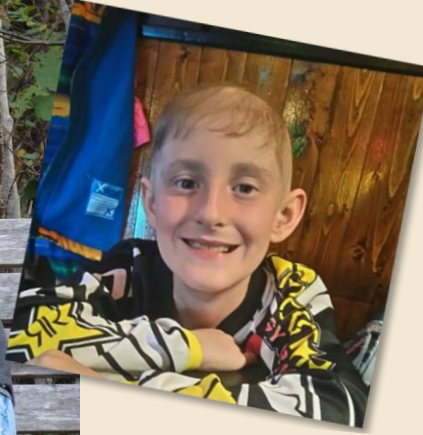




Keeping Families Close

Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador



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Meet Christian Hatcher and his family of Appleton

It is hard to put into words how parents feel when their child has been diagnosed with Leukemia. And for families who don't live close to the care and resources they need, there is an added stress caused by distance. RMHC gives families with a sick child what they need most – each other.

At the tender age of eight, Christian Hatcher of Appleton was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML), a form of cancer in which the bone marrow makes abnormal cells. The Hatcher family, Christian, parents Sharon and Victor, and younger brother Colin, were now faced with a challenging road ahead - one filled with long drives, hospital stays, and chemotherapy treatments. This was something that no parents can prepare for. They worried about numerous things - even the simple things, like where they would stay. Shortly after they arrived in St. John's they were introduced to the programs and services of Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador.

"When we arrived in St. John's we quickly realized that we needed a place to stay that was close to the hospital and a place for our younger son to stay. Our main goal was to keep our little family together. We checked into Ronald McDonald House and for three and half months it was our home. It kept us close to our sick child and gave our other son, Colin, a sense of security that he was staying with his mom, dad and brother," -Sharon Hatcher

Each day Christian's treatments were long, but Christian and his brother looked forward to the games room and movie room at Ronald McDonald House.

"The Home for Dinner Program was amazing. It was one less thing that we had to think about. You would come home to a cooked meal and not worry about cooking yourself. The treats that were baked or the breakfast sandwiches each day were awesome to grab in the morning. In the evening, I would grab a treat with my coffee after returning from a long day at the hospital. Both Christian and Colin loved their quilts, the games room and the movie room. But most of all, they both loved magic room when we got to leave." -Sharon Hatcher

While Christian's journey is far from over, with treatments expected to continue for some time, the Hatcher Family continues to find strength at RMHC.

"Ronald McDonald House had such a positive impact on our family. It kept my family together. Without it our family would have been separated because we couldn't afford to stay at a hotel for that length of time. It truly was our home away from home. And we are so thankful that it is there for families to use. It made our fighting this cancer with Christian a whole lot easier. Thank you to all the staff, volunteers and sponsors for providing this service to families." - Sharon Hatcher

Did you know?

Our House has **15 family suites**

1000 families have stayed with us
23,000 nights

Providing programs and services for **5 years**

Your donation of **\$165** will cover the cost to host 1 family 1 night

More than **81,000 meals** have been prepared in our kitchen



Ronald McDonald House Charities
Newfoundland & Labrador

P.O. Box 28091
150 Clinch Crescent
St. John's, NL A1B 1X0

Charitable Registration Number 85050 2865 RR 0001



@OurHouseNL



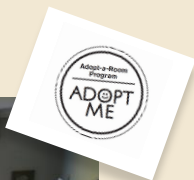
facebook.com/rmhnl

Adopt-a-Room

The **Adopt-a-Room program** ensures that the rooms at Ronald McDonald House are beautifully operated and maintained for families who need a comfortable place to stay while in St. John's seeking medical attention for their child.

So many reasons to Adopt-A-Room

- In honor of someone you admire
- In memory of someone in your heart
- In recognition of an accomplishment



There is a comprehensive recognition package provided to each donor that participates in the Adopt-A-Room program. Contact Christine Morgan christinemorgan@rmhcnl.ca or 738-0000 for details.

Adopt-a-Room Program

Check out our recent adoptions



Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro



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Director, Chair of Board

Dr. Lynette Bowes
Director and Chair of Programs Committee

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Past-Chair

Sterling Peyton
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Director

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Erin Higdon
Director

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709-733-5073

Family Service Associates
Patricia Hanlon
Shirley Kenny
Brian Mallard
Jennie Curran
Nicole Hackett

House Front Desk – 709-733-2244
Toll Free:
1-855-955-HOME (4663)

House Programs

The kitchen is the heart of every home. Imagine being part of a wonderful program that would provide comfort directly to our families. Our **Home for Dinner** and **Just Like Nan's Baked Goods** programs are the easiest ways for groups to support families at Ronald McDonald House. Just organize your friends, co-workers or club members and prepare a meal or baked goods for up to 40 people. You pick the menu, purchase the ingredients and prepare the food here at Our House. This can be a great experience for your family or co-workers while providing a wonderful service to families with a sick or injured child. At the end of a long day at the hospital, families are truly relieved to come "home" to a home-cooked meal or freshly baked goods.

For more information about our House Programs, please contact
Julie Chaulk
738-3479 or
juliechaulk@rmhcnl.ca

SOCK IT for sick kids and their families – Friday October 13th



A fun day of wearing our signature striped socks, fundraising and social media sharing. We're calling on everyone to **SOCK IT for sick kids and their families** at Ronald McDonald House NL! Just get your official signature striped socks and wear them on October 13th. With just one pair you'll be raising awareness and helping families stay together when it matters most!

Here's How it Works:

- Step 1:** Purchase your striped socks for \$10 at Ronald McDonald House.
- Step 2:** Raise extra funds! Wear your socks on Fridays and collect \$2, collect pledges from friends and family, or host a bake sale. Then on October 13th, present your donation to Ronald McDonald House.
- Step 3:** Take a pic of you and/or your group wearing your signature striped socks.
- Step 4:** On October 13th, share your pics on social media with #sockitforsickkids @OurHouseNL.

Wish List



Our **Wish List** is updated regularly as we meet new challenges and address the unique needs of our families. If you would like to support our families with a gift-in-kind, please check out our most recent Wish List on our website:

<http://rmhcnl.ca/get-involved/wish-list/>

Most URGENT Items on the Wish List

Toys (New)

Cleaning Supplies

Travel Size Toiletries

Food items for Pantry

5 ways you can help

1. Donate

The cost of having a sick child and being away from home really adds up. Families staying at RMHC NL only pay \$15 per night, which saves our families approximately \$60,000 per month in hotel fees (based on \$150 per night in a hotel). Your single gift or monthly gifts will have a tremendous impact on the families who need us most.

2. Volunteer

Volunteers make the difference in the lives of all the families that come through our doors - by cooking, by hosting, by listening, by nurturing, by simply being there and helping. Volunteers are also needed throughout our province to help with awareness and fundraising.

3. Tribute Gifts

Donations may be made in memory of a family member, friend or colleague. The bereaved family receives a special notice expressing condolences and informing them that a gift has been made. You will receive a tax-deductible receipt.

4. Planned Giving

As part of your long-term financial planning, a planned gift can offer you substantial tax and estate planning benefits and allow you to make a lasting gift to Ronald McDonald House. It can be a gift RMHC NL receives now, or in the future. It's a way for you to be a key House supporter while meeting your own personal financial goals.

5. Community Fundraising

Are you interested in holding a fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House? Whether it be a bake sale, a fashion show or any other event you're involved in, there are many ways for you, your family or your workplace to get involved and raise much needed funds for the House. We have resources and fundraising staff that can help you get started. Please contact us at info@rmhcnl.ca or toll free 1-855-955-HOME(4663) for more information.



VOCM Cares

For The Community

DIAL-A-CAROL

Sunday December 3, 2017

Be listening to 590 VPCM from
1:30pm-6:00pm

to pledge your support for
Ronald McDonald House
and request your favorite
Christmas Carol

Christmas Cards



With artwork by
Anne Pardy
*"Home for
Christmas, with
love"*

\$12.00/pk of 12
cards and
envelopes

All proceeds from the sale of these Christmas Cards will benefit Ronald McDonald House Newfoundland and Labrador. Cards can be purchased at Ronald McDonald House. info@rmhcnl.ca

Lights of Love Tree

Christmas is an important time for families. At Ronald McDonald House it is a priority to celebrate special times of the year with families staying at Our House, especially during Christmas.

The **Lights of Love Tree** campaign is a wonderful means for individuals, businesses and communities to celebrate the strength of families in healing a sick child. This fundraising campaign is an important and festive initiative that will help raise awareness and funds for Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador.



To start the Lights of Love, RMHC NL will erect a large outdoor Christmas tree on the grounds of Ronald McDonald House in St. John's and in participating communities throughout our province. The tree would be initially decorated with white bulbs and, with love, the tree will change to red.



Donations will be used to provide a home-like experience for sick children and their families. For a tax-deductible contribution, one can honor or remember a special person in their life or that hard-to-shop-for person on your Christmas list. A red light will shine in their honour on our Lights of Love Tree. We will also provide or send an acknowledgment card for the honoree.

To make a donation or to host your own Lights of Love Tree, please call 1-855-955-HOME (4663), 709-738-0000 or email info@rmhcnl.ca.

The official tree lighting will take place at Ronald McDonald House on **November 30, 2017 at 7pm**. Please bring your family and join us for carols, hot chocolate, candy canes and special guests.



Volunteer Spotlight Story

Chad Haggett



Our valued volunteers are at the heart of providing programs and services at Ronald McDonald House.

Chad Haggett is among a very dedicated group of Red Shoe Crew community volunteers. In 2012, when Ronald McDonald House was in the construction phase, Chad attended a community presentation about RMHC and its programs and services. When the presentation was complete, Chad immediately stood up in the group and said “I support this and will do whatever it takes to help sick children and their families. Ronald McDonald House is long overdue.”

This is a commitment that Chad upholds to this day.

Chad is well known in Grand Falls-Windsor for his involvement with many local organizations. Helping sick children and their families stay together at Ronald McDonald House is something that continues to be very important to him.

Chad has helped engage hundreds of participants to make their steps count for families during the annual Red Shoe Crew-Walk for Families event. He and his dedicated group of volunteers have helped raise more than \$40,000 in Grand Falls-Windsor over the past six years, growing the event from \$4000 in 2012 to more than \$10,000 in 2017.

This year, Chad was chosen for the important volunteer role of Regional Development Coordinator for Exploits Valley. He works closely to recruit and support volunteers and groups in areas including Bishop’s Falls, Point Leamington, Badger and Botwood and other surrounding communities.

Chad’s outstanding contribution of time and energy has certainly made a difference in the lives of sick children and their families that stay at Ronald McDonald House.

Red Shoe Crew-Walk for Families a huge success in 44 communities

Thousands of individuals, groups, teams, businesses and families in 44 communities made their steps count for families during the annual Red Shoe Crew-Walk for Families presented by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, during September 2017. The event is estimated to exceed \$235,000! The funds raised will support the programs and services at Ronald McDonald House in accommodating sick or injured children and their families.



Proudly Presented by:



2017 Participating Communities included:

Bishop's Falls	Kings Point	Port Saunders - Tri Town
Burin	La Scie	Shearstown/Butterville
Carbonear	Labrador City	Springdale
Chance Cove	L'Anse Au Loup	St. Anthony
Churchill Falls	Lewisporte	St. John's
Clarenville	Lumsden	Stephenville
Conception Bay South	Milltown (Bay d'Espoir)	Sunnyside
Corner Brook	New Harbour	Terra Nova
Deer Lake	New-Wes-Valley	Torbay
Fortune	Old Perican	Town of Irishtown-Summerside
Gander	Pasadena	Trinity Bight
Glovertown	Paradise	Twillingate
Goose Bay	Pilley's Island	Upper Island Cove
Grand Falls-Windsor	Placentia	Victoria
Heart's Content	Point Leamington	



Thank you to our 2017 Red Sneaker Sponsors:



2017 Red High Heel Sponsors



Ronald McDonald House

Celebrates  Years



The past five years has been incredible. In fact, Our House has provided more than 1,000 nights of comfort and care to 1000 families with a sick or injured child, saving them more than \$3.5M in accommodation costs alone! **Now, that's worth celebrating!**

Our celebration included a birthday party at Ronald McDonald House, and was attended by families, volunteers and supporters of RMHC. Guests enjoyed tours, children’s activities, a barbeque, a celebration cake and our very special guest, Ronald McDonald.

We would like to thank the following for helping make this celebration such a success:

Ben J. King Photography, Brigus Group, Ches’s Famous Fish & Chips, Cola-Cola, Cossette, Jelly Bean Entertainment, Kelly Denine of Party Animals-Balloon Art, Mark Burry (Magician), Morgan’s Music, Rotary Club of St. John’s Northeast, Tanya Young (Birthday cake), Ronald McDonald and especially, our many volunteers!!