

# 2015 Annual Report



#### Contents

How it all began **RMHC Mission & Vision** Message from RMHC Chairperson, Dr Bruce Mitchell **Board of Trustees & Committees** Message from RMHC Treasurer, Pat Keogh Message from RMHC CEO, Marian Carroll Charity & House Staff Volunteers Families in The Ronald McDonald House **Family Stories** House Events 2015 #Cooking4Families #Walking4Families / Dawn Meats / Ballygowan Fundraising 2015 Sponsors & Donors 2015 A New Ronald McDonald House/National Children's Hospital RMHC Fundraising Events 2016



**RMHC Contact Details** 

# The Ronald McDonald House – How it all began

Ronald McDonald House Charities was born out of the unlikely partnership of Dr Audrey Evans, an oncologist at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, McDonald's and an American Football team - the Philadelphia Eagles.



Eagles, had a daughter, Kim, suffering from leukaemia, which prompted the team to raise in excess of \$100,000 dollars to support the hospital. This was met with much gratitude from Dr. Evans and her team but also with a request for another \$32,000 to fund a house in which families of children in the hospital could get proper rest, away from the ward.

Fred Hill, a player for the Philadelphia

This request was met by Ed Rensi, an area manager for McDonald's. The company offered to donate the proceeds from their 'shamrock shake' to the cause. In return Ed asked that the house be known as the Ronald McDonald House.

On 15 October 1974, the first Ronald McDonald House opened its doors in Philadelphia. In 1984 the Ronald McDonald charities was officially established in memory of McDonald's Corporation founder Ray Kroc, a strong advocate for children. In the intervening years Ronald McDonald House Charities has formed new and independent chapters in over 60 regions and countries.

Kim Hill

There are now 357 \*Ronald McDonald Houses in 42 countries, 206 \*Ronald McDonald Family Rooms in 23 countries and 49 Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles in 9 countries. In 2012 RMHC was honored by the American Hospital Association as an exceptional partner in the delivery of health care services. Today at least one RMHC Core Programme\* provides care for families being served at 89% of top children's hospitals worldwide. RMHC is the world's leading NGO supporting the accommodation needs of families with children receiving treatment at a hospital.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2004 the first Irish Ronald McDonald House opened on the grounds of Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin. On 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 we opened our second House. The Ronald McDonald House in Ireland looks after 20 families every night. Since 2004 we have provided accommodation, care and support for almost 3,000 families from all over Ireland.

\*RMHC Core Programme



### RMHC Ireland Our Mission

The mission of RMHC Ireland is to provide a Ronald McDonald House in order to support families whose children are seriously ill in hospital. The Ronald McDonald House provides accommodation and a caring and supportive environment for families whose children are seriously ill and are hospitalised or undergoing medical treatment at Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin, Dublin 12



## RMHC Ireland Our Vision

Through our committed board members, our caring staff, our dedicated volunteers and our generous donors and supporters we aim to provide a caring and supportive environment for families so that they can stay together when their children are ill in hospital.



# A Message from our Chairperson



It is my pleasure to once again present the Annual Report from the Board of Trustees of the Ronald McDonald House Charities, Ireland.

The Ronald McDonald House Charities in Ireland supports families whose children are seriously ill in hospital. We accomplish this through our Ronald McDonald House. Our House provides a caring and supportive environment for 20 families every night while their seriously ill children are undergoing treatment at Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin, Dublin 12.

The last year has been a very busy one for the Charity. The demand for the services provided is ever increasing. Last year we looked after 254 families from all over Ireland. Our annual running costs are in excess of €400,000. This money is raised each year through our many fundraising events.

It is important to take this opportunity to thank all of our very generous supporters. Your generosity makes what we do possible and results in an enormous difference for so many families.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to express our gratitude to Marian Carroll, our CEO (volunteer) and all of her staff and volunteers who make such a worthwhile contribution to so many families at a time of great vulnerability and need. Since we opened in November 2004 we have provided a very valuable and necessary service for almost 3,000 families from all over Ireland which amounts to almost 68,000 bed nights. It is not numbers that makes our House a Home. It's the people - the staff, the volunteers, the donors, the families and the community. It is the warmth, the sharing of joy and sorrow, the listening ear and the supportive hug, the courage and the love that makes our House a Home.

RMHC is committed to the highest standards of governance. Our charity will always remain in the vanguard of those which ensure that funding raised through the generosity of all our donors will remain maximally available for the purposes for which it was donated.

2016 will be a busy year for The Ronald McDonald House Charity, Ireland. Our 5—year objective is to develop and build a New 53 bedroom Ronald McDonald House, adjacent to the New National Children's Hospital when it opens in 2020. 2016 will see us launch a major capital fundraising programme to help raise the funds required to build this new House.

Your continued support will be necessary as the Charity cannot achieve its goals without you.

Thank you.

Dr. Bruce Mitchell Chairperson RMHC Ireland



#### RMHC Ireland Board of Trustees



Chairperson: Dr. Bruce Mitchell, MBBCh, FRCP, FRCPI

CEO (Volunteer): Marian Carroll

Secretary: Brenda O'Loughlin (McDonald's Owner Operator Tullamore & Portlaoise)

Marcus Hewson (ex M.D. McDonald's Restaurants of Ireland Ltd.)

Alison Cowzer (Managing Director, The Company of Food)

Jimmy Edwards (Director of Operations, Franchising & Supply Chain McDonald's Ireland)

Dave Bobbett (Owner & MD H&K International)

Dr. Aengus O'Marcaigh (Consultant Paediatric Haematologist, OLC Hospital Crumlin)

Mike Ruding (McDonald's Owner Operator, Drogheda & Navan)

Shane Jennings (Ex Ireland & Leinster Rugby Player)

Martin Foy (Director BrennanFoy & Co Engineers Ltd)

All Board Members, including our CEO, kindly donate their time and their services on a voluntary basis.

#### **Board Sub Committees**

#### **Fundraising Committee:**

Alison Cowzer, Marian Carroll, Mike Ruding, Shane Jennings, Marcus Hewson, Jimmy Edwards, Martin Foy, Joe Kenny Finance, Remuneration & Governance Committee:

Pat Keogh, Brenda O'Loughlin, Dave Bobbett, Bruce Mitchell, Kevin Keenan House Committee: Marian Carroll, Aengus O'Marcaigh, Martin Foy, Joe Kenny

New House Committee: Bruce Mitchell, Marian Carroll, Alison Cowzer, Dave Bobbett, Kevin Keenan, Pat Keogh, Martin

Foy, Joe Kenny

McDonald's Owner Operator Liaison: Mike Ruding, Brenda O'Loughlin

McDonald's Restaurants Ireland Ltd. Liaison: Jimmy Edwards

Hospital Liaison: Aengus O'Marcaigh

#### Additional Committees

Golf

Marian Carroll Liz Nolan Joe Kenny Richard Boland Rall

Marian Carroll Liz Nolan Joe Kenny

Cycle

Joe Kenny Sheena Dalton Jenny Farrell Liz Nolan Pat Keogh Geraldine Gleeson

Belinda Ennis Anne Redican

Ambassadors: Shane Jennings, Brenda Donohue, Johne Murphy, Jake Heenan



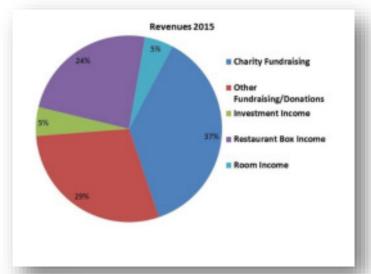
# Message from the Treasurer / Pat Keogh

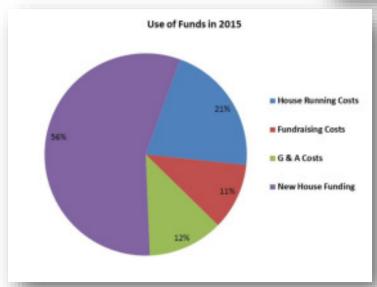
The past year has again demonstrated the wonderful support we receive from so many people. The generosity of individuals and corporations who donated in 2015 is not only appreciated by the Ronald McDonald House Charity but also by the many families who have stayed with us throughout the year.

In 2015 we raised €1,329,535. This support allows us to operate The House, look after our families and assists us greatly as we look to fund the building of a New Ronald McDonald House which we intend to open alongside the New National Children's Hospital.



The Ronald McDonald House Charity Ireland is committed to efficiency, transparency and accountability to ensure the funds we receive are used to benefit the families we serve.





Full audited accounts are available on www.rmhc.ie



#### RMHC Ireland & the Ronald McDonald House



# Message from Marian Carroll CEO (Volunteer) RMHC Ireland

With two full time staff members and six part time staff a considerable amount of work was done in 2015 by very few but very dedicated people.

We could not look after our families or conduct our fundraising events without the help and support of our staff and our many wonderful volunteers. I thank each and every one of you for helping our families through very difficult times.

The launch of our first National Campaign #Walking4Families was a great success. We thank all our Families who organized the event in many locations around the country.

I was honoured to have been nominated and to have received the following awards this year - National Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year and The Global People's Choice Award. Great recognition for The Ronald McDonald House Charity and the work we do #KeepingFamiliesClose

In 2015 we worked very closely with the New Children's Hospital Group Board, The New Children's Hospital Development Board and the HSE with a view to providing a new 53 bedroom Ronald McDonald House alongside the new National Children's Hospital. We are very hopeful planning permission will be granted so that we can start planning a new Ronald McDonald House in 2016.

#### Charity Staff

CEO (Volunteer): Marian Carroll Charity Administrator: Liz Nolan Chief Financial Officer: Kevin Keenan Head of Operations: Joe Kenny Social Media: Lesley Fennelly (to June)





#### House Staff

House Managers: Sheena Dalton & Jenny Farrell Front of House: Sandra Seery & Ellen Kearney (July) House Keepers: Sandra Seery, Valerie Killeen



### Volunteers 2015

#### Volunteer Hours: 8,690: Savings €184,019

Our Volunteers are involved in so many areas both in the Charity and in The House. They help with cooking, cleaning, gardening, painting, plumbing, electrical, administration and IT. Whatever job we need looked after there is always a Volunteer there to help. Thank you all for making a difference.



Aida Kaltak Anne Donegan Ann Redican Ann Smyth Aoife Mulholland Aoife West Bernard Fitzgerald Bernice McCormack Bernie Carroll Caroline Caulfield Catherine O'Neill Clodagh O'Neil Dave Lombard Donna Lynch Famonn McNamee Eileen Mitchell Emer Keating Finbarr Ryan Gavin O'Brien Ger Gleeson Hannah Corcoran

Ivy Keohane – Dore James Lumumba Jimmy Kinahan Jonathon Squire Karla Masterson Katrina Mooney Kelvin O'Mahony Kieron Connolly Larry O'Brien Linda Ennis Lorcan Potts Louise Buchel Mairéad Moran Margaret McEvov Marian Carroll Marian Gallagher Maura Carolan Maurice Fitzgerald, Michael Comerford Moira O'Flaherty

Niamh Barry Niamh Clarke Orlagh Cramp Paul Hamilton Paula Knox Pauline O'Connell Peter Navan Rachel Nolan Richard Boland Sandra Fogarty Seán Masterson Sharon Lawlor Sister Miriam Doran Stuart Connolly Sylvia McDonald Teresa Armstrong Therese Fagan Tom Hayes Veronica Reid Vincent Campbell Vinny O'Reilly

Thanks also to the 21 Transition Year Students who volunteered in 2015

#### Message from one of our Volunteers: Paula Knox



My name is Paula Knox and I have been a volunteer in the Ronald McDonald House since September 2012.

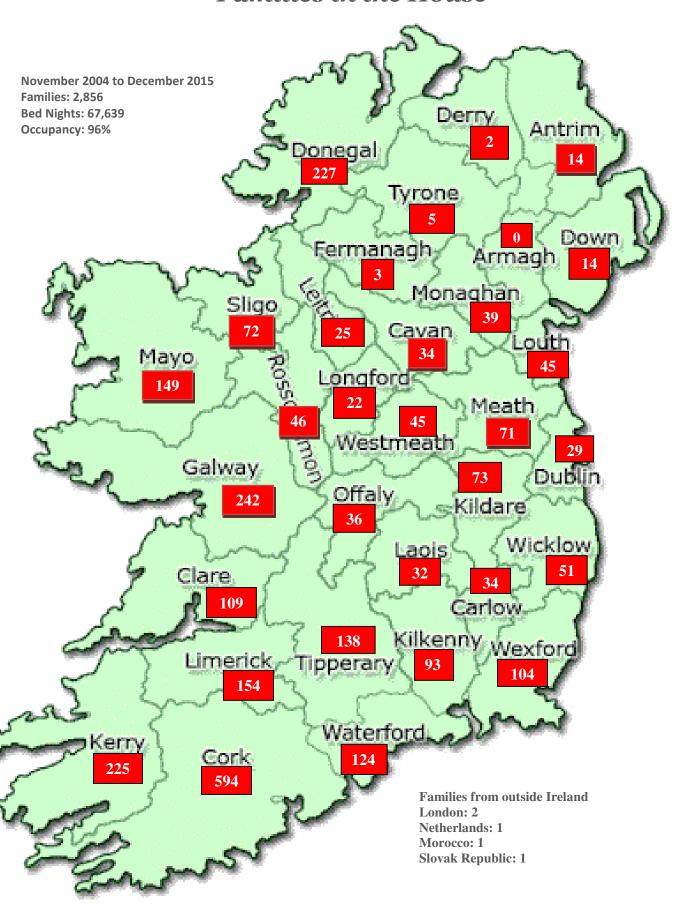
I have 2 sons aged 16 and 12, and I felt that I had some free time in the mornings to perhaps help or volunteer. I had heard about the Ronald McDonald house and how it was a "home" not a house for parents of very sick children in Our Lady's Hospital. I initially met with Sheena and Sandra who both made me feel very welcome. I now volunteer on a Tuesday morning, and I'm happy to do whatever needs to be done. That could be getting bedrooms ready, answering phones, flipping pancakes etc. I have also enjoyed being involved in the team helping at the Ronald McDonald House annual Cycle and annual Ball.

Personally, I feel very privileged to be part of the volunteer team in the Ronald McDonald House. I have met the nicest, kindest people volunteering, working and staying in the House. I love our 11am tea break! I have received more from volunteering than I could ever hope to give. After I close the gate and leave on a Tuesday I feel blessed to have my 2 healthy happy boys.... To conclude, being part of the volunteer team we hope in some small way that we can ease the burden facing the brave families that stay in the House.

We can assure Paula and all our Volunteers that they make a significant contribution to our families every single day. Thank You for helping us to keep our families close.



#### Families in the House





### **Family Stories**



Trish, Denis and Patrick

**Cork Family:** Having a baby is an emotional time for any new first time mom. Throw in a congenital heart defect diagnosis, giving birth in Dublin 250km from all your family and friends, your baby being moved to Crumlin Hospital within hours of being born and it becomes an exceptional difficult and lonely time. This is where the Ronald McDonald House steps in and not only provides you with a roof over your head but becomes your new family and friends. It becomes your whole support network. A friendly smile and hello from the staff. A compassionate ear to listen to your problems and a nice warm comfortable house and bedroom to come back to after a long, worrying and emotionally tiring day at the hospital.

Those late night or early morning chats with other parents; where you realise you are not alone and where there is a whole network of people who understand exactly what you are going through. So great to be able to chat about your day or indeed to chat about something completely different. To share your story, to listen, and for you to gain strength from their stories. The volunteers who come in to cook fabulous home cooked meals, the gorgeous coffee, the people who wash your car, even down to the lady who will fold your clothes out of the dryer. The Ronald McDonald House is not just about your ensuite bedroom (although these are fab!) The Ronald McDonald House is your home away from home at your darkest hour

When you can't see the wood from the trees it welcomes you in, wraps its arms around you and makes you feel strong. When I was on my own because my husband had to go to work I met some wonderful people who kept me company and friendships were formed. You were never alone when you had the Ronald McDonald House.

Words don't do the place justice and we will always be so grateful to you for helping us through the most difficult time of our lives. People aren't aware of the reality of what happens in Crumlin Hospital or the practicalities of having a child in hospital. They don't realise the difference it makes to be near the hospital yet to be able to leave the hospital. The mental break it gives you to change environment if only for 10 mins for that quick coffee or a shower and yet to still only be a few minutes' walk from your baby. It helps you return to the hospital refreshed and to continue to face the challenges of the day. Thank you to all the staff and volunteers of the Ronald McDonald House. You will never truly realise the difference you make. May you continue to provide this wonderful support and service for parents from all over Ireland.



Jonah Murphy

**Galway Family:** When we first found out Jonah had a heart defect and needed to be born in Dublin to be near Crumlin Hospital our last thoughts were about where we were going to stay such was our shock about the news. We later found out about the Ronald McDonald House from a friend who told us to give them a call and let them know when his due date was and to put our name on the waiting list. We initially thought our stay would only be for a couple of weeks. With Jonah's many complications we stayed for nearly six months. To say the House was incredible would be an understatement. The facilities are amazing but more than that the staff, the volunteers and the other family members are what made our stay a lot easier than it might otherwise have been. The Ronald McDonald House was a life saver for myself and Edel. To have a place to go to, away from the pressures of the hospital and just be able to catch up on some rest and have something to eat was one of the few things that kept us going for so long. The staff and families we got to know there will be our friends forever. We'll never be able to thank the staff and the volunteers enough for all they've done for us. The Ronald McDonald House will be top of our list for any fundraising we do from now on. This facility is absolutely essential for parents whose children are long-term sick in Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin or any hospital for that matter. Thanks again guys!



# 2,856 Families since 2004 — Some of our Families



"Thank you for helping us out during the first few months of our daughter's stay in Crumlin. We are so grateful that we could call your House our Home during that difficult time. It meant so much that we had a base near our daughter and also that we were able to have the boys come and stay" (Cork Family)



#### House Events 2015

Since The House opened in November 2004 we have provided accommodation, care and support for almost 3,000 families from all over Ireland. The House is more than bricks and mortar. The House provides a caring and supportive environment and a safe haven for families with sick children. We could not provide this environment without the many volunteers who come to the house each week to help look after the families. During 2015 we had lots of happy events in The House. Thank you for helping us to look after our families.



Ronald McDonald House

### #Cooking4Families 2015



### #Walking4Families 2015

In 2015 we launched our first National Fundraising Campaign. A 5k Family Walk. The walks took place in 8 locations around the country. Cork, Dublin, Killarney, Kilkenny, Letterkenny, Limerick, Tralee and Galway. All events outside of Dublin were organized by families who have stayed with us over the past 11 years. In total €35,372 was raised. Thanks to everybody who supported this campaign in 2015. We look forward to an even more successful #Walking4Families Campaign in 2016.







### Dawn Meats and Bloom 2015

Sanctuary of Ronald McDonald House recreated at Bloom by garden designer Anthony Ryan

The Ronald McDonald House Charity (RMHC) and Dawn Meats launched a themed garden at Bloom 2015 that provided a warm and inviting sanctuary for families at difficult times. Designed by Kildare-based garden designer Anthony Ryan, the garden's theme is "Keeping Families Together." The garden has been awarded the Gold Medal in the Concept Garden Category.

For over 11 years, the Ronald McDonald House Charity has worked to keep families close to their sick child by providing a "home from home" with home-cooked meals, accommodation and a welcome living environment on the grounds of Crumlin



Children's Hospital. The ethos of the House is to give families the practical supports to stay together and assist each other when faced with serious or long-term illnesses. Working with one of its key supporters, Dawn Meats, RMHC is now re-creating that inviting and peaceful sanctuary for adults and children at Bloom.

Commenting on the collaboration, Paul Nolan, Group Development Manager, Dawn Meats said:

"We have worked with the Ronald McDonald House for many years now, and continue to be inspired by the support and hope they give at the most difficult time for any parent; the illness of a child. Anyone who has visited the Ronald McDonald House, will be aware of it's very special atmosphere, and through this collaboration at Bloom, we hope to encourage others to show their support and offer assistance to this most worthy cause."

Commenting Marian Carroll, Volunteer CEO of Ronald McDonald House Charity said

"We opened the first Ronald McDonald House in November 2004, and since then, we have provided accommodation, care and support for over 2,600 families from all over Ireland. Families stay for a few days, a few weeks and in many cases for many months. We keep families together, and try to maintain as much of a sense of normalcy for them as is possible in such difficult times. I thank Anthony Ryan for his outstanding work on our garden, and I hope our presence at Bloom served to make even more families aware of the support that we can provide."

 $A \ very \ sincere \ Thank \ You \ to \ Dawn \ Meats for \ their \ ongoing \ commitment \ to \ and \ support for \ The \ Ronald \ McDonald \ House.$ 

#### Ballygowan

In 2015 Ballygowan and McDonald's teamed up to help share The Ronald McDonald House Story. 250,000 RMHC labeled bottles (500ml & 250Ml) will be sold through the McDonald's Restaurants from November 2015 into 2016. Many thanks to Ballygowan and McDonald's for this great support for the work we do.







#### Sponsors & Donors 2015

#### McDonald's Restaurants of Ireland & Irish McDonald's Owner Operators

A very sincere thank you to Adrian Crean, MD McDonald's Restaurants of Ireland for his and for the company's tremendous support during 2015. Their sponsorship of our Masquerade Ball was very much appreciated. We would also like to thank all the Irish McDonald's Owner Operators for their very generous help and support during the year. Aaron Byrne, Amir Afsar, Bernard Byrne, Brenda O'Loughlin, Chris Pim, Declan O'Driscoll, Elaine Sterio, Gerry Hayden, Ian Carroll, James Perry, Jim Ronayne, Joe Byrne, John Blake, John Gallagher, Kieran McDermott, Malcolm McConkey, Mark O'Halloran, Martin Hoban, Mike Ruding, Morgan McStay, Phil Danaher, Rhoda Cramp, Richard McNamara, Séamus Rawle, Seán Corcoran, Seán Quirke, Siobhán Slater.

#### **McDonald's Suppliers**

We would like to thank Dave Bobbett and H&K in particular for their generous sponsorship of the RMHC Cycle, Golf and Ball again this year. The following companies also work closely with McDonald's and kindly support the work we do. Aecom, American Pan Company, AON Risk Solutions, Arthur Gibney Architects, ARYZTA, Ballygowan, Britvic, Cargill, Cawley Nea\TBWA, CJ Ryder Lawlor Ltd, Coca Cola, Colman Reynolds, Dawn Meats Group, Dawn Farm Foods, Delta Packaging, Dew Valley Foods, Donal O'Buachalla, Drury, Espersen Denmark, Freshways, Greenfield Foods, GSLS, Guenther Bakeries, H&K International, Jones Lang LaSalle, Kay Chemicals, Kerry Group, Kompan Commercial Systems, KPMG, Lakeland Dairies, Lamb Weston, Linney Group, Logical Real Estate Consulting, Martin Brower Ire, Martin Brower UK, McBurney Transport, McCains UK, McCann Fitzgerald Solicitors, McCormick UK, Masterlink, Mediaworks, NASA, Nestlé Ireland, P&J Gaffney Ltd, PML Group, PRL Group, Paul & Thomas Hamilton Plumbing, Reinhold Keller, Revenue Management Systems, Smith Anderson, Stafford Lynch, Three Ireland, Tom Phillips & Associates, Towers Watson, Tulip Ltd, Wide Eye Media.

#### **Corporate & Individual Donors**

#### The following companies and individuals have also supported us generously during the year. Thank You

ABM Construction, Aidan Oliver Photography, Aramark, ARVATO, Atron, Athlone Springs Hotel, Airmid Health Group Ltd, Avon Rí Hotel, Ballinhassig Camogie Club, Ballintogher Festival, Ballykisteen Golf Club, Ballymaloe Cookery School, Bank of Ireland, Bizquip, BNY Mellon, Brasserie on the Corner, Brennan Foy & Co Engineers, Brinks, Butlers Chocolates, Buswells Hotel, Calor Teoranta, Cascade Designs, Carton House Hotel, Cassidy Wines, Celtic Ross Hotel, Chapter One, Classic Drinks, Coady Partnership, Coláiste Bhaile Chláire, Connachy Family, Dave Roland Electrician, Dawson Hotel, Deloitte, DFP Consultants, Diarmaid Breathnach, Diarmuid Geary, Eddie & Helen Wall, Edward Dillon & Co, Eoin Reddan, Etelligence Ltd, Extreme Ireland, Fantasy Lights, Fergal O'Murchú, Fiona O'Donnell, Fireseal, Fitzwilliam Hotel, Fleishman Europe, Food Cloud, Forrest Feast, Framed & Delivered.ie, Ger & Belinda Ennis, George & Catherine Gannon, Gibson Hotel, Giles Norman, Glenpac Bacon, Gleesons Townhouse, Grease Monkey Garages, Hacketts Printing, Hodson Bay Hotel, Investec, IRFU, Italian Cookery School, James Herren Menswear, James Whelan Butcher, Jason Blessing, Jazz Pharmaceuticals, Jim Lally Superstore, Jim Cotter, Joan Cregan, Johne Murphy, Johnson & Johnson, KAL, Kaneco, Kaymed, Kevin O'Brien, Keymore Construction, Keelings, Kellogg's, Kilcock Golf Club, Killiney Castle, Knowles Family, Koping Citroen, Larchill Scouts, Largo Foods, La Rousse Foods, Larry O'Brien (PJ Hegarty), LAYA Healthcare, Leading Edge, Leinster Rugby, Leopardstown Race Course, Limerick Strand Hotel, Louis Copeland, Lyreco, McKesson, Mark Baker, Maureen O'Mahony, Medicare, Mike & Mary Mehigan, Michael Cleary, Miele, Moate Golf Club, Moyvalley Hotel, Mulranny Park Hotel, Musgraves, Naas Golf Club, NAC, Nespresso, Paint Group, Pallas Foods, Pantry Franchise Ireland, Pfizer, Peg Fortune's Carlow Dance, Peter Mark, Prem Group, Radisson Galway, Rasam Restaurant, Reckitt Benckiser, Robert Chambers, Robert-Roberts, Rory Barnes, Roschem, RTE Media Sales, Sales Force, SAP Ireland Ltd, Scoil Mochua, Seamus Downes, Seifa Ireland, Shane Deasy, Shane Jennings, Sheen Falls Lodge, S-Security Ltd, Simtech, Slieve Russell Golf Club, Slaney Foods, Sean Masterson, Strand Travel, St Mary's Rugby Club, Stunt Drive Ireland, South Dublin Chamber, Susan Peggs, Talbot Hotel, Tesco, The Cliff House Hotel, The Company of Food, The Croke Park, The Marker Hotel, The Paint Store, The Shelbourne Hotel, Thorne Sarsfield, Thorntons, TLI Group, Tony & Guy, Today FM, Tom Whelan Butcher, Tulfarris Golf Club, TV3, Unilever, UMamma, Up to my Eyes, Vienna Woods Hotel, Vit-Hit, Waterford Castle, Waterford Rotary, Wella, Wineport Lodge, Woodlands Hotel, Zaragoza Restaurant.

#### **Families & Friends**

We have so many families and individuals who make very generous donations to the Ronald McDonald House each year. Last year was no exception. A very sincere *Thank You* to everybody. Your generosity makes an enormous difference to so many families.



# Planning for the Future

The New National Children's Hospital at St. James's Hospital

A long awaited decision was reached in 2012 to build The New National Children's Hospital on a site on the grounds of St James's Hospital in Dublin. The hospital will be built on a 6.3 hectare site on the campus of the south inner city hospital and will be finished by the end 2020

The development of the New National Children's Hospital will be the biggest capital project during the lifetime of the current Government. It will merge the three children's hospitals - Temple Street, Crumlin (RMH) and Tallaght - at a single location. The Minister for Health, Leo Varadkar, has said the New Children's Hospital will be fully operational in 2020. At our Gala Ball in November Minister for Health, Leo Varadkar, thanked all our guests for their ongoing commitment to and support for The Ronald McDonald House in Ireland. Their support and the support of so many around the country has enabled almost 3,000 families to receive care and accommodation at The Ronald McDonald House, Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin, since 2004. The Minister said that this wonderful facility, provided for families at no cost to the State, is very much appreciated by the Government and The Department of Health. He also said that those who generously support the work of the Charity have made an enormous contribution to healthcare in Ireland.



53 Bedroom RMH - Artists' Impression



Draft Design New National Children's Hospital

#### A New Ronald McDonald House

We opened the first Ronald McDonald House on the grounds of Our Lady's Children's Hospital in November 2004. Within a year of opening we heard that a New National Children's Hospital was to be built in Dublin. With only 16 bedrooms in our House and a serious demand for rooms we opened an additional 4 rooms to provide for our families. With news of a New Hospital in a new location we have been reluctant to expand until we received confirmation of the new hospital and the location. With the Government commitment now confirmed we are working closely with the New Hospital Development Board and making definite plans to build a New 53 bedroom Ronald McDonald House alongside the new hospital.

2016 will be a very exciting year for everyone involved with The Ronald McDonald House Charity, Ireland. RMHC Ireland has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the New Hospital Board, The HSE and the Development Board in relation to providing a Ronald McDonald House alongside the New Hospital. As we await the planning decision early in May we will look to launching a Capital Campaign that will see us raise the money that will be required to build our 'New Home'. We will need to continue to rely on the generosity of our many supporters to help us realise our ambitious plan.

# Ronald McDonald House Charity

# Fundraising Events 2016



### **RMHC Annual Cycle**

**#Cycling4Families** 

16<sup>th</sup> April 2016



### **RMHC Golf Classic**

16<sup>th</sup> June 2016



#### **RMHC Annual Walk**

**#Walking4Families** 

10<sup>th</sup> September 2016



#### **RMHC Gala Ball**

12th November 2016



For more information on any of these events please visit www.rmhc.ie





RMHC Ireland
The Ronald McDonald House
Our Lady's Children's Hospital
Crumlin
Dublin 12

Phone: +353 1 4560436 Email: admin@rmhc.ie

Registered Charity Number CHY12553

