



# Gratitude Report 2019



Ronald McDonald  
House Charities®  
Southern Arizona

Keeping families close®

## WITH GRATITUDE

For all our volunteers who know that love and compassion help families heal.

For all our donors and friends who support the work of RMHC® in countless ways.

And for all the families who place their trust in us while their children are receiving medical care.

Thank you so very much. We share these highlights of our past year with heartfelt gratitude.





# Cultivating Compassion

It started with an idea to create an outdoor space for parents. A quiet place for them to sit outside and take a deep breath. To watch the birds and enjoy the view of our beautiful Santa Catalina Mountains.

From a patch of dirt, a stunning spot evolved with desert plants and wildflowers, places to sit, space to think – a true healing garden.

Along the way we realized that we were cultivating more than plants and flowers. We were cultivating kindness and compassion in that garden. People enjoy giving to Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Southern Arizona and for that we are grateful.

So many people wanted to help with this garden project. We received donations from a family group, a golfing group, a foundation and dozens of plant stores. We had families, fraternities and retired fire captains coming out to help dig, plant and pour concrete. And our staff enjoyed a few days out of the office, working in the dirt.

This is the kind of kindness that happens at Ronald McDonald House Charities. People come together to help improve lives for families with seriously ill children. Together we make great things possible. With your help, we make life a little easier for the hundreds of families who call this House their home.

With gratitude,



Kate Maguire Jensen  
President & CEO



# Hope

*“When I was discharged, I was broken-hearted, knowing Hope would have to stay. I couldn’t leave her. And home was so far away.”*



Last year the Lopez family was eagerly awaiting the birth of their fourth daughter, Hope. They already knew she had Down Syndrome and a heart defect, but the minute she was born, they knew it was much worse when baby Hope was rushed to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

“When I was discharged, I was broken-hearted, knowing Hope would have to stay. I couldn’t leave her. And home was so far away,” said mom Margo Lopez.

“We thought she’d be in the hospital for about two weeks. We live in Santa Rosa, south of Sells. We didn’t have the finances to drive back and forth or to afford hotel stays.”

A hospital social worker told her about the Ronald McDonald House, and she moved in. Her husband, Darren, went home to care for their other three girls.

Two weeks turned into several months, which was hard on the whole family.

“The girls were used to having me at home. My husband tried hard, but he doesn’t know how to fix their hair.” Also, he’s a firefighter/EMT and works 24-hour shifts – so when he was working, neighbors and friends stepped in to help with the girls.

The family came together at the Ronald McDonald House on the weekends and the girls enjoyed having somewhere to play with their Barbies, to be able to go outside and ride bikes. Margo and Darren appreciated the connections they made with other families, volunteers and staff.

Hope went through a series of medical challenges and crises, including congestive heart failure. In addition to her heart problems, she has only one functioning kidney and profound hearing loss. Finally, when she was nearly three months old, she was able to join her sisters – Haleigha, Hannah and Hailey at home.

**“The Ronald McDonald House was a loving, supportive safe haven for our family. It’s somewhere you can rejuvenate and feel at home. People are there to support you, to help keep you sane. It is a home and we were grateful for it.”**





*From left: Haleigha, Margo,  
Hannah, Hope, Darren, & Hailey*

“The Ronald McDonald House is an amazing charity that helps benefit the local community. Ace Hardware loves to be involved in the community and this is a perfect way to give back.”

JOE FINDYSZ

*President, Ace Hardware Stores, Inc.*

This past year, Joe's Ace Hardware locations ran a creative fundraiser for RMHC, asking customers to “Round Up for Ronald”. In only a few weeks, one penny and nickel at a time, they raised more than \$12,500. The dedicated employees were excited to know that in addition to selling hardware supplies, they were also keeping families with sick children close to each other.



*Christopher Lohofener,  
RMHC Operations Manager*

## A Place to Heal

One of the goals at the Ronald McDonald House is to create a sense of community and support. Families meet other families and help each other navigate the emotional stress of having a sick child. But sometimes a parent needs to sit outside alone, to think and breathe and gather some strength.

Chris Lohofener, our operations manager, had the idea to create a healing garden here – and has made it his labor of love. He designed the garden to be a place of beauty, with plants, flowers, rocks and streams, a fountain and pergola. Places to sit. Spaces to dream.

Chris has done a lot of the work himself, with assistance from community volunteers and friends.

We asked for support and the community answered. The first generous gift came from Darrin's Dune Run – a family-run event which honors the life of Darrin Dirks. Darrin died of cancer at age 19 and every year his family hosts a dune buggy event near Yuma to help other families with a critically ill child or young adults. They have donated to our Ronald McDonald House every year since 2012.

Sharon Crowder leads the Desert Ladies Golf Group that has supported our House since 2009. Last year's tournament profits went right to the garden.

We also received a grant from the Melody Robidoux Foundation Fund. Melody has a special love for gardening and was so happy to support this project.

The garden will open in April and will be named *The Louise Thomas Healing Garden*. Louise served on the first board of trustees for Ronald McDonald House back in 1981 and later started Angel Charity for Children to pay off the mortgage of that House. It's a fitting tribute to a woman who has spent the last 38 years raising money to help children and families in Pima County.



A close-up photograph of a woman with long brown hair, wearing a white top, gently cradling a newborn baby. The baby is wearing a white hospital gown and has a clear feeding tube in its mouth. The woman has her eyes closed and a soft smile, conveying a sense of love and care.

# TMC Foundation Loves Moms and Babies

Imagine you're a mom who has a baby born weeks or months before your due date. You had planned to breastfeed, but your tiny newborn is not yet able. Your best option is to pump breast milk to give to your baby with a bottle or through a feeding tube.

Nearly a third of the families that stay at the Ronald McDonald House are moms with premature babies or full-term babies who were born with serious medical problems. Many of these moms were pumping breast milk for their babies wherever they could find space in the House. Now thanks to the TMC Foundation, they have a beautiful, private room just for this purpose.

In April we are opening the TMC Foundation Lactation Suite to provide new mothers with a clean, quiet, comfortable environment so they can provide their babies with the nourishment they need. It's a relaxing place with gliding chairs and ottomans, soft surroundings and a dedicated refrigerator/freezer to store breast milk.

In addition to the generous grant from the TMC Foundation, philanthropist and community volunteer Laurie Wetterschneider arranged for donations to enhance this nurturing experience. Two local artists, Diana Madaras and Janie Cohen, donated beautiful paintings to decorate the room. The Red Door Salon & Spa at Westin La Paloma donated relaxation neck wraps. Heartfelt thanks to all for helping us reduce stress for mothers with babies in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.





“The TMC Foundation is proud to support Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Arizona and its mission to improve the health and well-being of children and their families. The lactation suite will be an important part of helping moms provide optimal nourishment and quality care for newborns.”

MICHAEL J. DURAN

*Vice President & Chief Development Officer*

*TMC Foundation*

# About our Families

IN 2018

## 554 Family Visits

LONGEST STAY

## 184 Nights

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY

## 10 Days



## WHY THEY STAY

163 PREMATURE BIRTH/NICU

105 CANCER

54 CARDIAC

27 BEHAVIORAL

20 ACCIDENT/TRAUMA

185 22+ OTHER DIAGNOSES

## WHERE THEY'RE FROM

COCHISE 161

YUMA 84

GRAHAM 54

PIMA 48

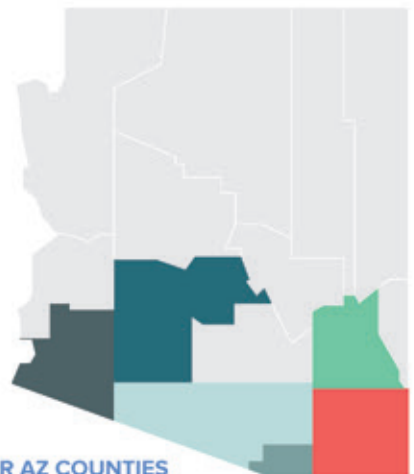
SANTA CRUZ 45

MARICOPA 30

53 FROM OTHER AZ COUNTIES

54 FROM OTHER STATES

25 FROM OTHER COUNTRIES



## FINANCIAL IMPACT

# \$1,121,675

Families staying at the Ronald McDonald House in 2018 saved an estimated \$1.1 million in hotel, meal and transportation costs.



## Erick the Brave

In early December, Raquel Villalvazo was planning to go to church (where her husband, Erick, is the pastor), like she did every Sunday.

She was 25 weeks pregnant with her third child, the first boy. She had no risk factors, no signs of premature labor and both of her daughters had been born late and healthy. So even though she's a nurse, it was hard for her to believe she was going into premature labor.

When she got to the hospital in Sierra Vista, where she works, she was treated immediately and her contractions slowed down. But the doctors knew she needed to get to a hospital with neonatal specialists and put her on a helicopter to Banner Children's Diamond Children's Medical Center.

"Everyone was ready for me," Raquel said.

"The doctor said he was going to try to keep me pregnant – even if for a few hours."

She prayed out loud. "I didn't know if I was going to make it – or if the baby was going to make it."

At 4:50 on Sunday afternoon, baby Erick was born – weighing 1 pound, 10 ounces. "I saw him for a second, then they started CPR."

Those first few days were a blur, but Raquel was glad that a nurse told her about the Ronald McDonald House. At the time of this writing, she's been here for 76 nights and hopes she'll be able to take her baby boy home soon.

*"This place feels like a home," Raquel said.*

*"You meet people here, so you don't feel alone or depressed. The people here are so friendly and giving. I can't even imagine the expense of staying in a hotel for three months."*



Raquel met another Sierra Vista family at the House and realized that they didn't have the kind of family support she does – so she lent them her family. Her mom and her church family cooked meals for them for two weeks.

Baby Erick is doing well – up to 5 pounds, 4 ounces. They've had some scares along the way. Through it all, their church family has been providing prayers, love and support. And Raquel says the nurses in Diamond Children's NICU are amazing.

"They are like family to us now. They really know our baby – and I have so much respect for them."

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"Erick and I give thanks to God for the amazing support, love, and care that we have received at the Ronald McDonald House in Tucson. We could not have gotten through the three months without you. We are forever in your debt. We always take the time to get the word out about who you are, what you do, and the spirit of excellence that you do it with. All the staff and volunteers are so caring and compassionate. Thank you!"



## Doing Good Feels Good

“There is a contentment that has come over Jack and me as we speed through our final years. There is a realization that we are good and loving – and good at caring for one another. We need fewer ‘things.’ Our philosophy for gifting has changed as we have gotten older and volunteered in our retirement years,” Marsha Thrall said.

“Jack is most proud of the time he’s spent volunteering and distributing bicycles to needy children. He was touched by the many nonprofits serving in our area as he visited with bike donations. Ronald McDonald House welcomed his visits with bikes for the kids in the House.

“Neurological research indicates that the amygdala actually sends good feelings through the brain when you do good deeds.

“We love that RMHC hosts families in need from all over and are not constrained by geographical boundaries. The House supports parents and siblings, removing obstacles to allowing total immersion in the medical oversight and treatment for their child. Suddenly, each family has an extended family of wonderful RMHC staff, volunteers and donors – all standing with them.

“We have been moved to increase our contributions to the charity which we have always loved in our beloved Arizona. Now we get our smiles when we make a donation to Ronald McDonald House Charities.”

**Marsha and Jack participate in the Adopt-a-Room program, adopting two rooms at the Ronald McDonald House in honor of their grandchildren, Ethan and Mia.**

If you are interested in adopting a room, contact Nancy Kirk, Director of Philanthropy at 520-326-0060 or [nkirk@rmhctucson.org](mailto:nkirk@rmhctucson.org)



# Leaving a Gift for Future Families

Anne and Tom Kresler got involved at Ronald McDonald House about six years ago. Anne has volunteered every Wednesday, a total of 653 hours and counting. Tom, who is a Chef and instructor, has prepared several tasty lasagna dinners for the guests. You'll never see either of them without a smile, and usually when they are helping families at the Ronald McDonald House, those smiles get a little bit wider.

*"We quickly recognized the importance of a comfortable 'home-away-from-home' for families while their children receive medical attention. Adding the Ronald McDonald House as a beneficiary to our Trust did not require a lot of thought or work – just a simple call to our lawyer. It is so satisfying to know that our gift will enable families to stay at Ronald McDonald House for years to come."*

To learn more about leaving your Legacy of Love, visit [rmhctucson.org/legacygiving](http://rmhctucson.org/legacygiving) or contact Nancy Kirk, Director of Philanthropy at 520-326-0060 or [nkirk@rmhctucson.org](mailto:nkirk@rmhctucson.org)



## Ways to Give

There are so many ways to donate to RMHC:

- **APPRECIATED STOCKS**
- **ARIZONA STATE TAX CREDIT**  
Visit [rmhctucson.org/taxcredit](http://rmhctucson.org/taxcredit)
- **CASH GIFT**  
Visit [rmhctucson.org/donate](http://rmhctucson.org/donate)

- **IRA ROLLOVERS**
- **PLANNED GIFTS**

To find out which options are right for you, visit: [rmhctucson.org/how-to-help](http://rmhctucson.org/how-to-help)

# More Smiles for More Kids

In Cochise County, hundreds of children have never seen a dentist. One third of all kindergarten kids show up to school with untreated tooth decay. That should soon change – thanks to the addition of a Ronald McDonald Care Mobile in Cochise County that will bring dental care directly to children who need it.

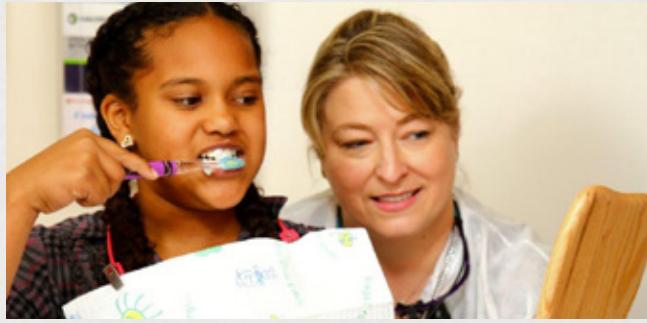
Care Mobiles are one of the core programs of Ronald McDonald House Charities. There are 49 Care Mobiles in 10 countries. This will be the first in Arizona.

The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile in Cochise County is a partnership with Chiricahua Community Health Centers, a federally qualified health center that has been serving Cochise County for 21 years. CCHCI operates seven clinics and five mobile health units. Its goals align with ours – helping to improve the health and well-being of children and their families.

This project is becoming a reality with funding from our global headquarters, which covered the cost of purchasing and outfitting the van. We received additional funding from the Legacy Foundation of Southeast Arizona for dental equipment and supplies, and from Arizona Complete Health for operational costs. RMHC of Southern Arizona supports the program by paying 20 percent of the operating costs and participating as members of the Care Mobile Advisory Council.







Beginning in April, the Care Mobile will travel from Douglas to Willcox, visiting schools in high-poverty areas in the Sulphur Springs Valley, bringing critical dental care at no or low cost to pre-school and school-aged children as well as teenagers. Dentists with CCHCI will provide important dental screenings, apply fluoride to prevent tooth decay, treat existing dental problems and help educate children and their parents about good oral health.

“The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile is an important new program for us,” said Patty Carnovale, past board president and member of the Care Mobile Advisory Council. “We are all thrilled to be partnering with Chiricahua Community Health Centers to help kids get the dental care they need and deserve.”





## 'We Were Smitten'

This nonprofit organization thrives with the help of volunteers – more than 80 of them work in the Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Family Room each week.

This year we were blessed to have so many new volunteers – people like Sharon and Joel Klausman.

The Klausmans had a successful career in New York, selling high-end eyeglasses and sunglasses to retailers. When they retired, they chose to move to Tucson to be close to one son and three grandchildren. Then they decided to volunteer here. Before moving to Arizona, they volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House in Camden, New Jersey – and from that moment on, “we were smitten,” Sharon said. They came to cook with our Chef for a Day program and volunteered at the Walk for Kids. After those experiences they decided that this was where they wanted to be.

*“People don’t know what it’s like for these families and how meaningful it is to be able to work here,” Sharon said. “It blows me away.”*

Sharon works at the front desk and helps families feel at home. Joel volunteers to drive the shuttle, getting families to and from the hospital.

“I was driving a mom to visit her preemie baby and she asked me if we could stop at the pharmacy.” Of course, Joel immediately said yes. “I was so happy to be able to help her out. Sharon and I both feel like we’re paying it forward.”

“Honestly we feel like we should be thanking you for the opportunity to volunteer here,” Sharon added.

Our volunteers bring so much joy and passion to this organization – and add so much value for the families who are staying with us. We have volunteers young and not-so-young who do laundry, yardwork, kitchen cleaning, gardening and much more. We are grateful for them all.

We want to extend a special heartfelt thanks to the volunteers who have spent more than 1,000 hours working at the Ronald McDonald House:

*Sara Cada • Mary Ann Carlson • Jan Copeland • Bill Ford • Pat Ford • Eleanor Furtak • Bill Gideon • Judy Goddard • Ethel Haber • Jeanne Herron • Charlene Liddington • Grace Richman • Eleanor Runciman • Flo Weeks • Joe Wilson*





# Red Shoe Society

At first glance, the Red Shoe Society of Southern Arizona looks like a group of young professionals banding together to support the Ronald McDonald House. But what is it really?

It's a group of talented people who are emerging leaders ready to take charge in Tucson and Southern Arizona. It's a group of people who constantly amaze us with just how much they care for their community and for one another. This is a testament to the power of uniting around a shared vision. If you want to experience the best of our future, take a look at the Red Shoe Society.

Our members spend their valuable free time making a difference in the lives of families with seriously ill children. They represent retail, real estate, finance, healthcare, education and other important sectors – using their talents for the greater good through volunteerism, professional development, networking and fundraising.

*“In 2004, my 2-year old brother, Joel, was airvaçd from our home in Bisbee to Tucson Medical Center. There he was diagnosed with type-1 diabetes, an autoimmune disease that destroyed his pancreas. When Joel was in the hospital, my family stayed at the Ronald McDonald House – it was a gift that I have never forgotten. As an adult, I joined the Red Shoe Society as a means to give back to the nonprofit that gave my family stability during its most turbulent time. Knowing that I can give more to provide that same stability to another family is why I’m a part of this group.”*

– Adana Williams, 2019 Red Shoe Society President



Monthly society events include service projects such as cooking for the families at the Ronald McDonald House, professional development, learning more about nonprofit board governance and learning from each other as well as RMHC board members.

There are no dues, just a wonderful opportunity to meet like-minded people and serve the Ronald McDonald House. (Red shoes are actually optional, but highly suggested!)

If you're interested visit  
[rmhctucson.org/redshoe](http://rmhctucson.org/redshoe)

#### Red Shoe Society Leadership

**Adana Williams**, Nextrio

**Amanda Novak**, Community Volunteer

**Brandie Beuthin**, Banner Health

**Joaquin Amaro**, Banner Health

**Ashley Kimberlin**, Realty Executives Tucson Elite

**Tabatha Schneider**, Realty Executives Tucson Elite

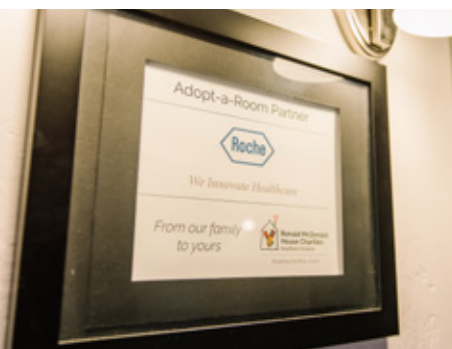
# Adopt-a-Room Partners

The Ronald McDonald House Adopt-a-Room Program is a wonderful way to support families. For an annual gift of \$5,000 you, your company or your organization can be the exclusive room partner of one of the guest rooms at the Ronald McDonald House. Our 2018 Adopt-a-Room Partners are...

Allen and Sheryl Freed  
Ann Grüb  
Arizona Complete Health  
Charles B. & Estelle Miller  
Del and Jodi Norton  
Dr. Mikel Lo & Dr. Tina Pai  
GEICO

Grace and Jim Murphy  
Herb and JoAnn Cowgill  
John and Phyllis Capp  
Marsha Thrall and Jack Bona  
Paul and Nelie Dias  
Retirement Evolutions Wealth  
Management Staff & Clients

Roche Group  
Schmidt and Barton Family Fund  
Southwest Airlines  
The Campbell Family in honor of Jubilee  
The Harden, Clements, Simpson,  
& Paschall Families



# Corporate Champions

Corporate Champions support Ronald McDonald House Charities in a big way. When you become a Corporate Champion, you are showing the community you support the entire mission of the House and all the programs we offer. The following Champions make an annual contribution of \$10,000 or more...

Ace Hardware  
Alpha Delta Pi  
Ameriprise Financial –  
Becky Johnson  
& Patty Carnovale  
Arizona Complete Health  
Arizona Daily Star  
Casino del Sol  
Connie Hillman Family Foundation  
Dias Management  
Dunn Edwards  
Golden State Foods Employees

HSL Properties  
ImageFIRST  
Kick Cancer for  
Stephen Foundation  
La-Z-Boy of Arizona  
Legacy Foundation  
of Southeast Arizona  
Maurice R. and  
Meta G. Gross Foundation  
McDonald Local Owner Operators  
Nextrio  
R2K Plumbing

Realty Executives Tucson Elite  
Roche Group  
Sundt/DPR Construction  
Thirty-one  
Thomas & Jeanne Elmezzi  
Foundation  
TMC Foundation  
Trader Joes #88

“It is part of our vision to ‘Improve Lives in our Community’ and Ronald McDonald House of Southern Arizona has been a perfect place to do this.

It is wonderful to see our store employees’ passion about educating our customers about RMHC during our fundraising efforts. The rewarding experience of giving to RMHC is in fact, improving OUR lives at La-Z-Boy Arizona.”

JENNIFER CHANDOS

*Brand Engagement Manager*

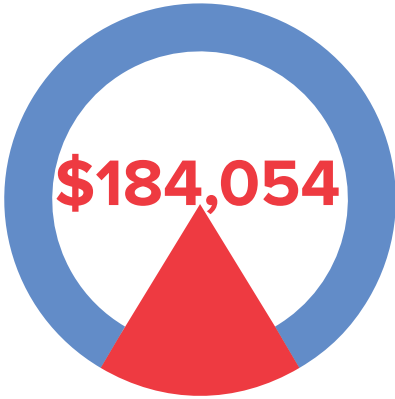
*La-Z-Boy Arizona*

You may know that La-Z-Boy is a national partner with RMHC, providing new furniture to Ronald McDonald House Charities chapters all across the U.S. every year. You may not know that the stores in Arizona go above and beyond – holding very successful, company-sponsored fundraising campaigns that provide critical operating support. The heart of La-Z-Boy’s mission includes giving to Arizona communities.





SOUTHERN ARIZONA  
McDONALD'S OWNER OPERATORS



*Portion of our 2018 revenue donated by  
local owners & their generous customers*



# Positive Change

## McDonald's: Our Founding Mission Partner

At Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Arizona, we pay close attention to our guests – learning from their feedback and trying to anticipate their needs. Every individual is treated attentively and with care and compassion.

Our founding mission partner – McDonald's – and our local McDonald's owner/operators are helping us learn how to gather and measure our "customer responses" and invest in services that will make noticeably positive changes.

By staying connected to our guest families and tracking their feedback on surveys, we noticed the need to improve some technology here at the Ronald McDonald House. Some of those changes may be small, but they are not insignificant. For instance, after 11 years at the new House, we were finally able to upgrade our Wi-Fi service and add connected smart TVs in all the guest rooms.

More than an available internet connection, what these upgrades actually represent is a half hour of a child's favorite TV show while mom catches up on some rest. It also represents the availability to video chat with family back at home – or to do research for homework while a child is away from school.

Though no one organization could single-handedly support our entire program, we are grateful to our six local McDonald's operator groups for taking a lead in guest satisfaction in their industry – and for providing a portion of the funds needed at RMHC to allow us to meet and exceed the ever-growing needs of our guest families.

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### Did you know?

The donations you make at your local McDonald's restaurant stay local. When you visit a McDonald's in Southern Arizona, you are supporting a local business that reinvests in our community.



## Generations of Cowgills Support the House

Even before there was a Ronald McDonald House in Tucson, the Cowgill family was involved.

Herb Cowgill, McDonald's owner/operator, was on the original board of trustees that formed the nonprofit to buy the first Ronald McDonald House on Speedway in 1981. He served on our board for many years – and as a supporter for many more. His wife, JoAnn Cowgill, was a founding member of Angel Charity which was formed to pay off the mortgage of the first Ronald McDonald House.

Now their son John and daughter-in-law Susan are running the McDonald's business and Susan has joined the Ronald McDonald House Charities board of directors. Susan grew up working for McDonald's – so she has a deep understanding of the close relationship between the restaurants and our organization.



*“As an owner/operator, I have been a part of the House, helping with Chef-for-a-Day, and raising money through in-restaurant fundraisers and special events,” Susan said. “I was so excited when I was asked to serve on the board. I jumped at the chance. And now this year, it is an incredible honor to lead the Board of Directors as the 2019 president. I am so proud to be a part of this organization, which gives me the ability to connect with Southern Arizona and the families who live here.”*

# How to Help the House

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Arizona thrives thanks to local community support. Our volunteers, donors and friends give so much to make life easier for the children we serve. Every gift is important, and the opportunities to give are as varied as those who give.

## Tax Credit Gifts

With your support, all families stay at the Ronald McDonald House for free. Your gift is used locally to benefit families right here in Southern Arizona.

You can make a donation that comes back to you as a credit on your Arizona state income taxes. RMHC of Southern Arizona is a Qualified Charitable Organization, and you may receive a dollar-for-dollar credit that could reduce your tax liability or increase your refund.

## Arizona's Charitable Tax Credit

### **Single Taxpayer or Head of Household**

**\$400 Maximum**

### **Married Filing Jointly**

**\$800 Maximum**

**Donate through tax day in April.**

You can take advantage of the Charitable Tax Credit in addition to the school, foster care and military tax credits. Whether you choose to donate \$10, \$100 or the maximum, any amount will help children stay close to their families and close to the best medical care.

Make your gift and learn more at [rmhctucson.org/donate](http://rmhctucson.org/donate)



## WishList







## A Taste for Philanthropy

Chef Javier Castro guides his kitchen with the confidence of a four-star general, sometimes cooking for 5,000 people without breaking a sweat. When he cooks at the Ronald McDonald House, it's obvious that his heart is bigger than those banquet meals.

Javier was first introduced to Ronald McDonald House Charities more than a decade ago and immediately felt a connection. His youngest son was born prematurely and spent time in the NICU. What started as cooking a simple meal for the families turned into a long relationship. Now there is no bigger advocate in the Tucson community than Chef Javier. Every year he cooks a prime rib dinner at the House for the families and volunteer board members. He helped launch the first House Party in 2015, an event which has now raised more than \$825,000.

When Javier moved to Casino del Sol a few years ago, it was the perfect match of community-minded partners. Casino del Sol has supported his passion for our House, donating all the food for both the dinner and the House Party. Going even farther, Casino del Sol chose Ronald McDonald House Charities in 2018 as the sole benefactor of its charity golf tournament and raised \$68,000!

Casino del Sol is a Corporate Champion of RMHC of Southern Arizona – and Javier Castro is an Iron Chef Tucson finalist. To see them both in action, attend the House Party this year on September 20.

“Our company is a strong believer in supporting charities in our community. Two years ago we recognized we would have a much greater impact if we threw most of our support behind one highly respected nonprofit. This led us to RMHC of Southern Arizona. Fast forward to today and we can confidently say it was a great decision to choose this path and become a major sponsor for RMHC. We can clearly see how our support is positively impacting families with sick children. The smiles on their faces tell it all!

JOHN DWYER

*President & Partner, Realty Executives Tucson Elite*

Realty Executives Tucson Elite is the presenting sponsor for the House Party – and their Agents for Change make donations to the Ronald McDonald House in honor of their clients with the purchase or sale of every home.





# HOUSE PARTY

SEPTEMBER 20



Walk for Kids  
DECEMBER 8





# Board of Directors

## **PRESIDENT**

Susan Causbie Cowgill

*Cowgill Partners*

## **VICE PRESIDENT**

Brenda Gordon

*Vantage West Credit Union*

## **TREASURER**

Amanda Robinson

*Robinson Accountancy*

## **SECRETARY**

Stephanie Kortenray

*S+S Consulting*

## **PAST PRESIDENT**

Patricia Carnovale

*Ameriprise Financial Services*

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## **DIRECTORS**

Tina Baker, Dr. Michael Baker

Michael Cyrino, Arizona Complete Health

Pat Davitt, Razorback Ranch Designs  
& Davitt Travel Services

Paul Dias, Dias Management dba McDonald's

Cindy Evers, Community Volunteer

Allen Freed, AJ Freed

Adam Goldstein, RBC Wealth Management/  
CGC Wealth Management Group

Betsy Harden, Tucson Medical Center

Shelby Hardy, Alpha Delta Pi

Adriana Mariñez, Tucson Electric Power

Tim Medcoff, Farhang & Medcoff

Jeff Murtaugh, Realty Executives Tucson Elite

Devron Reddington, CAID group

Eric Rhodes, Nova Home Loans Arizona Bowl

John Scherpf, Banner Health

Bridget Werchan, Casa de los Niños

Shalan Williams, Southwest Airlines

Adana Williams, Nextrio





Ronald McDonald  
House Charities®  
Southern Arizona

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