



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
Oklahoma City

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jill Edenstrom
Director of Marketing/Communications
405-424-6873 x103
405-371-7910
jedenstrom@rmhc-okc.org

GOING THE DISTANCE TO SUPPORT EVEN MORE HOSPITALIZED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

AbbVie Donates \$2.4 Million to Ronald McDonald House Charities Oklahoma City for Expansion at The Children's Hospital at OU Medicine

OKLAHOMA CITY (November 9, 2018) – AbbVie, a research-based global biopharmaceutical company, has stepped up to support Ronald McDonald House Charities Oklahoma City's expansion at The Children's Hospital at OU Medicine with a \$2.4 million donation to provide housing and family-centered services for pediatric patients and their families.

"Having a child with a serious illness is one of the most difficult experiences anyone can face," said Laura Schumacher, executive vice president, external affairs, general counsel and corporate secretary, AbbVie. "Our donation is grounded in the shared belief that families should have the necessary resources to care for a hospitalized child, along with the support to strengthen their well-being and resiliency during a challenging time."

Recognizing the unique needs of families with a hospitalized child, AbbVie's support will further enable RMHC-OKC to provide a welcoming place for families to stay, along with the critical services they need. The donation will be used to build family-centered spaces at The Ronald McDonald House at The Children's Hospital. The third floor of Garrison Tower, where the Ronald McDonald House resides, currently supports 14 families a night. After the expansion is completed on the fourth floor of Garrison Tower, RMHC-OKC will be able to serve 40 families while saving guest families over \$1 million a year in food and lodging costs.

"The number of nightly stays by families needing our services has increased by 57% in just the last three years," said Susan Adams, RMHC-OKC president and CEO. This extraordinary gift from AbbVie will keep us from having to turn away hundreds of families seeking comfort, support and hope each year."

RMHC-OKC helps families from all across Oklahoma be able to choose the best care for their child without worry to the financial burden that travel and hotels may bring. In 2017 RMHC-OKC served nearly 900 families for nearly 9,000 nights from 73 of the 77 Oklahoma Counties.

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Once the new addition to the Ronald McDonald House is completed in 2020, RMHC-OKC will be able to allow for nearly 9,500 additional night stays for pediatric patients and their families each year at The Children's Hospital.

"Adding more rooms to the Ronald McDonald House at The Children's Hospital comes at a time when more patients and their families are coming to our hospital than ever before, specifically for advanced surgeries like those performed by our Children's surgical specialists," said Cameron Mantor, M.D., chief medical officer for The Children's Hospital and chief of pediatric surgery. "Our team is here when Oklahomans need us most, whether it's for surgical, neonatal, oncologic or specialized medical care, and having a Ronald McDonald House just steps away helps keep our families close when their children need them most."

RMHC-OKC is one of 32 RMHC chapters nationwide to be gifted a portion of AbbVie's \$100 million donation to RMHC. Chapters were chosen by current state of expansion project and community support for expansion costs.

To learn more about how to help make the Ronald McDonald House a home with furnishings for the new rooms, please contact Susan Adams, RMHC-OKC president and CEO at 405-424-6873 x104 or sadams@rmhc-okc.org.

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ABOUT RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES® OKLAHOMA CITY

Ronald McDonald House Charities® (RMHC®), is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3) corporation that keeps families with sick children close to each other and the medical care their child needs when they need it most. With a Ronald McDonald House and a Ronald McDonald Family Room in Oklahoma City, RMHC-OKC programs not only provide access to quality health care, they enable family-centered care ensuring families are fully supported and actively involved in their children's care. For more information, visit rmhc-okc.org.

ABOUT ABBVIE

AbbVie is a global, research and development-based biopharmaceutical company committed to developing innovative advanced therapies for some of the world's most complex and critical conditions. The company's mission is to use its expertise, dedicated people and unique approach to innovation to markedly improve treatments across four primary therapeutic areas: immunology, oncology, virology and neuroscience. In more than 75 countries, AbbVie employees are working every day to advance health solutions for people around the world. For more information about AbbVie, please visit us at www.abbvie.com. Follow [@abbvie](https://twitter.com/abbvie) on Twitter, [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/abbvie), [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/abbvie) or [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/abbvie).