



RMHC
Newfoundland
& Labrador

Keeping Families Close

SUMMER 2020

Ronald McDonald House Charities® Newfoundland and Labrador



Meet Jerrica Bartlett of Labrador City

Shortly after Jerrica Bartlett was born in Labrador City on June 30, 2015, her blood sugars dropped suddenly and she was immediately air lifted to the children's hospital in St. John's, more than 2000 km away from their home.

It was then that Jerrica's mom, Darlene, was introduced to the programs and services at Ronald McDonald House. She recalls that first experience as such a relief because she was far from home, alone, just had a C-section and had no where to go.

Jerrica's parents, Darlene and Elvis, later received confirmation that Jerrica, at only ten days old, had Down Syndrome, but that wasn't all. Jerrica also had a Congenital Heart Disease, a ventricular septal defect (VSD). A VSD is a hole between the right and left ventricles, oxygen-rich blood returning from the lungs leaks from the left ventricle into the right ventricle instead of being pumped into the aorta and out to the rest of the body. Then, at only 6 months old, Jerrica had open-heart surgery.

"Jerrica will need regular medical follow up for the rest of her life and there is no question that our family will continue to need the programs and services at Ronald McDonald House. We truly do not know what we would have done since 2015 without the Ronald McDonald

House, its volunteers, programs and staff. We always look forward to staying at the Ronald McDonald House during each visit to St. John's. It has truly become our home away from home."
Darlene Bartlett, Labrador City

Darlene added that they have made some lifelong friends at Ronald McDonald House. *"It is an added comfort with every visit because every parent there is going through a similar situation as you are and they completely understand. With the volunteers and staff so happy and friendly, Ronald McDonald House has a very positive atmosphere".*

During each visit, Jerrica always looks forward to the Magic Room, a magical secret room full of toys that every child gets to visit at least once during their stay. Even when Jerrica is having a bad day because of medical appointments and tests, she always leaves the Magic Room with a smile and a new toy.

The Bartlett family continues to travel to St. John's at least once per year for follow up appointments and more often if needed for other medical complications that may arise. In February 2020, she developed seizures and will now require even more frequent visits to the children's hospital in St. John's.

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Our Impact

Our House has **15 family suites**

Families have stayed with us **35,026 nights**

Saving to families more than **\$7Million**

1423 families stayed at RMHC NL

We have more than **300 volunteers**

Unlimited smiles

Your donation of **\$197** will cover the cost to host 1 family for 1 night



Ronald McDonald House Charities®
Newfoundland & Labrador

Keeping families close

P.O. Box 28091
150 Clinch Crescent
St. John's, NL A1B 4J8

Charitable Registration Number
85050 2865 RR 0001

Did you know? You can support Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador each time you visit a McDonald's Location in Newfoundland and Labrador!

Ways to support your local Ronald McDonald House at McDonald's



Make a donation
at the kiosk!

Purchase RMHC
Cookies!
(5 cents from every purchase is donated)

Purchase a
Happy Meal!
(10 cents from every purchase is donated)

Drop your spare change
into the coin box at the
counter!



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/>

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Impact of COVID-19

Families with a sick child need to be stronger than ever as they manage their own family crisis during a global crisis. Right now, it is hard for all families to stay close – but it is even harder for a family with a sick or injured child especially those who must travel far from home during these extraordinary circumstances. As our province's family care charity, we understand the importance of keeping families close, especially during these difficult times. **Our families need you, now more than ever.**

RMHC NL has experienced a significant reduction of funding due to cancellation of fundraising events, suspended in-house volunteer programs, cancelled program support from outside groups and increased costs due to heightened infection control processes as a result of COVID-19. **We need your help now more than ever!** RMHC NL is reaching out to everyone to help us continue to keep families close during these difficult times. We believe we are stronger together. And, if we can't be together, we can work together to support families with a sick or injured child. Please give to **RMHC NL COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund now** www.RMHCNL.ca/donate.



We certainly miss our **Family Service Volunteers** and the involvement of **outside groups** to help with our programs and services. All RMHC NL staff are working hard together to keep supporting families, keeping everything sanitized and, with the help of donors, preparing hot meals for our families during these unprecedented times. We certainly look forward to the return of our Family Services Volunteer Program, and welcoming outside groups and visitors, as soon as it is safe to do so.

Toll Free: 1-855-955-HOME (4663)

5 ways you can help

1. Donate

Your donation help provide programs and services for families with a sick or injured child. Families can stay at Ronald McDonald House for only \$15 per night, however the actual cost to support a family is \$197. Your single gift or monthly gifts will have a tremendous impact to a sick or injured child and their families to be together and near the medical care and resources they need.

2. Volunteer

Volunteers make the difference in the lives of all the families that come through our doors - by cooking, by cleaning, by listening, 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 that Ronald McDonald House receives now, or in the future. It's a way for you to be a key 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 activity you enjoy or are involved in, there are many ways for you, your family or your workplace to get involved and raise much needed funds for Ronald McDonald House. We have resources and fundraising staff that can help you get started.

Visit www.RMHCNL.ca or contact us at info@rmhcnl.ca or toll free 1-855-955-HOME(4663) for more information.



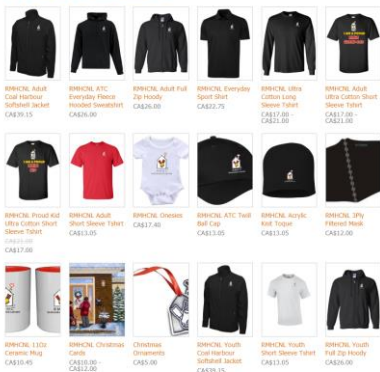
Contact Annette Higdon

683-4343



Merchandise Store now Open 24 hours a Day

Ronald McDonald House Charities NL



rmhcnl.ca/get-involved/merchandise-store



Your Walk Your Way

Walk When You Want, Where you Want in the Month of

September 2020

The 9th annual **Red Shoe Crew-Walk for Families** helps raise funds to provide programs and services for sick children and their families when they need it most. This event is hosted by volunteers and held in communities throughout Newfoundland and Labrador in the month of September. The event coincides with the anniversary of the opening of Ronald McDonald House and is the largest annual fundraising event. Participants register online or receive an event pledge sheet. By **MAKING YOUR STEPS COUNT FOR FAMILIES** and with every dollar raised, participants are helping keep sick children and their families close to each other and the medical care and resources they need, when they need it the most.

Given the Public Health Restrictions this year, this event will have more flexibility for participants to Walk When They Want, Where They Want in the month of September.

REGISTER NOW!

www.WalkforFamilies.ca

Proudly Presented by



Share Your Heart Participate Challenge



SHARE YOUR HEART Challenge

Share Your Heart Business Challenge



SHARE YOUR HEART

Red Sneaker Sponsors



Red High Heel Sponsors



Volunteer Spotlight Story

Tanya Barron



Tanya Barron is a dedicated community volunteer in Placentia, NL. Each year she dedicates her time to fundraise for Ronald McDonald House during the annual Red Shoe Crew-Walk for Families event.

She has taken the Placentia Walk for Families event and made it truly a community event that celebrates Ronald McDonald House and its impact. Each year, the walk has exceeds expectations. Her passion and excitement in supporting Ronald McDonald House has engaged hundreds of individuals, groups and businesses. Tanya also makes considerable effort to make sure the children in the community have a special time at the event. She is passionate, dedicated, inspiring and innovative. Tanya is a team player and she always comes up with new ideas and engages other volunteers to brainstorm unique ideas for the walk. She has helped fundraise more than \$45,000 for Ronald McDonald House.

"I was a family who was afraid to ask or accept the help from Ronald McDonald House when I needed it most. My son was born at 27 weeks in Edmonton and when asked about the RMHC I did not know that a home such as this was for me to use. I was a working parent and fell into the category of **"not knowing"** which in turn caused many bills to occur for our family, as we stayed in hotels for the next 73 nights. It is my hope and passion that we can continue to raise money and awareness for the Ronald McDonald House, so that more families can avail of the programs and services in times of need and that we can continue to build and expand." – Tanya Barron



THANK YOU EVERYONE
FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!



*Momma's
Dream Team*

KILOMETERS FOR KIDS



**Riding for
Ronald McDonald
House**

Momma's Dream Team
(consisting of Kimberly Hartery, Gerri-Lynn Stevens, Michelle Turpin, Kaya Edwards, and April Richards) concluded their **2020 Kilometers for Kids Campaign** and raised more than **\$15,000!**



Stay Tuned!

Momma's Dream Team have even bigger plans for 2021 that includes cycling across Newfoundland from St. Barbe!

Fore
the families
[Golf Classic]

Proudly presented by

Coca-Cola

YOUR DAY! YOUR WAY! August-September 2020 The Wilds

This year, everything has changed. However, one thing that has not changed is the commitment of our sponsors and golfers to support sick children and their families at Ronald McDonald House.

This year, teams have the flexibility to participate on a day that works for them during the 2020 season. Same great golf experience, same great food, and the same great result: helping sick children and their families be together, and near the medical services they need at Ronald McDonald House.

**We believe we are
stronger together!**

**And, if we can't be together this
year, we can still work together to
support families with a sick or
injured child.**

Contact info@rmhcnl.ca or
Visit the RMHCNL.ca for details

SOCK IT
for *sick kids
& their families*

RMHC Socks have arrived!
Available only while quantities last



Friday November 20, 2020

info@rmhcnl.ca

**A fun day of wearing signature red and white
striped socks, combined with fundraising
efforts and social media sharing.**

**With just one pair you will be supporting
programs, services and raising
awareness for RMHC.**



We are on Facebook!
Find us at @RMHNL



Interact with us on Twitter
Follow us at @OurHouseNL



Interact with us on Instagram
Follow us at @RMHC_NL