



For Immediate Release

Ronald McDonald House rolls out the Red Carpet to recognize Volunteers

(April 27, 2018, St. John's, NL) – Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador (RMHC NL) relies heavily on the work of volunteers to fulfill their mission. On April 20 & 21, Ronald McDonald House recognized the hundreds of volunteers that give so much of their time in the house and in the community at a special event in St. John's titled ***"Strength in Numbers" Volunteering Gathering***, appropriately themed "The Brightest Stars are those that shine to help others." This event was recognized with an International Award for best practice by RMHC in 2015 and includes training, awards, fun team building, recognition, a guided tour of the House and guest speakers, which included **Rodney, Cathy & nine-year old Ailish Slaney of St. Lawrence, frequent guests of Ronald McDonald House since 2014.**

At the conclusion of the event, volunteers were recognized for their years of commitment, which included volunteers from 1 year to 5 years of service.

Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador is grateful to the time and energy that **Dr. Jack Hand** gave to making Ronald McDonald House a reality in this province. Now that the House is opened, with many active and dedicated volunteers, the charity has implemented the **Helping "HAND" Awards in honor of the late Dr. Jack Hand**. These awards were proudly presented by his wife, **Tina Hand**, who is also a dedicated Family Service Volunteer with Ronald McDonald House.

In order to completely recognize the many diverse volunteer contributions, the **2018 Helping HAND Awards** were awarded in **seven** categories. Here are the 2018 winners:

Family Services Volunteer

House Programs

Leadership

Outstanding Corporate Philanthropist

Outstanding Individual Philanthropist

Community Engagement

Outgoing Board Chair

Marjorie Frampton, St. John's, NL

Brittany Ryan, St. John's, NL

Chad Haggett, Grand Falls-Windsor, NL

Tucker Window Film, St. John's

Irene Sutton, St. John's

Tanya Barron, Placentia, NL

Gerry Beresford, St. John's, NL (2009-2017)

Ronald McDonald House Charities® Newfoundland and Labrador helps keep families with a sick or injured child close to each other and the care and resources they need, when they need it most. Open 24 hours a day/7 days a week, Ronald McDonald House features many common areas including a large kitchen, family room, television room, resource center, home office, children's play areas and laundry facilities. Ronald McDonald House is open to parents, siblings and at times, extended family members of children receiving medical treatment in St. John's. It draws on a large pool of committed volunteers who help families feel at home.

www.RMHCNL.ca

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See below



2018 Helping Hand Award Winners

L-R: Gerry Beresford (Outgoing Board Chair), Marjorie Frampton (Family Service Award), Brittany Ryan (House Program Award), Don Aspell and Ryan Aspell of Tucker Electronics/Tucker Window Film (Outstanding Corporate Philanthropist Award), Tanya Barron (Community Engagement Award), Irene Sutton (Outstanding Individual Philanthropist Individual Award), Chad Haggett (Leadership Award), Tina Hand (Presenter)



The Slaney Family

Cathy, Rodney & Ailish Slaney of St Lawrence NL
Frequent guests of RMHC NL since 2014