



# around the HOUSE

THE LATEST UPDATES FROM RMHC OF THE SOUTHWEST • HOLIDAY EDITION 2020

3413 10th Street | Lubbock, Texas 79415 | 806.744.8877 | Fax 806.744.3652 | RMHCsouthwest.com

## Giving families a bit of HOME for the holidays.



### Our Private Carol of Lights

Special thanks to our friends at Mission Landscape and Maintenance for doing their part to brighten the House and Hearts of RMHC.



## HOUSE MISSION HEART

Through a year full of change, a few things remain constant - charity, kindness, and the community's willingness to do what they can for those in need.

When each individual contributes what he or she can, needs are met, lives are touched, and families are served. We are always amazed by the generosity of the community.

Through these challenging times, as the needs of RMHC and the families were made known, the needs were met. **ONE** need at a time. We are humbled and grateful for each **ONE** of you.



TTU Rodeo Association - Rounding Up!



When you visit a participating McDonald's, you can help support families by choosing to "Round-Up for RMHC" when you place your order on the kiosk or by asking a crew member to Round-Up your total. It is really as simple as that. Every cent makes a difference!

DECEMBER 8 - 20, 2020  
Round-Up for RMHC

Thank you Levelland & Muleshoe communities  
for setting drive-thru challenge records!





# HOUSE TO HOME

RMHC would like to tell you about an exciting new program:  
**THE HOUSE TO HOME PROGRAM.**



After days, weeks, even months of being away from home, families may have needs. Through the generosity of our friends at **H-E-B** and other grant funding, we are able to help provide a House to Home kit. Families receive shelf-stable groceries and household products, so there is no immediate need to rush to the store upon arriving home. Additionally, each family receives a gas card and a pre-paid shopping card to help alleviate any added expense on the journey home. It is exciting to offer continued support through the House To Home Program.

In this  
**FAMILY**  
no **ONE**  
fights  
alone!



**RMHC of the Southwest Staff**

## ONE kitchen *many meals*

### PUMPKIN EMPANADAS

#### FILLING:

- 1 can 100% pure pumpkin
- 2 tsp anise seeds  
More or less - to taste
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1—2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 1/2 tbsp cornstarch
- 1 cup water

#### DOUGH:

- 1 pkg yeast dissolved in
- 1 cup water
- 2 tbsp flour
- 4 cups flour
- 1 tbsp salt
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 cup shortening
- Sprinkle of cinnamon

#### DIRECTIONS:

- 1) Mix cornstarch and water until smooth.
- 2) Add anise and bring to a boil.
- 3) Add in all other filling ingredients and cook a few more minutes.
- 4) Set aside to cool.
- 5) In a small bowl, mix together yeast, water and 2 TBSP flour until smooth.
- 6) Set aside for 5 minutes.
- 7) In a large bowl, add remaining ingredients and blend well.
- 8) Knead to incorporate.
- 9) Pinch off 1/4 cup dough balls and roll into empanada crusts.
- 10) Spoon filling into dough, fold over and pinch closed.
- 11) Bake at 450 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes.

## RMHC FAMILY FEATURE

### ONE Story: The Mattingly Family of Clovis, NM

Penelope was admitted to University Medical Center Children's Hospital in respiratory



distress with a Pneumothorax. Penelope's mother, Abigail, her aunt, and her siblings stayed at the Ronald McDonald House during Penelope's health crisis.

Thankfully, a week later, her medical issues were resolved and the family returned home. Prior to leaving RMHC, Abigail shared her thoughts about their stay.

"The RMHC was an enormous blessing during Penelope's NICU stay. It was such a relief to be able to stay together as a family while we went through this hard time. My older children loved playing at the playground and interacting with the other kids staying at the Ronald McDonald House. The staff was kind and willing to answer any questions we had. It was a wonderful experience. I really loved how kind the employees were to my kids. They really made us feel at home. I was impressed by the cleanliness of the RMHC and by how kind the staff was!"

RMHC loves to share family stories with our donors, supporters, and volunteers. Your help is how RMHC remains open and *Keeping families close!*

### RMHC of the Southwest - Permian Basin ONE RMHC Family, many locations



The Odessa Family Room @ MCH has new message boards, updates to plumbing and electric, and Germ Blasting. We are honored to serve the families of the Permian Basin.

### SPECIAL THANKS TO HELEN GREATHOUSE CHARITABLE TRUST

Receipt of this grant, takes RMHC closer to our goal for construction on the Midland Family Room @ Midland Memorial Hospital. We are excited to be able to serve more families in the Permian Basin.



# VOL NTEER for RMHC, *Just Missing "U"*

*One House*

*One Mission*

*One Heart*



## We depend daily on volunteers.

These young ladies always come through for the families we serve with dedicated hearts and a passion for service. Congratulations Alpha Delta Pi for being a Spotlight Recipient Award Winner from the Volunteer Center Cornucopia Awards. Thank you, from our entire RMHC of the Southwest Family.

## ONE kitchen

### CURRENT NEEDS:

- 8 oz and 12 oz bottled waters
- Individual snack size chips
- Compartment plates/lids
- Disposable coffee cups with lids
- Lysol spray
- Clorox wipes
- Travel size (1 to 3 oz) hand sanitizers
- Individually wrapped spoons
- Plasticware packets (fork, knife, spoon)

Drop off at The House or purchase online and send directly to **3413 10th Street, Lubbock, TX 79415.**

## ONE meal MANY FAMILIES

The Guest Chef Program has resumed.

If you and your small group or family can help by cooking **ONE** meal for the families, or providing a meal to be delivered from a restaurant, please contact **Cindy** in the front office at **806.744.8877**

## NO TRICKS - ALL TREATS

Unable to spend their usual time volunteering inside the house, due to COVID safety measures, the Jones family made their Halloween count. Instead of collecting candy for their personal stash, they asked their friends and family to donate items from the RMHC Wish List.



Gracie and Wyatt Jones (and Jax)

## Sundae Fun Day!



At RMHC, when we get the chance to celebrate, we take it! (Safely, of course.) November 11th was National Sundae Day and our families enjoyed a fun, build your own Sundae kit!



It is that time of year when we are looking for eligible scholarship applicants for our two (2) scholarships:

**Janice Flemmons Scholarship & The Dina Jeffries Leadership Scholarship.** We offer scholarships to applicants who have had a serious childhood illness or are the sibling in an illness-affected family.

Submissions will be accepted through January 2021. For more info and to apply, scan the QR code or visit: [rmhcsouthwest.com/grants-and-scholarships](http://rmhcsouthwest.com/grants-and-scholarships).



# APPY



Download the RMHC of the Southwest app on your phone by searching "RMHC of the Southwest"!



## Check out what's APPENNING!

Stay updated on news and easily donate through the RMHC APP! Every donation you make through our new app directly benefits the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House!

**ONE** contribution helps many!



# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

I hope that you and your families are staying safe and well as we approach the holiday season. The holidays are just around the corner, and though things may look different this year as we continue to socially distance, I extend my warmest wishes and hope that you find peace and joy with your loved ones in the coming months.

Our theme as we near the end of 2020 and enter into a new year is **ONE MISSION – MANY REASONS**. Our mission at Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Southwest has always been to *keep families close* during their child's serious illness or injury, and even through the changes and trying times this year we continue to passionately pursue this mission. The many reasons are, of course, the families that we provide with the stability and resources they need to help their children become happy and healthy. In the uncertainty, confusion, and fear of having a sick child – and especially now as those feelings are amplified as we navigate the Covid-19 pandemic through the holiday season – we are the warm shelter in the storm. We continue to serve families with a warm smile, even though you might have to see it just in our eyes.

I want to thank you for your continued loyalty during these unusual times. Your support means everything to me and to the 8,000+ families we serve annually, through our various programs. We are so grateful to have supporters like you making a difference – thanks to your generosity we are able to support families during their greatest time of need. As we approach the end of 2020, I ask that you remember our mission and the MANY REASONS that drive us. Would you be willing to make a special year-end contribution to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Southwest? Big or small contribution, YOU are making a difference!

Happy holidays,



Emmanuel Ramirez  
Interim President & CEO

## Staff Spotlight on Cynthia Black, Finance Assistant



Since August of 2018, Cynthia has been part of the RMHC Staff Family. Cynthia describes herself as calm, creative, funny and patient. Her primary duties include supporting the Director of Finance, maintaining the donor database, & coordinating Medicaid.

She loves the band Diamond Rio, eating Divinity candy and Easter is her favorite holiday.

**Personal Motto:** "Never give up. Never surrender." OR "How about that." OR "Whatever it takes." OR "Don't worry, be happy."

**Hobbies:** Quilting, crafting, reading, cooking, baking, sewing, painting

**Personal Goal:** Remodeling the spare room into an office and exercise space.

**Best Advice Ever Received:** Measure twice, cut once. You can always add more salt but you can't take it out.

**Favorite Part of Job:** Working with the families staying in the House. Working with databases and spreadsheets. Supporting the Finance Department.

**Challenge of Her Job:** Swimming through the red tape that is the Medicaid system.

**Skills That Make Her Great:** Patience and determination to figure things out. Her ability to see and pull together details to make the whole work smoothly. Her sense of humor.

**Person She Admires:** Her sister, who is always kind, friendly, encouraging and ready to help.

**Wishes to be Remembered as:** Kind, patient, loving and encouraging

**What Inspires Her:** Bravery and selflessness



Laura Hon  
Board Member  
2014 - 2020

RMHC of the Southwest would like to give special thanks to Laura Hon, for 6 years of service on the Board of Directors. Laura works as an Educational Diagnostician for Lubbock ISD. During her time on the RMHC Board, she served on the Governance and Scholarship Committees, as well as serving as the Board Secretary. She is a true friend of RMHC and is greatly appreciated. Best of luck, Laura, and thank you for your help *Keeping families close!*

## RMHC Board of Directors

- |                                     |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Ty Jones, Board Chair             | • Jacoby Madewell  |
| • Steven Maddux, Chair Elect        | • Brian Payne      |
| • Todd Hardin, Board Treasurer      | • Robyn Snowberger |
| • Jennifer Irlbeck, Board Secretary | • Sunshine Stanek  |
| • Paul Dannevik                     | • Brad Stuteville  |
| • Rich Jones                        | • Hugo Vargas      |
| • Alita Loveless                    | • Libby White      |
| • Laura Hon                         | • Sydney Witte     |

# RMHC helping **ONE** family at a time



**When a child is injured or ill, you want to help.**

Now more than ever before, you **can**  
when you support RMHC of the Southwest.

*The **one** mission of RMHC  
helps families facing  
thousands of situations*

from cancer, accidents, premature birth, heart or brain issues to well known illnesses such as diabetes, muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy and more. Each situation is unique and yet in every single case parents, grand parents, siblings and other family members just want to be close to their loved one.

RMHC provides families with **support, shelter**  
and the **sustenance** they need at **NO COST**,  
for as long as necessary.

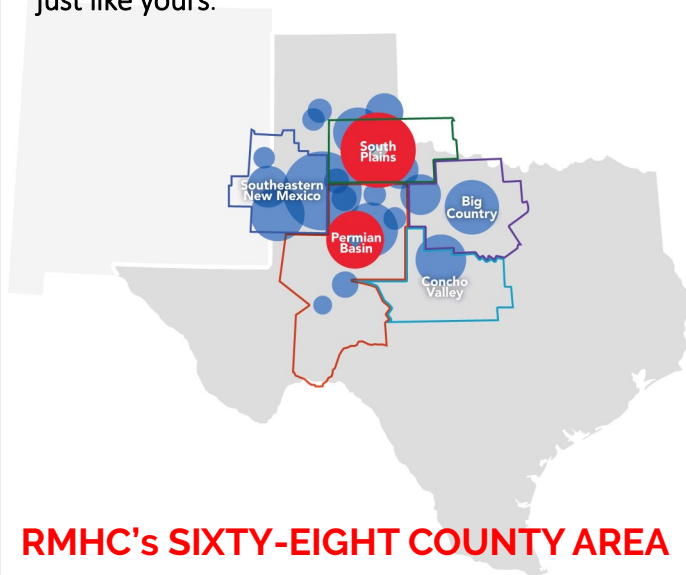
#### **WE DO A LOT WITH WHAT WE ARE GIVEN!**

- ⇒ \$20 can help with 4 nights of lodging for a family
- ⇒ \$50 can help with 10 nights of lodging for a family
- ⇒ \$100 can help with 20 nights of lodging for a family
- ⇒ \$200 can help with 40 nights of lodging for a family

## WHO BENEFITS FROM YOUR DONATIONS?

As much as we hate to imagine it, at some point, your family and friends may need RMHC's programs. Although we serve families from across the country and around the world, we have direct responsibility in 68 counties, which equates to 26% of the state of Texas.

Your donation goes directly to helping families  
**just like yours.**



### RMHC's SIXTY-EIGHT COUNTY AREA

**TX:** Bailey, Lamb, Hale, Floyd, Motley, Cottle, Lubbock, Cochran, Hockley, Crosby, Dickens, King, Knox, Youkum, Terry, Martin, Howard, Taylor, Lynn, Garza, Kent, Stonewall, Haskell, Throckmorton, Gaines, Dawson, Borden, Scurry, Fischer, Jones, Shackelford, Stephen, Andrews, Mitchell, Nolan, Callahan, Eastland, Winkler, Loving Ector, Midland, Glasscock, Sterling, Coke, Runnels, Coleman, Brown, Ward, Crane, Upton, Reagan, Irion, Tom Green, Concho, McColloch, Reeves, Pecos, Crockett, Schleicher, Menard, Mason, Sutton, Kimble, Terrell, Brewster  
**Southeastern NM:** Chaves, Eddy, Lea

For more information, contact

**Julie Barron Wells** at [julie@rmhcsouthwest.com](mailto:julie@rmhcsouthwest.com)

**Shalah Smith** at [shalah@rmhcsouthwest.com](mailto:shalah@rmhcsouthwest.com)

or **call 806.744.8877**

[RMHCSOUTHWEST.COM](http://RMHCSOUTHWEST.COM)

Follow us on social media!







# See the **DIFFERENCE** your support makes

In an **average year**, donations to RMHC make all this possible.

Community partners, donors, and volunteers help provide:



**26,500+**  
Meals served

Snacks and quick meal items are readily available around the clock & **home-cooked meals** are served daily for the families in the house.

Families have access to a **fully stocked** laundry facility within the House for their convenience.



**2,500+**  
Loads of laundry



**730+**  
Transports

**Transportation is available** to assist families in getting to and from hospitals, local businesses, and other necessities to "Keep families close" to their hospitalized children.

Helping with everything from picking up donations to assembling mail-outs, to feeding the families, **our volunteers** are committed to doing whatever they can.

**18,000+ hrs**  
Volunteer support



**8,000+**  
Families supported

With a child on a medical journey, families have many things weighing on them. **Staying close** to their child should not be one of them.

Ways to help RMHC provide these services:

Donate individually wrapped **snack and quick meal items** or become a Guest Chef and **cook** a family meal in the RMHC kitchen.



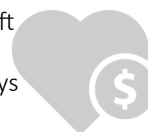
Donate (High Efficiency) **laundry detergent** to help maintain the supply needed for the families.

RMHC is in need of a new vehicle for transporting families. **Donation of a vehicle** for the fleet would meet this critical need.



Submit your **volunteer** application through the RMHC of the Southwest App and start helping in YOUR own way TODAY!

There are so many ways to support! Gift cards for online orders, grocery stores, etc. Of course cash donations are always helpful to **Keep families close!**



## OTHER WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

### PLANNED GIVING

A **simple bequest** in your will is a great way to make a gift that you might not otherwise be able to give.

Establishing a charitable trust will often allow you to utilize assets that are currently producing less personal income than desired, while also avoiding capital gains taxes.

**Annual gifts** are also an easy way to establish a giving pattern. These can be set up by credit card, bank draft, or email reminders. This is an excellent way to receive a tax credit!

### VEHICLE DONATION

Donate your car, truck, boat, or RV to RMHC of the Southwest "Where Cars Help Kids!". If you think that old car in the driveway isn't worth much, we would like to turn that thinking around. By donating your car, truck, boat, or RV to us, you can help families of seriously ill children in our area. And on top of that, you can claim a tax deduction for your charitable donation.

### WISH LIST

Watch for social media and website posts with updated current needs in the House.

### POP TABS & CANS

You'll not only be assisting to help others in need, but also helping the environment! Please donate your aluminum cans and pop tabs to RMHC or drop them off at Jarvis Metals Recycling at 7825 Olive Avenue and let them know you are donating on behalf of RMHC of the Southwest.

### RAISE AWARENESS

Follow RMHC on social media. Like, comment and share! It's as simple as that! Spread our mission to your social circle one post at a time!

### AMAZON SMILE

Shop smile.amazon.com and select RMHC of the Southwest as your charity of choice as a simple and automatic way for you to support RMHC at no cost to you.

### ROUND-UP

When ordering at McDonald's, ask your cashier to Round You Up for RMHC. Every penny from Round-Up comes directly to RMHC.

### DONATION BOXES

A dime here. A quarter there. It might not seem like much, but your 'small change' makes a big difference! Just drop your change into the donation box below the McDonald's drive thru window or on the counter and help **Keep families close!**