



**Ronald McDonald
House Charities®**
Oregon & Southwest Washington

Contact:

Colin Berry
Director of Communications
(971) 230-6709
colin.berry@rmhcoregon.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Portland's Eastside Ronald McDonald House Turns 20

Serving more than 18,000 Families, Flagship Ronald McDonald House to Celebrate "Keeping Families Close" with Birthday Bash and BBQ

PORTLAND, OR — On Tuesday, June 27, Portland's Eastside Ronald McDonald House will celebrate 20 years of service to families with critically ill children with a fun-filled backyard BBQ and birthday party. Presented by Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Oregon & Southwest Washington, the special event will bring together current and former Ronald McDonald House guest families, staff, volunteers, board members, and supporters for a summertime party.

"We couldn't be more excited to celebrate our beloved 'East House' for 20 years of providing comfort and support for seriously ill children and their families," says Jessica Jarratt Miller, CEO. "We're incredibly proud to be able to offer compassionate hospitality and support to thousands of families from across Oregon, the US, and the world. It's our chance to say 'thank you' to the Portland community."

Located just a short walk from Randall Children's Hospital at Legacy Emanuel Hospital, the Eastside Ronald McDonald House first opened in 1997; since then, it has served more than 18,000 families and children. In 2015—2016, a floor-to-ceiling renovation updated the House with uniquely designed guest rooms and beautiful, Oregon-themed murals, as well as new indoor and outdoor community spaces to for kids and families to play, relax, and reflect. One of three Oregon Ronald McDonald Houses, the Eastside House also serves as the organization's administrative headquarters.

The Eastside Ronald McDonald House's 20th Birthday BBQ will feature live music, delicious food, birthday cake, games, and special guests. Employees from the Vital Life Foundation will be volunteering. Press are invited to tour the House, interview guest families or CEO Jessica Jarratt Miller, and meet board trustees and staff.

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What: Eastside Ronald McDonald House 20th Birthday Celebration

When: Tuesday, June 27, 2017; 5:00 – 7:00 PM

Where: 2620 N Commercial Avenue (south end of Legacy Emanuel Medical Center campus)

For more info: colin.berry@rmhcoregon.org, rmhcoregon.org

Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Oregon & Southwest Washington provides a “home away from home” for families with seriously ill children, and supports initiatives to improve pediatric health. For more than 30 years, it has offered comfort and support to more than 35,000 families, relying on the generosity of donors, community partners, and hundreds of volunteers to achieve its mission. In 2016, across its three Oregon Ronald McDonald Houses, families stayed for a total of 17,917 nights, each stay an average of 10 nights. For more, to go: rmhcoregon.org

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