



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
Oklahoma City

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PULL UP YOUR STRIPED SOCKS AND WALK FOR KIDS Walk for Kids Benefits Ronald McDonald House Charities® Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY (April 24, 2018) – Ronald McDonald House Charities Oklahoma City (RMHC-OKC) invites everyone to come and support families in a medical crisis by attending Walk for Kids at 8 a.m. on Saturday, June 2, 2018, at the Dell OKC Campus at 3501 SW 15th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73108.

Participation in Walk for Kids is Free, but registration is required at: WalkforKidsOKC.org.

Walkers will check in at 8 a.m. with Opening Ceremonies and the one mile Walk at 8:30 a.m. Giveaways and raffle prizes will be announced after the walk with the Grand Prize giveaway drawing at 10:45 a.m.

Activities will begin at 8 a.m. and include: Forever After's costumed characters to greet guests, a DJ, inflatables, arts and crafts, yard games, story time, face painting, and more.

Walk for Kids is a fun, family friendly event that raises funds for RMHC-OKC by team fundraising.

"Team Captains are crucial for spreading awareness about Walk for Kids," said Karisa Rollins, RMHC-OKC Director of Development. "By signing up as a Team Captain, you are opening doors for your family, friends and co-workers to help families from all over our state. We are still needing Team Captains for this year's event, and we have some great incentives for teams who reach their goal of \$1,050, which is what it costs to serve a family for two weeks to keep them near their hospitalized child."

Teams that hit the \$1,050 fundraising goal become eligible for some amazing giveaways. Each member of the team who raises \$75 or more of the team goal of \$1,050 will be entered in the Grand Prize Giveaway Drawing of two round-trip tickets with Southwest Airlines.

Anyone who donates \$75 or more by May 15, 2018, will receive a pair of our signature red and white striped socks. So gather your family, friends, church group, and even co-workers for some quality time and team building while giving families with sick kids the best medicine – each other.

Walk for Kids helps families like the Randall Family from Ponca City, Okla. Jaime and Kevin Randall were expecting their fifth child. All prenatal checkups were normal, and they were excited to meet their new little girl. On May 1, 2017, at the hospital in Ponca City, Aspyn Mary Rose came into the world ready to meet her family. During the newborn checkups, the doctor noticed Aspyn's health was struggling and was immediately med-flighted to The Children's Hospital at OU Medical Center and put in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

While receiving care, Jaime and Kevin were told that Aspyn's conditions were terminal. She was diagnosed with Meconium Aspiration, a condition that occurs when meconium is present in the lungs during or before delivery and Microcephaly, a condition in which a baby's head is significantly smaller than expected, often due

to abnormal brain development. She was also diagnosed with Lissencephaly, a rare gene-linked brain malformation; Grin1 Genetic Mutation; and Chronic Lung Disease.

Jaime and Kevin stayed 112 days at the Ronald McDonald House at The Children's Hospital to stay close to Aspyn while she received treatment.

"It was extremely important to me to keep our family together and try to live a normal life," said Jaime Randall. "We wanted to keep our kids with Aspyn as much as possible, and the Ronald McDonald House allowed us to keep our kids involved in Aspyn's care. My children have seen some scary stuff and have been through a lot. Without the Ronald McDonald House, we wouldn't have been able to travel over two hours one way every day to see our baby girl and spend as much time with her as we can, while we can."

Currently, Aspyn receives ongoing treatments twice a month at The Children's Hospital at OU Medical Center and Integris Children's at Baptist Medical Center.

Aspyn and her whole family will be at Walk for Kids to talk about their experience and support all RMHC-OKC families.

For more information about Walk for Kids or families served by RMHC-OKC, please contact Jill Edenstrom, Director of Marketing/Communications at 405-424-6873 x103 or jedenstrom@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.