From: Oreen Skiba <<u>Oskiba@rmhcalberta.org</u>> Sent: February 24, 2025 2:16 PM To: Ben Fadeyiw <<u>bfadeyiw@md.bonnyville.ab.ca</u>>; Mike Krywiak <<u>mkrywiak@md.bonnyville.ab.ca</u>>; Dana Swigart <<u>dswigart@md.bonnyville.ab.ca</u>>; Darcy Skarsen <<u>dskarsen@md.bonnyville.ab.ca</u>>; Barry Kalinski <<u>bkalinski@md.bonnyville.ab.ca</u>>; Josh Crick <jcrick@md.bonnyville.ab.ca>; Don Slipchuk <<u>dslipchuk@md.bonnyville.ab.ca</u>> Subject: Thank you

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Attached is the event report for the 2025 Ronald McDonald House Winterland Invitational. Thank you for being one of our Ice sponsors. I am so proud to announce we raised over \$200,000 this year which brings our overall total to 1 million dollars since it's inception in 2018.

Please review and I'm happy to answer any questions.

Oreen Skiba

#### **Provincial Events Senior Manager**

C. 780-217-6020





REPORT

Presenting Sponsors:





2025



Keeping families close<sup>®</sup>

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Keeping families close®

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Ronald McDonald House Charities<sup>®</sup> Alberta

## About RMHC® Alberta

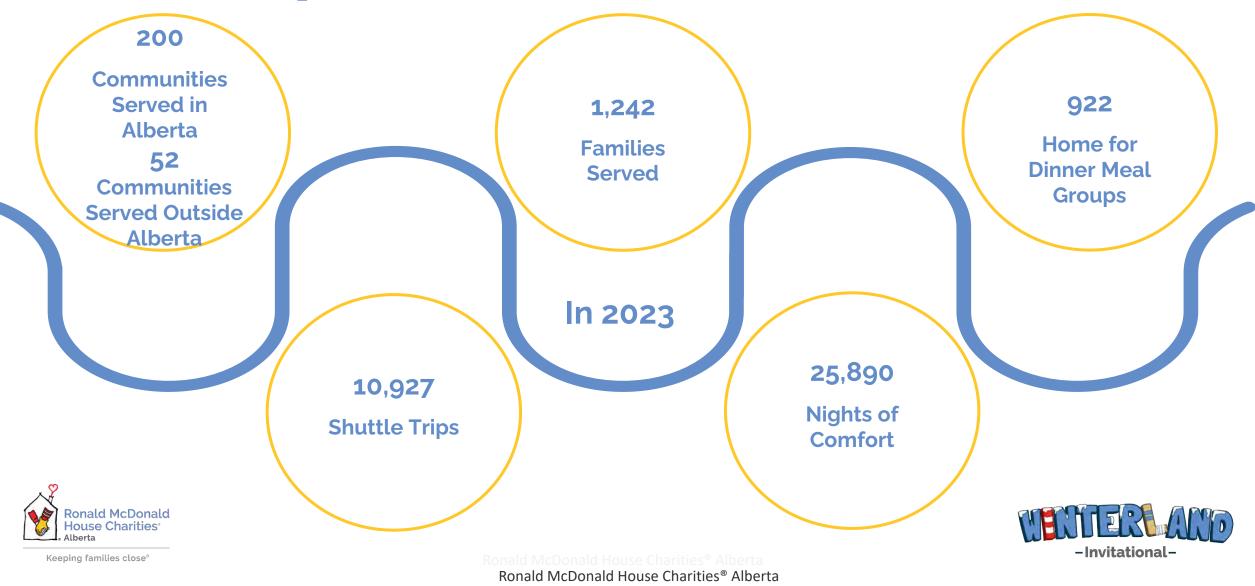
With almost 70% of Canadian families living outside of a community with a children's hospital, many will need to travel to access specialized medical treatment. Serving more than 1,200 families with over 25,000 nights of comfort in 2023, the four Ronald McDonald Houses in Alberta provide all the essentials of a home: warm beds, hot showers, laundry facilities, family-friendly kitchens, and playrooms. We also offer Home for Dinner meals, shuttle services, recreation and selfcare programming, and more, saving families over 8.5 million dollars each year.

The Houses provide more than a place to rest— they're where families can support each other while staying close to the critical care their child needs. Having a Ronald McDonald House close to a hospital in Alberta is an important part of family-centred care, helping alleviate the tremendous emotional, financial, and physical burdens families face when their child is seriously sick or injured.

We cannot provide comfortable, compassionate, and affordable accommodations without fundraising



#### Impact of RMHC Alberta





### Your Sponsorship & Participation

Your investment in RMHC Alberta is directed to a complete support system needed by families with sick children. The unexpected costs that can add up during a medical crisis are extensive. By supporting RMHC Alberta, you are connecting your investment to an entire network of accommodation and services that will provide relief to families.

#### **RMHC Alberta Support System**

Nightly Stay Costs for Families

Home for Dinner Meals

**Your Investment** Supports Families With **Sick Children** 

Connection Between Families

Transportation Needs

Electricity, Gas, and Other Costs to Run the House.

Ronald McDonald House Charities® Alberta

# 1 Million Dollars Milestone

Since the initial puck drop in 2018, the Winterland Invitational has raised over an incredible \$1,000,000 for Ronald McDonald House Charities® Alberta! We couldn't have done it without our MVP's –YOU!

Your support helps keep families in the game, giving them a "home-away-from-home" advantage when they are traveling for their child's medical care. Together we are scoring big for hope, healing, and togetherness.

Thank you for being part of our winning team and helping us make this year's Winterland Invitational a success!



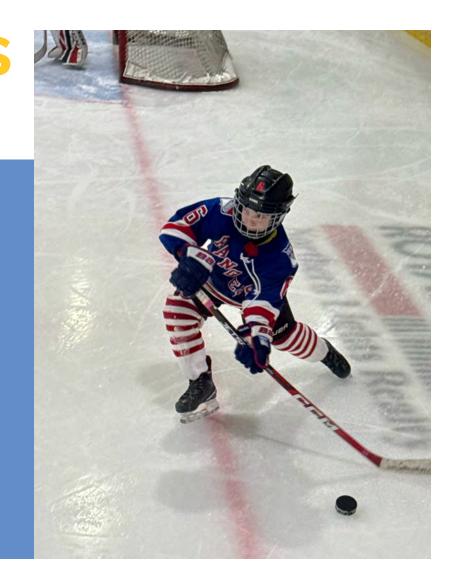




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# Our All-Star Lineup of Kindness

Our incredible team of volunteers hit the ice, covering an impressive 587 hours to make sure the Ronald McDonald House Winterland Invitational was a championship-worthy event! Thanks to their dedication, this year's event was a huge success!

Thank you to our Volunteer Sponsor:











### **Pool Winners**

Pool	Winning Team	Pool	Winning Team
А	Cold Lake U9- Team6	G	Bonnyville Pontiacs Team 2
В	Bonnyville U9- Team 1	Н	KC302
С	Fairview Falcons	l	Camrose Vikings
D	St. Paul Canadians	J	Wood Buffalo Panthers
E	Cold Lake U11-2	K	Cold Lake Ice Team 2
F	SP503 Rebels	L	Cold Lake Team 3



#### Team Challenge Winner



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Congratulations to Bonnyville U9 for Winning the Team Challenge.





#### Thank you

Thank you to all the teams that participated. Together you raised over \$14,000



#### Sock it to 'em!

Every player hit the ice rocking red and white striped socks – because nothing says team spirit like looking sharp from head to toe!







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#### Medals for the Win!



Every U9 player and the champs from the U11 and U13 pools skated away with shiny medals – because every great play deserves recognition!







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# Heart & Hustle

Each game had two Heart & Hustle recipients, sponsored by:













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#### **THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS**



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## **Impact on Families**

You hope to never hear your beautiful 10-month-old baby boy has brain cancer. But a month after a fairly routine procedure, I noticed my baby Marco's little head tilting to one side in an alarming way. At the doctor's office, I expected my hyper vigilant mom worries to be brushed off. Instead, after only two minutes, a specialist confirmed my greatest fears – Marco had a brain tumour.

Things clicked into high gear very, very quickly. The plan was to surgically remove the tumour, followed by chemotherapy and, finally, stem cell transplants. But within days of his surgery, Marco developed a horrible infection and had to undergo five more procedures. And I'm thinking, "We need to get going with the chemo. We can't delay saving my baby!"

Thankfully, much of the treatment took place in our hometown, Edmonton. But stem cell transplants have to be done in Calgary where the specialists are located. When I learned we could stay at the Ronald McDonald House®, the relief was instant. My husband, Angelo, myself, Marco and our older son, Enzo, packed up and set off for Calgary for the most grueling leg of Marco's treatment journey.

What I'm most grateful to the Ronald McDonald House for is what it meant to our older son, Enzo. While we took shifts at the hospital with our incredibly sick baby, the amazing volunteers and staff made sure Enzo experienced all the joy and wonder of the holiday season. Their kindness was incredible. Not only did they shield Enzo from what was really going on, they gave him a Christmas he will never forget.

I know you'll be happy to hear that Marco is doing amazingly well! After a ton of posttreatment rehab, our little fighter is getting close to his third birthday. He's so happy and social. He's constantly being silly and giggling. This is the real Marco, and our hearts are simply bursting with gratitude.





The relief of having a place to stay and meals to eat was everything to a pair of exhausted, utterly overwhelmed parents." - Renee Labriola





Ronald McDonald

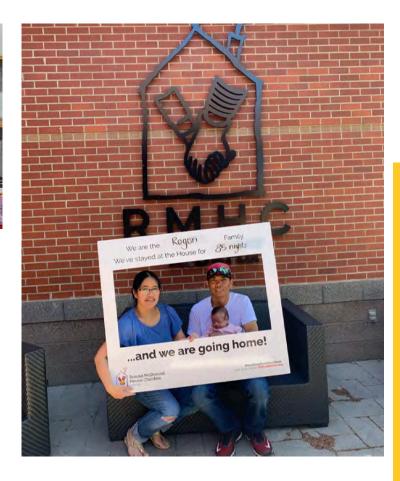
House Charities

## **Thank You!**













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