and the 2016 Red Shoe Luncheon chair. Tala is a tireless advocate for what she believes in. She is a board trustee for Rawson Saunders School and deeply involved with Community First! Village, Flatwater Foundation, Girls Empowerment Network, Hill Country Conservancy and is a member of Leadership Austin's Essential Class of 2018.

**Christopher Born** is president of Dell Children's Medical Center, having joined the hospital in October 2017. Most recently, Chris served as President and CEO of Texas Children's Health Plan, the nation's largest provider sponsored Health Plan in Texas serving Medicaid and CHIP populations. Prior to his role within the Texas Children's Health Plan, Chris was tasked by the organization to create a pediatric primary care network for the Hospital. Established in 1995, Chris led the effort to build Texas Children's Pediatric Associates, the largest pediatric primary care group in the country with more than 300 physicians. Chris serves on the board of directors of numerous professional organizations and is the past chairman for Greater Houston HealthConnect.

**Nicky Brennig** is a partner in the Corporate & Securities group at Jackson Walker. Her practice focuses on representing institutional investors and private equity funds on a broad range of issues including fund formations, secondary transactions and portfolio investments. Prior to joining Jackson Walker, she practiced at Proskauer Rose LLP in Boston where she represented various institutional investors and sponsors of private equity funds in fundraising, portfolio investments, co-investment transactions and secondary market transactions, as well as regulatory, compliance and governance matters.

**Ariadyn Hansen** is a communications and social media specialist for homebuilder and developer, Brookfield Residential Texas, where she is responsible for leading their communication, social media and public relations efforts. Ariadyn currently serves as Leadership Council president of Friends of the House, a young professional group that supports the children and families served by Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Texas.

**Katie Owen** is a vice president with J.P. Morgan Private Bank in Austin where she is responsible for managing solutions for her clients. This includes partnering with specialists across the firm to assist her clients with private banking, investment management, fiduciary services, and wealth transfer strategies. As an active member of her community, Katie is 2018 chair of The Contemporaries for The Contemporary Austin and serves on the museum's Development Committee. She is also a founding member of the Dell Med Society for Health and Business. Katie will serve as the 2018 chair of RMHC CTX's Red Shoe Luncheon, scheduled for September 2018.

**Kyle Parks** is a tax partner with Maxwell Locke & Ritter LLP, Austin's largest locally owned accounting firm. He specializes in corporate tax planning, merger and acquisition structuring, and IRS compliance and reporting requirements. Kyle is very active in the community serving as a member on The University of Texas Accounting Department Advisory Council, The UT Chancellor's Council Executive Committee, the West Austin Youth Association (WAYA) Board of Directors, and on the Opportunity Austin Solicitation Committee. He previously served on the Ronald McDonald House Board from 2008-2010, serving as its President in 2010. He will serve on the current Board as a Past-President's representative.

**Molly H. Sherman** is the director of community affairs for the Central Texas Division of St. David's HealthCare where she is responsible for identifying, negotiating and securing corporate sponsorship opportunities with local non-profits and community partners. Prior to St. David's HealthCare, Molly spent 24 years as a nonprofit fundraising professional, devoting 17 years as the director of development at St. Andrew's Episcopal School. Molly has had the privilege of serving, both professionally and personally, numerous local and statewide nonprofit organizations.

**Christopher Szeliga** is senior vice president of the JE Dunn Construction Austin office where he is responsible for management of projects and personnel along with strategic growth initiatives in Central Texas. Chris has been in the construction industry and worked with JE Dunn for 20 years. He is a US Navy Veteran with the SeaBees' (Construction Battalion) from 1993 to 2001, and a LEED Accredited Professional. Chris serves his community as a member of The Associated General Contractors' of America board of directors and has served as chair for Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Texas' Lights of Love in 2015 and 2016.

"As Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Texas continues to serve record families with sick children each year, I am pleased to welcome the addition of seven outstanding new board members. I am also thrilled to congratulate Tala on her appointment as our new board president," comments Carolyn Schwarz, chief executive officer of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Texas. "Their collective experience, leadership and guidance will add great value as we continue to advance our mission and ensure families stay close to the care their children need."

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