

Impact Report



Ronald McDonald House
PROVIDENCE

2015-2016 Highlights

The Ronald McDonald House of Providence is the only facility of its kind in the state of Rhode Island and for over a quarter century it has provided an invaluable service to the medical community and thousands of families. As Rhode Island's world-class healthcare centers continue to expand, there is escalating demand for the compassionate, therapeutic care provided by Ronald McDonald House of Providence.

In 2015, we provided lodging for nearly 300 families. These families came from Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and as far away as California and internationally. The average length of stay was 22 days. Our House regularly exceeds its capacity and sadly, there were too many times when the complement of 18 rooms did not permit us to provide housing for all the families that need our services. Last year alone, we turned away 141 families due to lack of available rooms. To avoid saying "no" to a family during a time of crisis and uncertainty, in 2015 we embarked on the \$5 million "Always Room at the House" campaign.

In 2016, we celebrated the unofficial completion of our construction project at our Ribbon Cutting Block Party. On June 3, over 250 supporters came out to celebrate as we closed off Gay Street for an evening of great food, entertainment and most importantly, support for the families who call RMH Providence "Home" while their children are being treated at local hospitals.

In October, 2016 we reached the goal of the "Always Room at the House" campaign thanks to our dedicated Campaign Committee and amazing community of supporters. We are happy to report that each night, RMH Providence now offers 28 families all the support, care and comfort they need to focus their energy on their sick child. We welcome you to come and tour our new House including new program space & additional 10 bedrooms, and the new "Hasbro, Inc." sponsored room.



Take a look at our new kids nook created by the employees at Hasbro, Inc. Many children will find comfort in this cheerful space...made just for them.



Statistical Highlights

	2014	2015
Total Nights Provided	5452	6670
Total Families Served	281	303
Average Length of Stay	19 nights	22 nights
Nights with a Wait List	400	622
Number of Families on Wait List	97	141
Number of Rhode Island Families	116	145
Percentage of Rhode Island Families	41%	48%
Requested Family Donation per Night	\$10	\$10
Average Family Donation per Night	\$3.31	\$4.50
Family Room Visits	6929	5401
Registered Families at Family Room	1985	1625
Number of regular House Volunteers	135	127
Volunteer Hours	9203	13895



From our Families

Azize Family



Maureen was about to give birth only 23 weeks into her pregnancy. Her son Francis was born weighing just 1lb. 9oz., with only a 17% chance of survival. They rushed him into the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Women & Infants Hospital in Providence where he spent the next few months while Maureen and Jeffrey stayed across the street at RMH Providence.

“We knew this was the perfect place to be while going through such an intense time. We found comfort being surrounded by parents and families that were on a journey similar to ours”

Wilson Family

After Emma was diagnosed with CRPS, or complex regional pain syndrome, her family found the best treatment for this condition would take them from their home in New Jersey for 6 weeks. Through the generosity of our donors, the Wilson Family had a home just a few moments from Hasbro Children’s Hospital where Emma received treatment.

“Over the six weeks that we were there, they became our community by sharing their home with us. It was such a relief to have all of our physical needs met and in addition, to be sustained by the kindness given to us.”

Belanger Family

Jacksons umbilical cord wasn’t properly developed and he was not growing normally. At 31 weeks, Jackson stopped breathing. By the time he was born, at Women & Infants Hospital, nine weeks early, he was delivered just two minutes before “code blue” was called. He would spend almost two months in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) while mom and dad, Lynn and David stayed just steps away at RMH Providence.



“Ronald McDonald House is where I found the inner strength I never know I had. I had time to reflect and rest. I was comforted being right across the street from my baby at night.”



The Alston Family

They dreamed of having a baby. They had picked out a name, picked out cute baby clothes, planned the nursery, every wonderful little detail...

“We thought we planned for everything.” Amber Alston says. *But they never planned on spending six months in the hospital.*



Their beautiful baby girl, Paige, was born with serious defects: internal organs dangerously out of position; blood vessels dysfunctional; her heart lacking a crucial interior wall. She needed immediate, multiple surgeries just to stay alive. The staff at Hasbro Children’s Hospital raced to save her. Her parents, Amber and Cliff, were shell-shocked. Devastated.

The days that followed were a cruel rollercoaster. “Her condition would fluctuate,” Amber remembers. “One day things would be great, and one day things wouldn’t be. Just as things started to look brighter, Paige required a tracheostomy – as well as 24-hour ventilator support to assist with breathing.”

Paige’s parents couldn’t leave their baby’s side. They were exhausted... heartbroken...it was agony....until a social worker invited Amber and Cliff to the Ronald McDonald House of Providence. “We took a tour of the residence,” Amber says, “and we were blown away. We instantly felt comfortable. We felt like this was somewhere we could rest...somewhere we could escape to, even if just for few hours.”

“We instantly felt connected to the staff and volunteers at the House,” Amber remembers. “Their genuine concern for everyone in the House and for their well-being was so refreshing – and much needed.”

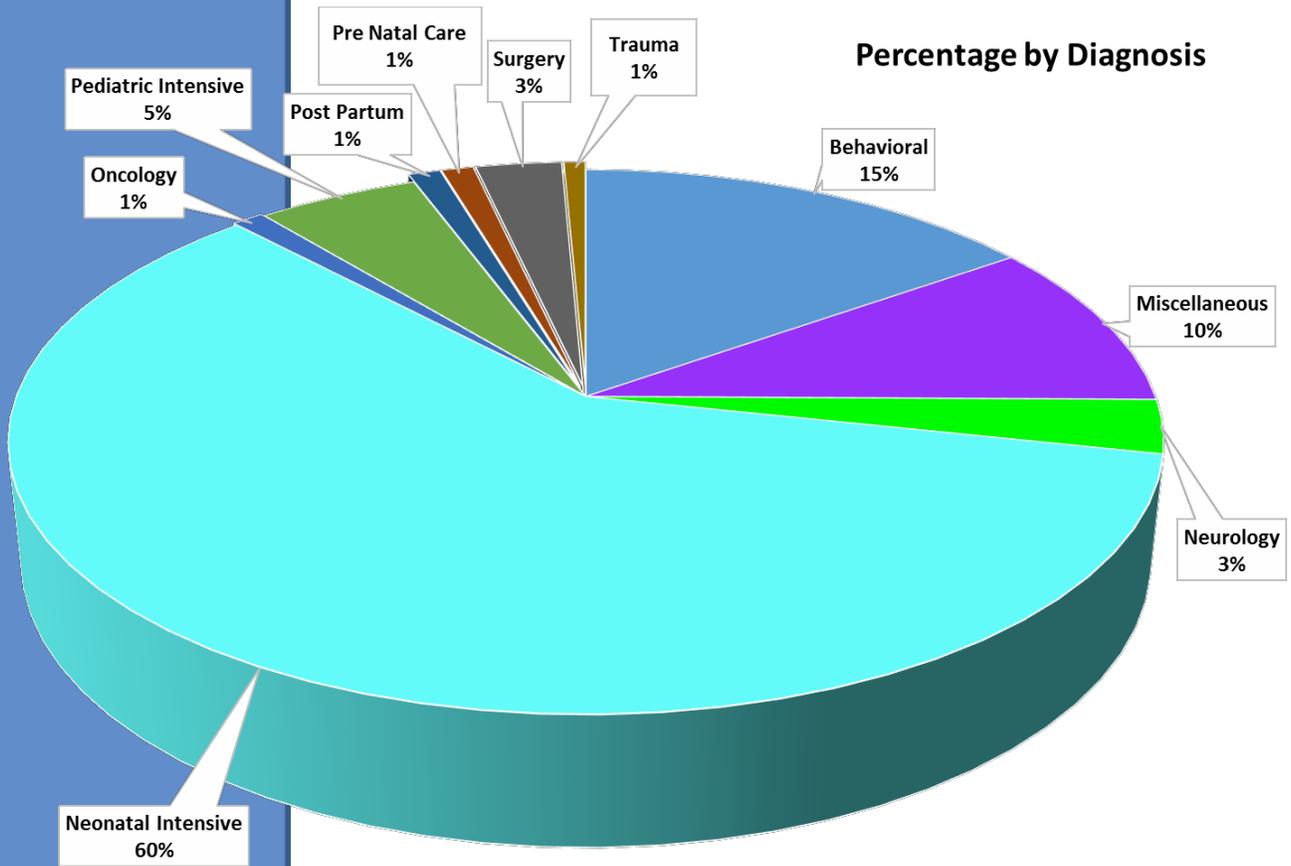
Being able to connect with the other families in the House,” Amber says, “was like having a support group. We all had similar stories. Different experiences, but a familiar road. We supported each other. Cried when there was bad news...cheered when there was good news. Everyone was there for each other. Being able to stay at such a warm, loving, welcoming House is one of the biggest reasons we were able to make it through such a tough ordeal.”

Today, at nearly two-years-old, Paige is doing well. She’s had 13 procedures, including open heart surgery, with still more to come. But her heart has completely healed. She runs around the house. She is talking up a storm. “Paige’s personality is shining!” her mother proudly reports.



2015-2016 Statistics

Percentage by Diagnosis



Percentage by Age Group

