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## Hundreds of Ronald McDonald House Supporters Expected to Attend "Welcome Home" Celebration Event Will Celebrate Major Remodel that Benefits Families with Seriously III Children

**PORTLAND, Ore. (June 10, 2016)** – On Tuesday, June 14, nearly 200 people are expected to visit Portland's East Ronald McDonald House to celebrate the completion of a year-long remodel project to update the 19-year-old East Ronald McDonald House. The East House serves hundreds of families a year with seriously ill children who travel to Portland for medical care. This special event will include a BBQ, house tours, therapy dog visits, yard games, rock paining, interactive play with MyMusicRx, an award ceremony, and an assortment of other fun activities. Media is invited to attend this special event, which takes place from 5-7 p.m. The East House is located at 2620 N. Commercial Ave.

"We are thrilled with the outcome of the remodel and extremely grateful for our community partners who donated their time, resources and talents toward making this project a reality," says Jessica Jarratt Miller, CEO of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oregon and Southwest Washington. "Families travel far from home to get the best care for their children, and our newly designed East House allows us to provide the most beautiful and welcoming 'home away from home' for families as they navigate the stress and uncertainty of having a sick child."

The East House remodel features a floor-to-roof redesign to the 19-year-old House located steps away from Randall Children's Hospital. Every detail has been designed to add beauty, comfort and functionality to the rooms where families stay, sometimes for months at a time. New features include a family check-in room, a fabulous new playground, beautiful Oregon-themed murals, a Wishing Tree, updated furniture throughout and an entirely new playful backyard space.

Families staying at Portland's East Ronald McDonald Houses travel an average 509 miles from home and stay for approximately eight days. Last year the East House served 1,000 families for 7,684 nights. Thousands of family will benefit from this major remodel project, which was made possible from the generous support of local businesses, foundations and individuals.

## About RMHC

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oregon and Southwest Washington® provides a "home away from home" for families with seriously ill children, and supports initiatives to improve pediatric health. For more than three decades, our dedicated staff and volunteers have offered comfort and support, a well-stocked kitchen and a warm bed to more than 34,000 families. To accomplish this, we rely on the generosity of donors, community partners and the hundreds of volunteers who selflessly give to our organization every year. For more information, visit <u>www.rmhcoregon.org</u>.