



Meet Aaron Cooper

Family is medicine, and for the past 13 years, it has been helping 16-Year-old Aaron Cooper, of Lewisporte, NL, have his family with him at Ronald McDonald House.

It is hard to put into words how a parent feels when their child has been diagnosed with multiple medical concerns. It must be one of the most difficult experiences for a family, and for families who don't live close to the medical care and resources they need, there is the added stress of distance. Ronald McDonald House gives families with a sick or injured child what they need most – each other.

In 2009, Patsy and Dave Cooper welcomed triplets, Aaron, Allie, and Aiden to their lives. The trio were born very premature at 27 weeks. Sadly, baby Aiden passed away after just nine days. Prior to their arrival, the Coopers were aware that Aaron had down syndrome, and they were prepared to have the Janeway Children's Hospital be a continuous part of their lives. But they weren't prepared for the increased health risks that followed. When Aaron was just over a year ago, he had to be airlifted to St. John's where he was diagnosed with diabetes. This secondary health concern meant even more visits to St. John's, almost 400km away from home. Staying at Ronald McDonald House has brought the family comfort.

"When you are getting up and not sure what the day will hold for you and your child, walking into the kitchen in the morning to find a spread of breakfast items all laid out for you to choose from is a refreshing start to the day," said Aaron's dad, Dave.

When Aaron was 12 years old, it was discovered that he had a leg length discrepancy. There was 1.5 centimeters of play where the ball went into the socket of his left hip. To repair this discrepancy, Aaron had to have surgery on his 14th birthday where they had to break his leg where the ball attaches to the leg bone and then reposition it. Aaron was back and forth to St. John's for many visits for rehabilitation and physiotherapy. Unfortunately, just over a year after the surgery, it was discovered that one of the pins had cracked off, and two additional pins had slacked off, meaning Aaron had to repeat the surgery again in November 2024.

"If Ronald McDonald House wasn't available, we would have had to stay in a motel for this duration, given that Aaron was in a wheelchair for most of this stay, this would have been quite the challenge. The room at Ronald McDonald House is awesome, very spacious and easy to get around using a wheelchair."

Having stayed at the Ronald McDonald House over 20 times, the family has come to rely on the programs and services and have developed a community of support. Dave says, **"All the wonderful people we have met on our journeys, other families who we have connected with and still keep in touch with as we each continue on our separate medical journeys."** While Aaron is doing well, his journey is far from over. The family anticipates staying at the Ronald McDonald House for many more years to come.



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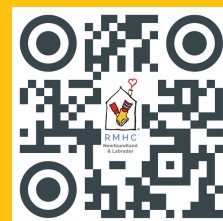
Our Impact

- RMHC NL has **15 family suites**
- Families have stayed with us **+53,000 nights**
- Saving families more than **\$12 Million**
- We average **354 check-ins** each year
- We have more than **350 volunteers**
- **Unlimited smiles**
- Your donation of **\$279** will cover the cost to host 1 family for 1 night

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St. John's, NL A1B 4J8

Charitable Registration Number
85050 2865 RR 0001

www.RMHCNL.ca



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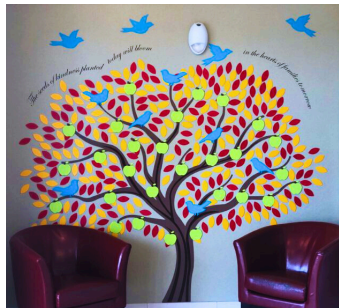
Charity Office
709-738-0000 x0



Families staying at Ronald McDonald House enjoy fresh treats from our garden.

A Gift in your Will

Through a planned gift you can provide the greatest benefit to you, your family, and Ronald McDonald House. As part of your long-term financial planning, a planned gift can offer you substantial tax and estate planning benefits that allow you to make a lasting gift to Ronald McDonald House Charities® NL.



If you are thinking about making a planned gift in your will to RMHC NL or would like more information please contact:
Heather Butler, CFRE, Director Development & Communications
709-733-5073 | heatherbutler@rmhcnl.ca



Learn More

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/>

You can now shop for items needed the most on **Amazon!**

amazon
wishlist



New Space Adoption!

We're so grateful for the generous adoption of the sports court in Family Time Park by Kevin and Kim Ladner! Your support truly helps create a warm, welcoming space for families during challenging times.



Through the **Adopt-a-Room Program** you can provide the most caring and practical support to families during this incredibly stressful time by providing a home-away-from-home. Adopt a family suite or a common area in Ronald McDonald House. Visit our website at **RMHCNL.ca** or scan the QR code to learn more.



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 30 people. You pick the menu, purchase the ingredients and prepare the food here at Ronald McDonald House NL. 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.

It's easy!! Check our **LIVE** program calendar and sign up online!



"Thank you for the opportunity for our Compass One team to participate. It was our pleasure to support RMHC and this worthwhile program. Knowing that we made a difference, (even if just a little) in the lives of sick children and their families makes it worth that much more."

- Compass One Team

5 WAYS YOU CAN HELP

1. Donate

Your donation helps 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 \$279. Your single or monthly gift will have a tremendous impact to a sick or injured child and their families so they can be together and near the medical care and resources they need.

2. Volunteer

Volunteers make all the difference in the lives of the families that come through our doors - by cooking, by cleaning, by listening, or simply by 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's 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 at Ronald McDonald House. We have many resources and fundraising staff that can help you get started.



Visit www.RMHCNL.ca
email info@rmhcnl.ca
call toll free 1-855-955-HOME(4663)
or Scan the QR Code for more information



DONATE NOW

Help us keep families close to each other and the medical care and resources they need.



Visit: www.RMHCNL.ca/donate or scan the QR code

Pedaling with Purpose:

John & Lucy's Ride for RMHC NL

This summer, John and Lucy Glennon of British Columbia embarked on an inspiring 880 km + "bike packing" journey across Newfoundland, from Port aux Basques to St. John's. Their 20-day trek, which concluded on August 26th, was not only a physical feat but a heartfelt mission to help families who use the programs and services offered at RMHC NL.

Thanks to the generosity of donors and supporters along the way, John and Lucy raised an incredible **\$10,000!**



We are deeply grateful to John and Lucy for their dedication, and to everyone who contributed to this meaningful cause. Your support makes a real difference.

Thank You!



December 1st-31st, 2025

Honour or Remember that special person in your life

This holiday season, honour or remember that special person in your life or that hard to shop for person with a gift that gives back. With each donation, a red light will shine in their honour on the Lights of Love Tree in front of Ronald McDonald House. We will provide or send an acknowledgement card for the honoree so they know they are a part of something truly meaningful.

Join Us for the Lights of Love Campaign Kick-Off!

Thank you to OZFM and NTV for helping us kick off the Lights of Love Tree Lighting and helping us shine a light on keeping families close.

Join us In Person for Christmas Carols, Candy Canes, Hot Chocolate and Special Guests!

- Date:** Sunday, November 30th, 2025
- Time:** 6:00 PM
- Location:** Ronald McDonald House
150 Clinch Crescent

Can't make it in person:

- Make your donation online at www.RMHCNL.ca
- Watch the Tree Lighting **LIVE** on NTV News at 6:30pm NST



Volunteer Spotlight

Chloe Hussey, St. John's

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

Chloe Hussey, a first-year student at Memorial University, began her journey with Ronald McDonald House Charities NL at just 16 years old. Over the past two years, Chloe has grown from a dedicated in-house volunteer to an enthusiastic presence at community events, always eager to lend a hand wherever needed.

Always cheerful and dependable, Chloe is quick to sign up for opportunities and consistently brings energy and positivity to every task she takes on.

This summer, Chloe took her dedication to a new level by organizing her own "Light the Way" 50/50 ticket draw, raising over \$2,000 to support Ronald McDonald House Charities NL. Her initiative reflects a deep commitment to making a difference, not just through scheduled shifts, but by seeking out new ways to contribute. Whether she's helping at the house, representing RMHC NL in the community, or creating her own fundraising efforts, Chloe's passion for helping others shines through.

For more information about volunteer opportunities, please visit us at (RMHCNL.ca) or scan the QR code



Did you know? You can support Ronald McDonald House each time you visit any **McDonald's** location in the Province!

Support Ronald McDonald House at your local McDonald's



Make a donation at the Kiosk	With every purchase of a RMHC Cookie	Ask to Round up your order	With every purchase of Happy Meal	Drop your spare change in the coin boxes on the counter & drive-thru!
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Pull-Tab Collection Program

Pull tabs are an easy way to recycle and help our families at the same time. Anyone in your family, school, business, church, or service club can join in.

These small pieces of aluminum are a way for you to help us to provide a supportive home for families who have travelled to St. John's with a sick or injured child.



Learn more by visiting our website or scanning the QR code!
<https://rmhcnl.ca/get-involved/recycling-and-pull-tab-program/>



Welcome to the RMHC NL Board of Directors!

We are grateful for your support as we help keep families with sick or injured children close to the comfort and care they need, when they need it the most.

- Annette Bishop-Higdon, Director
- Abbi Morris, Director (McDonald's)
- Candace Seymour, CPA, CMA, Treasurer

Thank you for stepping up!

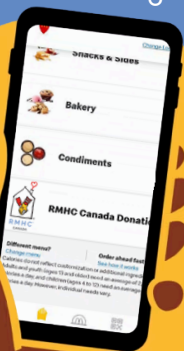
Hats off to our current board members who have stepped into new roles. Your leadership and experience are making a real impact!

- Darren Martin, Board Chair
- Hilary Wicks-Morrow, Vice Chair



Donating to Ronald McDonald House is now easier than ever!

You can now make any size donation through the **McDonald's app**!



Final Step Event

Announcement and prize draws will take place on

**Friday October 17th
11am Facebook Live!**

Stay up to date!
Follow Ronald McDonald House on social media



Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador



Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador



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