



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
Omaha

Hope and Healing Expansion Case for Support

Ronald McDonald House Charities in Omaha (RMHC) is designed to execute two outcomes: hope and healing. To do so, RMHC deliberately helps to support access to care, reduce financial burden, provide psychosocial support by keeping families together, and help families resume normalcy. As a result, outcomes-based data related to family stays illustrates that those who reside in a Ronald McDonald House will have statistically enhanced clinical experiences. Families being cared for at 90 percent of the top children's hospitals in the world have access to an RMHC program, however, there is only one Ronald McDonald House serving more than 100 health care facilities in the entire state of Nebraska and Council Bluffs, IA.

Situated on Nebraska Medicine's main campus, RMHC provides approximately 6,500 lodging nights annually in a 20-room home inclusive of warm beds, hot showers, meals, laundry facilities, family-friendly kitchens, playrooms, and a playground. Further, the Ronald McDonald House in Omaha includes a built-in support system where families are able to connect with each other, forming an interdependent network of resources and collaboration.

Numbers Served:

RMHC Omaha Occupancy: Year-to-date we have an average occupancy of 97 percent, which is 19 percent higher than this time last year through the month of April. We have an average of 159 families on the wait list through April 2017.

Occupancy at RMHC in Omaha

March 2017	Average # of families: 19.90	% Occupancy 99.5%	Average Length of Stay: 29 days
April 2017	Average # of families: 19.40	% Occupancy 97.0%	Average Length of Stay: 17 days



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Occupancy of 20 Rooms

January through April 2017

Total Days Occupied	5,237
Number of Reservations	62
Average Length of Stay	84 days

Unmet Needs

January through April 2017

Number of families we could not accommodate On the waiting list; per family, per night	410 families/nights
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The Need:

Given that RMHC is operating at full capacity, it is clear that immediate and future needs are not being addressed by current services provided. Seeing these problems, the RMHC Board authorized a state-wide needs assessment/mass data collection in 2014-2015 to understand how many families are being underserved currently, and how many will continue to be underserved if the Ronald McDonald House does not expand.

The results of the needs assessment presented a deficit of 20 rooms and subsequent support spaces required to accommodate the current and future patient population.

RMHC is embarking on an opportunity to serve families in a manner that has never been achieved previously. We will construct a healing community using collaborative partnerships with Nebraska Medicine/UNMC and [Angels Among Us](#) to co-office out of the new RMHC building, responding to healthcare changes and addressing all needs in one location. Nebraska Medicine/UNMC will operate an in-House treatment area for patients, eliminating waiting rooms, addressing the changes in healthcare to the advantage of both the patient and the partnering hospital and adhering to a structure designed specifically for RMHC patients and their families. There has never been another entity in the US who has taken the patient, their family, and their treatment into consideration into one collaborative approach in this capacity. Moving forward, Omaha will serve as the flagship location showcasing the opportunity to be the true premier partner in family-centered care.

How this project/funding will improve our mission and capacity to serve:

Typically, there are 20 families living at RMHC with a waiting list averaging 8-10 families who are turned away each night due to lack of space since April 2015. We were forced to decline families 798 times in 2016 and an additional 700+ in 2017 to date. This expansion project will provide a 100% increase in size and will eliminate the waiting list with room to grow.