

Our Impact

2021



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
VIC & TAS

Celebrating 35 years

Our Mission and values

Our Mission

To support the ever-changing needs of seriously ill children and their families.

Our Vision

Ronald McDonald House Charities Victoria & Tasmania strives to achieve the best outcomes for families by reducing the impact of their child's serious illness.

Our Values



Collaboration



Loyalty



High Quality



Diversity



Integrity

We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which Ronald McDonald House Charities Victoria & Tasmania are located. We pay respects to their Elders past, present and to those emerging.

We recognise their long and continuing connection to Country and celebrate their rich cultural identity.

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A message from our Chairman and CEO

In what was yet another challenging year, thanks to Ronald McDonald House Charities Victoria & Tasmania's (RMHC VIC & TAS) tenacity and resilience, we continued to operate in all areas of our business: House and Family Room operations, fundraising, finance, volunteering and our Learning program.

It was also the year we reached the significant milestone and celebrated 35 years of providing critical support to families who have had their world turned upside down. Our very first House was opened in Parkville in 1986, accommodating up to 18 families each night. Thanks to the generosity of people like you, our humble beginning has since grown to four Houses, accommodating up to 102 families each night. In the past 35 years we have provided a home-away-from-home for more than 500,000 families.

Despite consistent COVID-19 compliance challenges, our support to families in Ronald McDonald Houses in Hobart, Monash, North Fitzroy and Parkville and Ronald McDonald Family Rooms at Monash and Wodonga was unwavering, with continual operations in place, and material support for families and patients on the paediatric wards at our other partner hospitals in Northern Health and Western Health Sunshine whilst the Family Rooms being closed.

With the generosity of McDonald's, our donors and corporate partners, together with wellbeing grants from RMHC Global and Australia, we achieved program enhancements and major improvements to House facilities across all sites, which you can read about further in this report.

In 2021 we resumed some much-missed events and our sincere thanks goes to all who attended, who fundraised and to those who held virtual events.

We also held two summits during the year: RMHC Global held its inaugural Virtual Summit, and RMHC Australia held its Volunteer Virtual Summit, both of which were hugely successful. Staff and volunteers were able to extend their learning and development opportunities throughout our many lockdowns and provided much-needed opportunities for connection and learning.

We also invested in our dedicated staff during the year, with cultural diversity training and staff forums covering Cultural Safety and Awareness Training.

Through our RMHC Charlie Bell Scholarship program, we supported a further four young people during the year, helping them pave the way for a successful future. Our Learning Program continued to offer virtual sessions, helping kids catch up on school they have missed, whether that's children in hospital, or siblings staying at one of our Houses.

In closing, on behalf of our dedicated Board, staff and volunteers, we thank you for your support and hope you continue with us on our journey in helping as many children and young people as we possibly can. We cannot do it without you.



Jason Wall
Chairman



Peter Bishop
Chief Executive Officer



Our Team

Board Directors

Thanks to all of our Board Directors for their time and dedication.

- Jason Wall, Chair
- Ben Westover, Deputy Chair
- Garry Thompson, Company Secretary
- Corey Mingari
- Patrick Moloughney
- Terri Hosking
- Tony Kitto
- Doug Pearse
- Sarah Connolly
- Claire Richards

Departing Board Directors

Terri Hosking, retired 24 June 2021

Staff

Our staff are central to achieving our mission and bring compassion and skill to their work supporting seriously ill children and their families.

RMHC VIC & TAS employs 62 staff across four Ronald McDonald Houses, four Ronald McDonald Family Rooms, the Ronald McDonald Learning Program as well as Fundraising, Marketing and Corporate teams.



Volunteers



Our cherished volunteers are our heart and soul. Ronald McDonald House Charities Victoria & Tasmania recognises, values and celebrates the impact volunteers make to our families.

In 2021, RMHC Vic & Tas had 336 volunteers selflessly sharing more than 11,700 hours of service. This is equivalent to six full-time employees and more than \$350,000 of service. While we can put a dollar value on it, in truth they are invaluable.

Volunteers come from a diverse range of ages, backgrounds and cultures, and everyone has unique and valuable skills and experience to offer and we are truly grateful for their commitment.

We value this contribution and hope we provide a satisfying, productive and rewarding experience for our volunteers.

Our volunteers have been incredibly flexible throughout the pandemic and have shown particular resilience during heightened Covid-19 restrictions, adapting and modifying their day-to-day volunteer roles to support the needs of our RMHC families. They've been driving the shuttle bus to pick up and drop off families, increasing our sanitisation schedule, ensuring donation pantries, fridges and freezers are always stocked, delivering food and care packages to families, as well as taking on additional tasks.

Our volunteers also worked tirelessly to put together a large amount of care packs to support families at our RMHC Family Rooms at the Joan Kirner Women's & Children's Hospital and Northern Hospital, whilst they were closed. Once restrictions eased, we were able to welcome our activity-based volunteers back on board like our hairdressers, to give families a fantastic new doo!

We are so incredibly grateful for our amazing team of caring, hard-working and dedicated volunteers; each and every individual member has truly supported our families in ways that are above and beyond, and we really couldn't keep our doors open without them.

Group volunteering

As with so many things over the past two years, COVID has made our group volunteer programs difficult to run. With the health and safety of our families, staff and volunteers as our priority, during 2021 we offered corporate volunteering groups the opportunity to sponsor a meal instead of coming in to each House to prepare and cook.

This offered some respite for families caring for a seriously ill child, with a hot meal at the end of a difficult day at the hospital.

We look forward to hopefully welcoming back group volunteering – with caution – in 2022.



Thanks to your support...



3,022

TUTORING SESSIONS TOOK PLACE



4,800+

MEALS PROVIDED TO FAMILIES



306

STUDENTS HELPED BY THE LEARNING PROGRAM



56

STUDENTS ATTENDED THE VIRTUAL ONLINE YOUTH FORUM



557

NIGHTS (AND COUNTING) IS THE LONGEST STAY



1,756

FAMILIES STAYED AT OUR HOUSES (1,657 NEW, 99 RETURNING)



144

AVERAGE NIGHTLY GUESTS STAYING AT RONALD MCDONALD HOUSES IN VIC & TAS



52,812

NIGHTS OF ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED TO FAMILIES



15

STUDENTS RECEIVED A BIRTHDAY CAKE THROUGH CAKE ANGELS



1,009

SESSIONS CONDUCTED ONLINE VIA ZOOM EDUCATION



235

VOLUNTEERS DEDICATED TO SUPPORTING OUR PROGRAMS



3,702 KMS

LONGEST DISTANCE TRAVELLED TO GET TO A HOUSE



75

EDUCATORS RECEIVED EDMED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



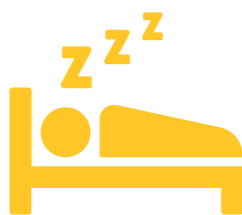
1,750+

SHUTTLE BUS TRIPS FOR FAMILIES



16,846

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS



11

NIGHTS AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY



38

EDUCATION SESSIONS HELD AT NORTH FITZROY HOUSE



6,466

FAMILY ROOM VISITS



85+

TUTORS SUPPORTED STUDENTS WITH 40 TUTORS CONDUCTING SESSIONS ONLINE

Our Programs

Ronald McDonald Houses

Staying at our Houses

Ronald McDonald Houses give children receiving treatment the best gift of all – their families. Our warm and supportive home-away-from-home provides the whole family with a comfortable place to stay and peace of mind, knowing they can stay together and be close to the hospital.

Our family bedrooms offer much-needed comfort and privacy, while our communal facilities and gardens are wonderful spaces to relax, socialise, share experiences and create new memories with fellow families.

Who is eligible to stay with us?

Keeping the family together can be extremely tough without support, which is why we offer accommodation for parents with seriously ill kids who are in hospital. Our Houses also support mothers going through high-risk pregnancies.

We try to accommodate the needs of families wherever we possibly can, but this is always subject to availability and priority is understandably given to families whose children have been recently diagnosed, are seriously injured or who require emergency treatment, as well as families of premature babies.

Fees

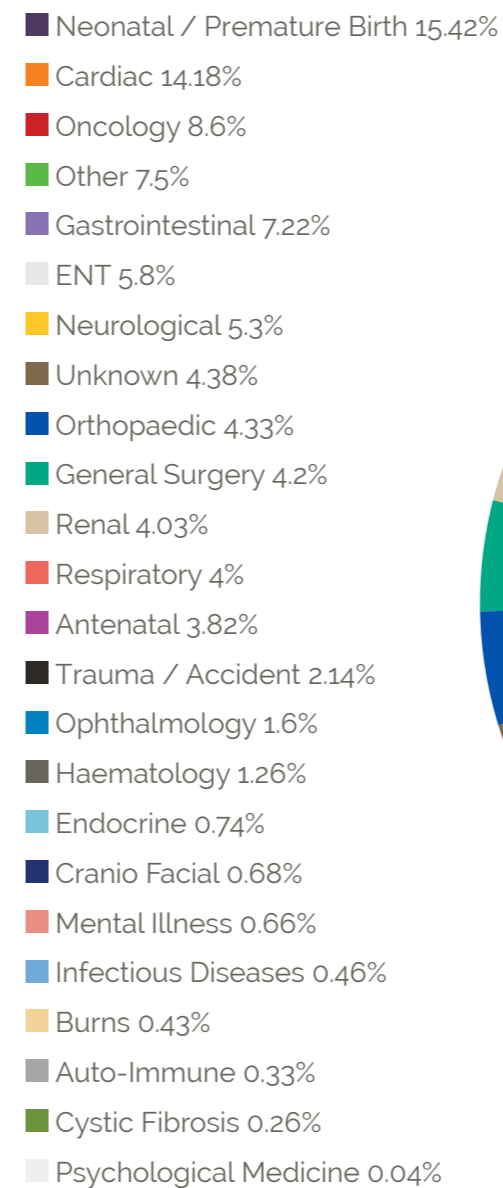
Ronald McDonald House understands that being away from home for long periods of time can put families under financial pressure. That's why our accommodation is free for eligible families of seriously ill children.

While our policy is to provide free accommodation, stays at the House may require families to claim financial support towards accommodation and travel from the relevant government transport assistance scheme in their home state. Our friendly team also works with families to apply for the relevant financial support.

100%
OF THOSE STAYING AT RMH STATED THAT IT HELPED TO SUPPORT THEIR OVERALL WELLBEING, EVEN THOUGH THEIR CHILD NEEDED MEDICAL CARE AT HOSPITAL



...what the house offers/ provides is already amazing.



Ronald McDonald House Hobart



Significant works achieved during 2021

- Flooring updated in kitchen and wet areas on the ground floor. All product and work donated by FCIA.
- New guest laundry on ground floor.
- Old laundry renovated and now a utility room.
- Repaint of kitchen, playroom, new guest laundry and utility room.



Ronald McDonald House North Fitzroy



Significant works achieved during 2021

- Sustainability and wellbeing initiatives:
- vegetable gardens
- donated bikes for families
- waste reduction / minimisation
- increase local community involvement
- shuttle bus servicing RMHC with extended hours.



Ronald McDonald House Monash



Significant works achieved during 2021

- New kitchen donated by Granite Transformations.
- Polycarbonate roofing donated by ACR Roofing.
- New wood flooring through the dining, kitchen and laundry areas.
- Upgraded electrical and lighting.
- New curtains throughout the House.
- New carpet hallway and welcome room.
- New fences and security gate.
- Painting throughout the House.



89.4%

STATED STAYING AT RMH HELPED THEM TO MANAGE THEIR STRESS LEVELS, EVEN THOUGH THEIR CHILD NEEDED MEDICAL CARE AT THE HOSPITAL



...facilities are amazing and staff go above and beyond.

Ronald McDonald House Parkville



Significant works undertaken or achieved during 2021

- A donation of 30 beds with trundles received from Sealy.
- Installation of new blinds throughout the House.
- New flooring in the South Wing, with other areas planned.
- New furniture for the communal areas, donated by Dallas Welfare.
- RCH Foundation has provided a structural report with immediate and long-term requirements for all Houses, including:
 - replacing the decking structure at our Stables
 - removal of trees or installation of root barriers
 - repairing external wall of Stables accommodation
 - replacing box gutters, roof sheeting and flashings in the South Wing.
- Secured a relationship with Vantage Property Investments, who are donating trades to renovate all bathrooms and bedrooms through a number of stages, with the first stage focussing on House 34.



84%

OF FAMILIES STATED STAYING AT RMH HELPED KEEP THEIR FAMILY CLOSE WHILE THEIR CHILD RECEIVED TREATMENT

Ronald McDonald Family Rooms

The Monash Family Room was open seven days a week from 10.30am to 3pm, with 13 days of closure throughout the year.

The 58 volunteers who work in the family room on a regular basis continued providing this service to parents and families at Monash Children's in 2021.

At our Wodonga Family Room, services in the two bedrooms were maintained for families to use, as well as the communal facilities.

Unfortunately the Family Room at the Northern could not open, however we sent colouring packs, games and activities during November and December for the children at the hospital.

As you would be aware, Joan Kirner Family Rooms have also been closed for the past 12 months.

We also continued supporting children and families there by putting together packs for them, ranging from health and hygiene packs to craft, school packs and board games.

At Monash Family Room our Washing With Love service continues to be a very popular service, with volunteers doing family laundry so it's one less thing for families to worry about.



Keep doing the amazing work you are doing.



Ronald McDonald Learning Program



The Ronald McDonald Learning Program assists school-aged children with serious illnesses and injuries to target gaps in their education following treatment and recovery.

Providing a suite of educational support services, including one-on-one tutorials with experienced teachers, as well as allied health therapy, our Ronald McDonald Learning Program is tailored to students' individual needs.

We aim to build each child's confidence and self-esteem to better support their successful re-engagement once they return to school. All services are free to families thanks to funding from our generous RMHC supporters.



EDMed

Planning for the return of a student who has suffered a serious physical illness or injury can present challenges for teaching staff.

EDMed® is a free, one-hour professional development session for educators that provides an insight into the prevalence of health conditions, as well as possible impacts that students may experience as a result of their diagnosis and/or treatment. A range of educational strategies and support information are also presented to assist with supporting students both during treatment and when they return to the classroom.

This module can be delivered face-to-face or in a self-paced, online learning environment.

Tutor Professional Development day

In May we were fortunate to host our annual tutor Professional Development Day at Fitzroy Library. Chris Daicos presented a workshop to 38 attendees on Anxiety in Children.

Youth Forum – Year 11 and 12 students

56 students and parents attended our 6th annual Youth Forum (first forum delivered virtually) in June 2022. Guest speakers presented to young people on topics such as career planning, special provisions during VCE and applying for university through the Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS).

2021 challenges

Program suspensions for face-to-face tutoring

After a turbulent 2020, the program was reinstated in Term 1 of 2021, with 175 students starting tutoring or allied health services.

Unfortunately, three additional lockdowns in Victoria resulting in further program suspensions for face-to-face tutoring for most of the 2021 school year. Students were offered online tutoring, however only 75 out of 306 placed students continued to engage in online tutoring.

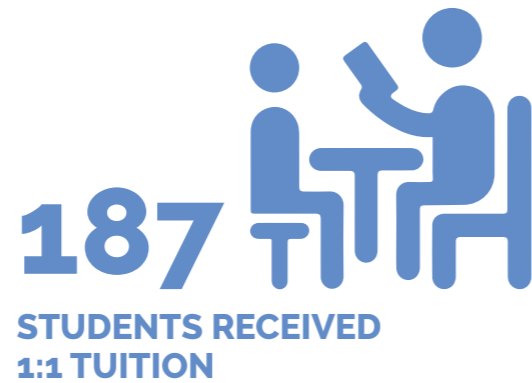
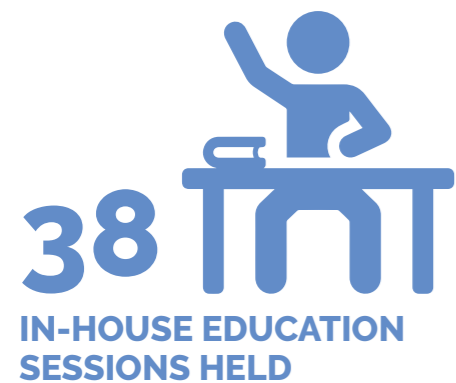
Tasmania was fortunate enough to be able to operate for the majority of the school year at full capacity.

Tutor shortages

Further challenges we faced during the year included retention and availability of tutors. The uncertainty of tutoring with suspensions, coupled with the Department of Education tutoring program, saw many of our tutors either go on leave for a year, or withdrawal from our program to tutor with the Department. During 2020-2021 we lost approximately 60 tutors.

Among the challenges were many highlights, particularly the adaptability of our team, as well as the expertise of our tutors to deliver educational support throughout the year.

[Click here for more information](#)



Charlie Bell Scholarships



Helping young people reach their goals.

About our Scholarships

A serious illness or injury can make life stand still. Making any progress – whether it be in your education or career – can feel almost impossible. That's why our Scholarship program exists.

By awarding one-off grants of up to \$5,000 to deserving young people, for university fees, apprentice tools, books or supplies, the Scholarships give them the chance to get their schooling or career back on track.

In 2021 we awarded four Charlie Bell Scholarships.

2021 Charlie Bell recipients

Ansh

Ansh is a highly driven student who has worked incredibly hard to excel in his VCE studies. While undertaking year 11 in 2019, Ansh was involved in a serious accident, resulting in a six month hospital admission to receive treatment for serious burns to 65% of his body.

Forced to move schools due to mobility deficits as a result of his accident, Ansh has worked extremely hard to adapt to a new education setting, establishing new friendship groups and remaining focused on his academic goals; all while managing daily pain, ongoing medical treatments and permanent physical disabilities.

Before Ansh's accident, he was strongly connected to his community, volunteering with multiple organisations, supporting STEM programs for younger students and excelling in leadership opportunities through Scouts, Australian Air League, as well as the Australian Airforce Cadets.

The Charlie Bell Scholarship has helped with Ansh's course fees, assistive/accessibility technology aids as well as equipment and mobility support.

Ansh's dream of being offered a place in 2022 at university to pursue a degree in Financial Technology and Computing become a reality for him with an early offer in December 2021.

Hayden

Hayden has already been rewarded for his commitment to study, commencing an electrician apprenticeship with Fire and Safety Australia in December 2021.

Hayden completed year 12 with a Certificate II in Electro-technology, solidifying his passion for his chosen career. Hayden's Scholarship afforded the tools and equipment for his apprenticeship as well as additional tuition to support theory components.

Hayden has been impacted significantly both socially and educationally throughout most of his childhood by a rare immune condition that remained undiagnosed to his mid-teens. In 2019 he received a bone marrow transplant and is now able to pursue his career ambitions with certainty around his health.

Hayden looks forward to embracing the opportunity to experience things he was unable to do growing up – having employment, good health and the opportunity to travel.

Matthew

Matthew dreams of owning his own construction business in the future and has been fortunate enough to secure a carpentry apprenticeship in 2022.

Like Hayden, Matthew has endured years of social, educational and emotional impact due to two rare conditions.



Notably for Matthew, he spent the first 15 years of his life with very little relief from three-week cyclical relapses of his condition, impacting his ability to attend school, socialise with friends and engage in the community.

His Scholarship has covered costs of tools and equipment required for his apprenticeship which he purchased in January 2022.

Matthew is a young man with strong values and empathy for others, always thinking of others despite his own health condition, showing determination and commitment to complete his VCE. In 2022, Matt has commenced his apprenticeship and is reconnecting with his love of playing guitar and singing.

Kaed

Kaed has endured more than most young people who have been diagnosed with Achondroplasia.

In his first 18 years, Kaed has endured more than 40 surgeries, many which have resulted in lengthy rehabilitations and long absences from school. Despite the social and educational isolation, and at times the psychological impact, Kaed has faced his ongoing challenges with determination, courage and resilience.

Kaed remained committed to completing his VCE and has done so with academic merit. Kaed is passionate about humanitarian issues and hopes to pursue a career in International Relations. His Scholarship is funding university tuition.

He is also a budding badminton star and hopes to work his way up through the elite ranks to someday be selected in the national para badminton squad.

Ronald McDonald Retreats

With five Retreats in picturesque seaside locations across Australia, Ronald McDonald Family Retreats provide a peaceful getaway from the everyday, where families can simply be together in a tranquil setting.

Families can enjoy up to a week of free accommodation, offering a welcome escape for those who might otherwise be unable to afford any time out due to the pressures of caring for a seriously ill child.

Our Retreats are located at:

- Bateman's Bay NSW
- Forster NSW
- Palm Cove QLD
- Bunbury WA
- Busselton WA.

[Click here for more information](#) 

Iffrah and Wania's story

When her sister, now 11, was diagnosed with leukaemia two years ago, Iffrah and her family moved from Pakistan to Australia. Since then, young Wania has been in hospital and the family has never travelled outside of Perth. So when the opportunity came for a short escape to the Ronald McDonald Family Retreat in Bunbury, WA, it represented so much more than a weekend away.

"Wania didn't have much strength, but she wanted to do absolutely everything while we were away," says 23-year-old Iffrah. "It was an opportunity for her to just be a normal child for once, to do things normal kids do."

"That weekend was very special. It is nothing short of amazing that places like that exist for families like ours."



Our children and families



Liam's story

For any active eight-year-old, being in hospital is the last place they want to be. This was no different for Liam, who was facing a considerable stay in the oncology ward at Monash Children's Hospital in Clayton.

With his family travelling from Leongatha in regional Victoria, it was ideal for them to stay at Ronald McDonald House, within easy walking distance of the hospital.

Ronald McDonald Houses are located close to major women's and children's hospitals across Australia, providing a homely place for parents, siblings and carers to stay while their child is undergoing treatment – for all different types of illnesses – in a nearby hospital.

Staying at the House meant Liam's family could all remain together, with his brothers, Brodie and Tyson, also staying in the Family Room, making it convenient for hospital visits during Liam's treatment.

Liam's parents found it incredibly helpful for the older boys to be close to their little brother, providing support to not just Liam, but also to them.

"Thankfully, staying at the House has saved us tens of trips back to home and potentially thousands of dollars in petrol and accommodation," said Vivienne, Liam's mother.

"We've made a few close friends at the House and have been able to support each other – even if that means not talking about our child's treatment and just having normal, everyday conversations. It makes a huge difference.

"The staff and volunteers are just so friendly and are always there to help, emotionally and financially, whatever you need," said Vivienne.

When exhausted and scared families – just like Liam's – arrive at any of the Houses, they are met by kind-hearted, considerate and sympathetic staff and volunteers who help families settle in and provide ongoing support.

Ronald McDonald Houses are also a place where families can meet others travelling a similar, often heart-breaking journey, providing much-needed companionship and empathy.

So far, the family has stayed more than 30 nights at Ronald McDonald House at Monash, and Liam is still receiving treatment.



The House is fantastic because there is always someone there to have a chat to and they help you get through your tough times – just even being with other families who are going through their own situation and have a talk helps.

Vivienne, Liam's mum



Bonnie's story

Tiny Bonnie was eager to make an entrance into the world.

Born at just 27 weeks, Bonnie initially stayed at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Monash Children's Hospital and was kept in hospital until one week before her due date.

Understandably, Keira-Lee and Ben, Bonnie's parents, were constantly anxious and didn't want to leave her side.

Thanks to Ronald McDonald House, Keira-Lee and Ben were able to stay within walking distance of the hospital, giving them respite from the clinical ward and a room to sleep in. The Houses help keep families together when life gets turned upside down due to a child's stay in hospital, no matter what the illness or condition.

Run by a team of compassionate staff and volunteers, the Houses help families maintain connections, and provide opportunities to meet other families facing similar situations. They also help with emotional and financial support.

Keira-Lee was able to stay for the full length of Bonnie's stay – close to 12 weeks – and Ben could travel back and forth from the family home in Kalimna near Lakes Entrance, a four hour drive from the hospital. It made weekend trips much less stressful and took a little pressure off.

During her stay in hospital, Bonnie also suffered a minor brain bleed and had sepsis, both of which she recovered from, without any complications.

"Ronald McDonald House was a life saver. If it wasn't for the House we would have been in trouble. We were able to stay close to Bonnie's bedside, just a few steps away from the hospital," said Keira-Lee.

"We also met other families who were going through similar situations. It was nice to be in the company of other families and staff who knew what we were going through and it was an incredibly supportive environment," she said.

The welcome, kindness and care that is offered at Ronald McDonald House in Monash is the same across all Houses – helping keep families close so they can weather their battles together.

“

Honestly, we don't know what we would have done if it wasn't for Ronald McDonald House. We would have had to have rented a house to be close to Bonnie's side, which would have cost us a small fortune.

Keira-Lee, Bonnie's mum

Safe guarding children and young people

Our Safeguarding Children & Young People Statement



Ronald McDonald House Charities' Mission is to support the ever-changing needs of seriously ill children and their families. We aim to provide all children and young people with a positive and enriching environment, a place for families to rest and regroup while having access to services and education to reduce the impact of having a serious illness.
















We are committed to safeguarding children and young people in our Programs. We aim to ensure that our Board Members, employees, volunteers, contractors and guests strive for the highest possible standards to protect children and young people from abuse, harm and/or neglect.

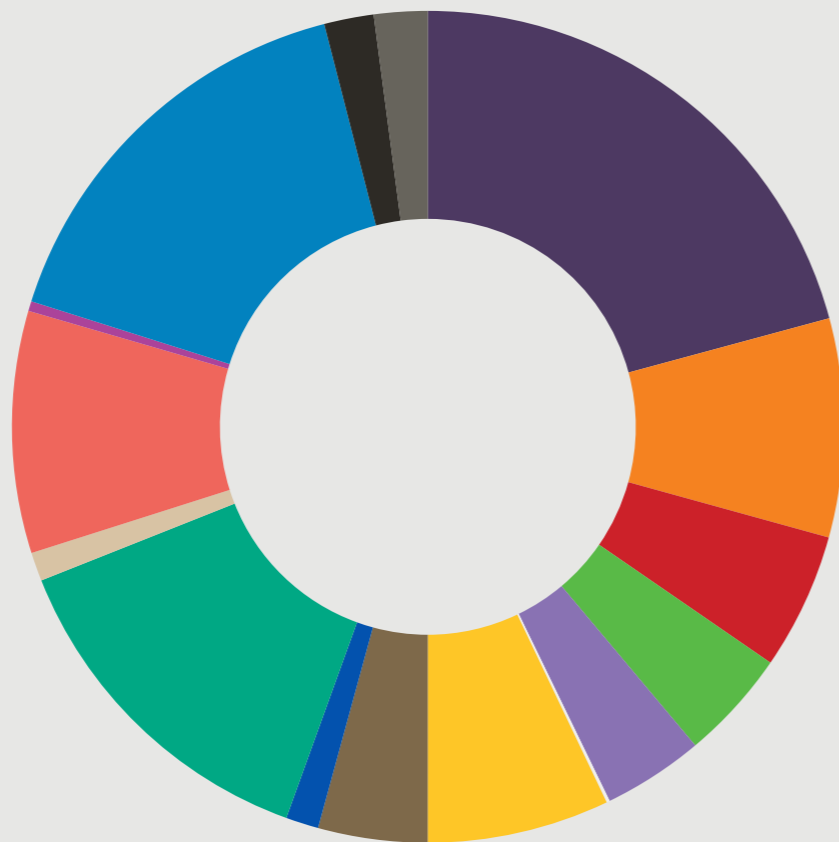
Collectively, RMHC with our board members, employees, volunteers and contractors, in conjunction with members of the community, are responsible for the care and protection of children and reporting information about child abuse.










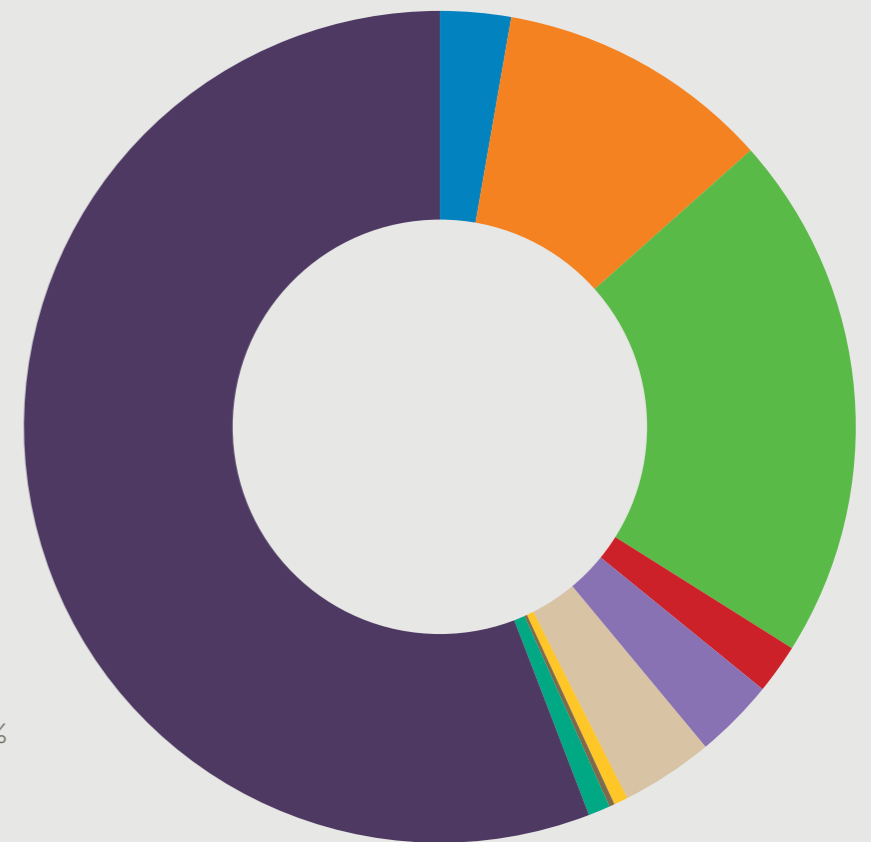
Where our money comes from and where it goes

Ronald McDonald House Charities Victoria & Tasmania is audited annually by xxxxx. 
 The full Financial Report 2021 is available at xxxxxx. 

-  Accommodation Reimbursement Subsidy 21%
-  Bequests 8%
-  Community 5%
-  Corporate 4%
-  COVID-19 Income 4%
-  Grants 0%
-  RMHC Mission Grant Funding Operational 7%
-  Individual 4%
-  Investment income 1%
-  RMHC Grant Learning Program 13%
-  Major Donors 1%
-  McDonald's stores, crew & licensees 9%
-  RMHC External Events (RFSK, Golf & Gala Balls) 16%
-  RMHC Grants & Global Grants 2%
-  In-Kind Donations 2%



-  Administrative Expenses 3%
-  Depreciation Expense 11%
-  Facility Expenses 20%
-  Fundraising Expenses 2%
-  Gala Ball Expenses 3%
-  Learning Program Expenses 4%
-  RFSK & Golf Day Expenses 1%
-  Salaries & Wages 56%



Major Donors

We would like to thank all individuals, families, community groups and organisations who gave RMHC VIC & TAS a significant gift. Generous giving at this level supports the essential, everyday costs of managing our programs.

No matter the gift, supporting us demonstrates a passion for helping families stay together and remain strong in difficult circumstances and we are so very grateful.

Amalee Stivic, Adam Hill and Family
Andrew McKnight
Carmen Jreissati
Cheryl Hogan
Chris Garnaut
Damien Long
Danielle Wilson
Dawn Clavin
Diane Wood
Elaine Taylor
Emma Matthews
Georgina Kinkade and David Martin
Greg Harnwell
Hotze Veenstra, Sarvin Randhawa,
Inde Singh and Family
James and Sophie Elphick
Jonathan Stone
Jonpaul Baron and Zayla Arthur
June Bramich
Kiel and Sacha Sutherland
Kim Nguyen-Tran
Laura Davis
Michael Williams
Paula Pala
Philip Lane
Plant Family
Regina Scarpa
Richard Vom
Smith Family
Sylvia Rial and Michael Cherry

Gifts in Wills

Ronald McDonald House Charities Victoria & Tasmania honours the lives of bequestors whose generous gifts were received in 2021.

Eileen Dorothy Cavanagh
Henrica Mathilda Geurts
Jacques Willis
Margaret Joan Titulaer
Theo Geromonolis

Gifts in Wills is one of the most impactful forms of funding for RMHC VIC & TAS and provides the opportunity for us to honour people's legacies, continuing to provide free accommodation for families well into the future.

After you've taken care of your loved ones, a gift of as little as 1% of your estate can make a significant difference for families with seriously ill children.

If you generously choose to leave a bequest to us, please consider:

- discussing your wishes with your family – let them know why RMHC VIC & TAS is important to you
- consulting a solicitor to help you complete your will
- adding a codicil to support RMHC VIC & TAS if you already have a will in place
- contacting us with any queries – (03) 9966 8420 or via victas@rmhc.org.au.

No matter the size, every gift makes a difference and seals your legacy.

Once you've made your intention, you can be assured that you will be supporting a cause that you care about – keeping families close during traumatic times.

We would like to acknowledge our incredible benefactors who have generously included RMHC VIC & TAS in their Will.

Denis Shaw
Joan Heard
Ben Westover

Trusts and Foundations

In 2021, we were generously supported by the Gringlas Family Charitable Fund with the operating costs of running the Houses.

We are also incredibly grateful to the Gualtiero Vaccari Foundation for the continued lease of North Fitzroy House, Casa Elda Vaccari.

The Young Allies Foundation also helped our families with care hampers at Ronald McDonald Parkville House, helping ensure continual comfort.

Community support, events and campaigns

Thank you to everyone who fundraised for us throughout the year, we appreciate all that our communities and fundraisers do for us. Here are just a few of the many activities held in 2021.

Community support

Orbost Poker Run

Orbost Community you make our hearts smile!

The award winning Orbost's Annual Poker Run is organised by a very motivated committee wanting to give to Ronald McDonald House.

For the past 11 years they have been doing just that and have raised more than \$300,000 for RMHC VIC & TAS!

Their fundraising efforts are truly amazing, covering at least 130 nights per year for families with a seriously ill or injured child with their donations.

Orbost community, thank you for helping us continue to support families.

[Click here for more information](#)



Shootathon

In early 2021 the Glenorchy Revellers Basketball Club got together with their major sponsor, McDonalds in Sandy Bay, Kingston and Hobart, to create a basketball fundraiser for RMCH.

The Club President, together with two humble and heroic coaches, decided to dream big, aiming to raise \$25,000. They planned a 24-hour Shootathon on 29-30 May, where players of all ages could get sponsored to shoot hoops.

Soon after, the basketball community across the region was involved, and within four days of the fundraising platform going live, they had raised \$10,000, with the initial target of \$25,000 reached after two weeks.

Upping the ante to raise the target to \$50,000, with the help of local media many businesses came on board as sponsors and the NBL's Cal Bruton flew in to support the event.

One junior player alone shot 2,100 hoops! In total 147 children participated, with the final total raised being an incredible \$62,744.

The enormous success of this event is a true testament to what a small community with a big heart can do.

[Click here for more information](#)



Ride for Sick Kids and Virtual Ride for Sick Kids

Ride for Sick Kids was held on 13-15 March 2021, with 40 riders completing the event. With the pandemic still prevalent, we were still able to ride but couldn't hold any functions to accompany the event.

The Lorne Hotel welcomed all riders and crew with open arms and provided dinner for everyone over two nights. With minimal fundraising elements, we were still able to raise just over \$150,000. Thanks to our Platinum Sponsors Aryzta Australia and McDonald's for their wonderful support.

In 2021 we added a virtual option to the Ride for Sick Kids for those who wanted to ride from their lounge room on an exercise bike or by cycling around their neighbourhood. Riders were able to select their distance of 50, 100 or 200kms.

The 40 riders cycled more than 200 kms, raising \$154,000.

Thanks to everyone who joined in, from riders to sponsors and individual donations.



April Golf Day

Due to our regular Golf Event being cancelled, we put together a fun, smaller event in April 2021.

We had 108 golfers attend The National Golf Club to help raise money for lost funds.

The weather was kind to us and we had some activations out on course and a "pink ball" nearest the pin competition before everyone hit the tee and \$32,000 was raised on the day.

Tasmanian Gala Ball

The 2021 Tasmanian Gala Ball was held on Saturday 19 June with 370 guests attending.

Numbers were slightly down on previous years due to government Covid-19 density rules, and the Victorian/Tasmania border closed causing the cancellation of tables that weren't all able to be resold.

The main act for the night was Vanessa Amorosi, which was Vanessa's first gig post lockdown and she put on a fabulous show, as did supporting act, Stand and Deliver.

Both the silent and live auctions were well supported and, despite the lower number in the room, raised a wonderful amount. The pledges for the night included an outstanding donation of six months by two separate donors.

Total funds raised on the night was more than \$180,000. An amazing result under difficult circumstances and our thanks go to all involved.



Spring into Action campaign

With our Gala Ball scheduled for 31 October 2021, we were hoping to avoid any lockdowns.

However, gathering in person again just wasn't to be and we switched to a digital campaign instead.

Our generous sponsors and guests who purchased tickets were given a choice to roll over to the 2022 ball or donate their payment. The response to this was extremely heart-warming with the majority choosing to donate.

Along with this we put together an online auction and the chance to recognise our sponsorships.

The campaign went well and along with Helping Hearts we sold in our McDonald's Restaurants, we still managed to raise \$640,000.

Step for Sick Kids

During October we had more than 250 people sign up to walk or run for sick kids.

Participants walked by themselves, ran in teams, or a combination of both. The 620+ donations raised in excess of \$60,000, smashing the original goal of \$45,000.

Thanks to everyone who joined in the fun, from walkers to runners to donors.

Every step really does make a difference.





Thank you to all our Event Committees

Our amazing events wouldn't happen without the dedication and support of our events committees. Thank you.

RFSK

Anthony Nigro
Darren Cowell
David Upham – Chairman 
Jason Wall
Kellie Waldon
Luke Crozier
Paul Vallay

Golf Day

Adam Davenport
Bob May
Catherine Byrne
David Fowler
Doug Pearse
Dylan Shirley
Jamie Evans
Kellie Waldon
Lou Di Nicolantonio
Ross Thornton
Tony Pearce – Chairman

Tasmanian Gala Ball

Alice Gilbertson
Andrea Luders
Carla Mingari
Corey Mingari
Craig Brakey – Chairman
Fiona Lowe
Kellie Waldon
Lisa Burnett
Liz Gifford

Victorian Gala Ball

Amanda Whitehouse
Barry Fitzgerald – Chairman
Ben Westover
Darren Postlethwaite
Jaci Testro
Kellie Waldon
Raf Basile
Rebecca Zagame
Rob Hunter
Vanessa McCallum
Zara Mukarram

McDonald's

The partnership of Ronald McDonald House Charities and McDonald's

Our Founding Mission Partner for the past 40 years.

Partnership history

More than 40 years ago, the very first Ronald McDonald House was built, thanks to McDonald's. Today they remain committed and passionate about supporting Ronald McDonald House Charities, both now and into the future.

McDonald's support

Their backing extends from financial contributions to volunteering and fundraising across the entire organisation. Our appreciation for the support McDonald's provides is immeasurable.

Why we need other support

While McDonald's is our largest corporate partner, we are also an independent charity that relies on many sources of support to fund our growing programs across the country, including donations and volunteering from individuals, communities and corporates, large and small.



Helping Hearts campaign

During the year we marked 35 years of RMHC supporting families across Victoria, Tasmania and beyond. To celebrate this milestone, as well as a show of their unwavering support throughout these difficult times, McDonald's initiated the Helping Hearts campaign.

Throughout August, all Victorian stores (as well as some just over the borders) sold Helping Hearts in stores and drive thrus for \$2, \$5 and \$10.

McDonald's crews, in their usual style, got behind this campaign and gave it their all. The Victorian community was overwhelmingly generous and the campaign resulted in an amazing \$346,500 being raised for our mission.

Our sincere thanks go to Martin Brower, distribution partner, as well as everyone who showed heart and purchased a Helping Heart.



Hospital and community partners

RMHC VIC & TAS works closely with our partner hospital to provide a safe and comfortable home-away-from-home families when they need it the most.

We are eternally grateful to our hospital and community partners for the many ways they help enable us to deliver our programs within their hospital precincts. They help families stay close to their seriously ill children, alleviating some of the hardships these families endure.

Research shows that hospital leaders across the globe believe Ronald McDonald Houses reduce parental stress and help families cope (Lantz, et al, Journal of Health Organisation and Management 2015).

Hospital partners

- Albury Wodonga Health
- Joan Kirner Women's and Children's Hospital
- Mercy Hospital
- Monash Children's Hospital
- Northern Hospital
- Royal Children's Hospital
- Royal Hobart Hospital
- Royal Women's Hospital

Ronald McDonald Learning Program partners

- 3P Learning
- Cake Angels Australia
- Capital City Local Learning and Employment Network (CityLLEN)
- EDROLO
- Hallmark
- Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority (VCAA)
- Victorian Tertiary Admission Centre (VTAC)

Other partners

- Bright Sparke
- Koala Kids
- Life's Little Treasures

Corporate partners

Our partners are at the heart of what we do... and here are just a few examples of how they help our families.

DON Smallgoods

DON has partnered with RMHC VIC & TAS for five years now, adopting the Dining Room at our Parkville House.

On top of this they regularly donate meat products to all the VIC Houses and were the MVP's during our seemingly never-ending lockdowns, keeping our fridges topped up with endless DON products for our families so they didn't have to go to the shops and risk infection.

They also donated \$1,000 worth of gift cards for our families at Christmas time – DON really is good!

"Here at DON we are delighted to support Ronald McDonald House Charities, especially as sponsor of the Dining Room at the Parkville House over the last few years. Our DONs volunteers just loved cooking up delicious meals for the families at Parkville; during challenging COVID times and it's been wonderful to supply sliced meats for lunches and other goodies too. The team at RMHC are an absolute delight and make our support of this wonderful charity so straightforward. Meanwhile, the team at DON enjoys hearing about how RMHC supports families by creating a 'home away from home' when they need it most."

Helen Shaw
DON Smallgoods Program Manager

Pace Development Group

Pace Development Group has been a chapter partner since 2018. Their partnership helps support our House programs and events year-round. On top of this they visit our Houses regularly and cook beautiful, home cooked meals for our families.

We couldn't do what we do without the wonderful support of businesses like PACE.

"For us here at Pace, the importance of our partnership with RMHC VIC & TAS couldn't have been more prevalent during COVID – knowing that our support directly helped families and the Houses meant a lot to us. We are extremely excited to be able to continue our partnership and support this year and for years to come."

Bianca Becker, People and Operations Supervisor

SEN

SEN played an instrumental role in the success of our 2021 Stronger Together Matched Giving Day. Providing RMHC VIC & TAS with a huge amount of media publicity on all their channels, including regional. They helped us generate awareness and were pivotal in assisting us to achieve our goal.

We are so grateful for SEN's contribution to our campaign.

Corporate in-kind contributions

One of the many components of operations for our Houses is in-kind contributions, all meticulously co-ordinated to maximise effectiveness.

- Tip Top supplies a full range of baked goods weekly to all Victorian Houses.
- Bega Dairy and Drinks provides dairy products weekly to all the Vic and Tas Houses.
- DON Smallgoods provides a consistent flow of meat products for our families to enjoy.
- Natural Tucker Bakery provides sweet and savoury treats weekly for families staying at North Fitzroy.
- Granite Transformations undertook a major renovation of the Monash House kitchen and covered the majority of labour and construction costs. This \$80,000 in-kind donation makes a huge difference to the look, feel and functionality of the heart of the House – the kitchen. After nearly 30 years, this kitchen upgrade was much needed and appreciated by all who use it.



* Need to cull some text to fit Blueline Linen text *

National Corporate Partners

During yet another challenging year, our wonderful partners still supported us through funding and staff engagement.

We can't do what we do without you.

Mission Founding Partner

McDonald's Australia

National Partners

AbbVie
Amart Furniture
APG Workforce
Aryzta
Asahi Lifestyle Beverages
Asaleo Care
Bosch Home Appliances
Bushells Coffee/FreshFood Services
Clorox Australia
Coca Cola Amatil
Coca Cola South Pacific
Domayne
Ecolab
Essity Findex Community Fund – or Essity one and Findex Community Fund another?
FOXTEL
Hyundai Help for Kids
Ingenia Communities
Kellogg's Australia
La-Z-Boy
LG Australia
Martin Brower
Rentokil Initial
Sealy Australia
Steggles Charity Nest
TUROSI
White Glove Assembly

Program Supporters

AbbVie
AGL Gas & Electricity
Ambius Plants
Bingo Waste
Commonwealth Bank of Australia
CoreLogic
Deane Apparel
DELL Asia Pacific
DFK ANZ
Ezycharge
Initial Hygiene
Pact Group
Popcake
Puratos
Signature Media
Suncorp Brighter Futures
Toybox International
White Glove Assembly



Adopting a Room is a unique opportunity to assist in providing the highest level of comfort possible to our families by covering the costs associated with that room, including linen, electricity and maintenance, just to name a few.

We're so grateful for our 2021 Adopt a Room partners.



Monash

- Bendigo Bank Parkdale
- Cards By Harv
- DFK Benjamin King Money
- In celebration of Harvey Giliam
- Lions Club of Waverley
- Loy Yang A Power Station – Operations Department
- Maurice James MST Lawyers
- Motor Cycle Racing Club of Victoria Pace Development Group
- Mulgrave Country Club
- Orbost Community
- Pfizer
- Rotary Club of Huntingdale
- Rotary Club of Keysborough – Noble Park
- Stillwell Group

North Fitzroy

- Ace Radio
- Adam and Racheal Kelly
- Aeroplane Jelly (McCormick Foods)
- Almax Family Trust
- Australian Made

- Basille Family
- Birrell Family
- Currie Family
- Jamie and Faye Evans
- Jason Wall
- Ken and Ros Turner
- McDonalds Oakleigh South, Oakleigh and Clayton South
- Moller Family Echuca
- Nicolaides Family
- Sasha and Chloe Laidlaw
- Shillington Group
- Simplot
- Tony and Marion Kitto
- Tooley Family
- Westover Family
- Y2 Architecture
- Yarra Valley Toyota

Parkville

- 3 Phase Marketing
- Aryzta
- Bathla Family
- Braxton and the people of Myrtleford
- Burton family In Memory of Mr Matthew Dayco
- Derrinallum Community
- Dons Smallgoods
- Electrical Trades Union
- ETU Overhead Rail Department Staff
- Gaden Lawyers
- Ivy Kelly
- Ken and Elaine Price
- Little Q Dreams
- Michelle Harris
- Narellan Pools
- Pace Development Group
- Shobhaa Paramasivam
- Tony and Marion Kitto
- ToyBox International
- Vantage PI

Hobart

- Accru Hobart
- Andrew Walter Constructions
- Arnolds Smithton
- Blueline Laundry
- Branxholm Community Plantations
- Collings Services
- Davern Family
- Glenorchy Revellers Basketball Club
- Rotary Club of Devonport
- Think Water Smithton



[Click here for more information](#)

Making a tangible impact on families in our Houses.

Families need support with everyday basics when staying at Ronald McDonald House.

Adopting a pantry is an effective way of helping achieve this, with a \$250 monthly or yearly donation. When you Adopt a Pantry, your chosen name is displayed on the pantry door in our House communal kitchens.

Thank you to the following individuals, families and businesses for your support in helping our Houses – and families.



Monash

- Cripps Family
- Elegance Tiles Pakenham
- Ferrett Family
- HSV Electrics the Wouters Family
- Ian Ash
- Ragulan Family
- Shaw Family
- Tasmania Fire Services Recruit Course 2/2021
- Wilson Family

North Fitzroy

- Ashlee Mewburn
- Brian and Joylene Nicholls
- Camm, Nicky and Mila Pincius
- Coote Family of Illowa
- De Sousa-Reay Family
- Ferrett Family
- FilterMakers
- Jackson and Benji Wood
- James and Pauline Ferguson
- JR Senior
- Lyndsey and Donna Nicholls
- Peter and Annie Trehwella
- Russell James Carpets
- Sarah James
- smarthomes

Parkville

- Braxton, Dekoke and Dyt Family
- Braxton Williams
- Cavalieros/Pearson Family
- Cooper, Chay, Rory and Xander
- Dolliver Family
- Ferret Family
- Isobel Dangerfield and Sage Bishop
- J T Roocke
- Janky Family
- Phelan Family

Hobart

- Aurora Energy
- Denman Family
- Jenelle Jennings
- Kelly Goodwin
- Kharia Berry
- Myles Baker and Kelly Clarke
- Rick and Mishelle
- Rob Nettlefold
- Ruby Tuesday Art
- Schmick Tint and Vinyl
- Tasmanian Fire Services Recruit Course 2/2021



Program and contact details

Keeping Families Close™

Ronald McDonald House Hobart
62 Collins Street, Hobart
(03) 9966 8480

Ronald McDonald House Monash
33 Kanooka Grove, Clayton
(03) 9966 8460

Ronald McDonald House North Fitzroy
863 Brunswick Street North, North Fitzroy
(03) 9966 8440

Ronald McDonald House Parkville
22 Gatehouse Street, Parkville
(03) 9966 8400

Ronald McDonald Family Room Monash
Monash Children's Hospital
(03) 8572 3726

Ronald McDonald Family Room Northern
Northern Hospital at Epping
(03) 8405 2479

Ronald McDonald Family Room Sunshine
Joan Kirner Women's & Children's Hospital
(03) 8345 0888

Ronald McDonald Family Room Wodonga
Wodonga Hospital
(03) 6024 5206

Ronald McDonald Learning Program
PO Box 94, Parkville
(03) 9966 8450





Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
VIC & TAS

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Level 1, 250 Canterbury Road
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(03) 9966 8420

#KeepingFamiliesClose
[rmhc.org.au/victas](https://www.rmhc.org.au/victas)

   **rmhcvictas**