



Ronald McDonald  
House Charities®  
Oklahoma City

## News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **RMHC-OKC “BREAKS GROUND” ON EXPANSION PROJECT** Ronald McDonald House Will Soon Be Able to Serve 40 Families Nightly

**OKLAHOMA CITY (April 12, 2019)** – Ronald McDonald House Charities® Oklahoma City (RMHC-OKC) kicked off its expansion project with a “Breaking Ground” Celebration on Wednesday, April 10, 2019.

Once the expansion on the fourth floor of Garrison Tower is completed early next year, the Ronald McDonald House at The Children’s Hospital will be able to provide 9,500 more nights of stay, 26 more rooms, serving a total of 40 families nightly, while saving guest families over \$1 million a year in food and lodging costs.

“Ronald McDonald House Charities Oklahoma City is a vital partner for The Children’s Hospital and an important resource for patients and families,” said Jon Hayes, president of The Children’s Hospital at OU Medicine. “From the Ronald McDonald Family Room on the sixth floor of the hospital that provides families comforts to the Ronald McDonald House, where they can get much needed rest and more, Ronald McDonald House Charities helps our patients’ families focus on the healing of their loved ones.”

Currently, the Ronald McDonald House on the third floor of Garrison Tower supports 14 families. In 2018, there were 570 families turned away due to lack of enough rooms, a historic high.

“When a family has a child in the hospital, they need to be focused on what happens in their child’s hospital room: the treatments, the tests, the medicine, and giving comfort to their child,” said Susan Adams, RMHC-OKC president and CEO. “But, the pressures of daily living can be overwhelming. That’s where we come in. We can provide a place to stay, food to eat and a community of support at no cost to families, all within steps of their hospitalized child’s bedside.”

To complete the funding for this expansion, Ronald McDonald House Charities global announced last August, RMHC-OKC was one of 32 chapters selected to receive a portion of the \$100 million gift from AbbVie, a research-based global biopharmaceutical company. RMHC-OKC received \$2.4 million of AbbVie’s gift to complete the building costs for the expansion to help RMHC-OKC close the service gap for families in a medical crisis.

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To view photos from the event, please visit our flickr page:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/rmhcokc/albums/72157677684515967>

For more information about the Ronald McDonald House expansion project, please contact Susan Adams at [sadams@rmhc-okc.org](mailto:sadams@rmhc-okc.org) or 405-424-6873 x104.

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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](http://rmhc-okc.org).