



around the HOUSE

THE LATEST UPDATES FROM RMHC OF THE SOUTHWEST • SUMMER EDITION 2021
3413 10th Street | Lubbock, Texas 79415 | 806.744.8877 | Fax 806.744.3652 | RMHCsouthwest.com

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First Annual RMHC Golf Tournament

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Gold Level



Silver Level



Bronze Level



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JULY 29, 2021

THE RAWLS COURSE @ TTU
3720 4th Street, Lubbock, TX

Golf for RMHC & help
Keep families close!
Limited teams available!
Register today!



ANNOUNCING THE NEW UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CENTER



By BRIAN PAYNE, M.D.



What Makes UMC Children's Emergency Center Unique

For a child, a trip to the Emergency Center can be a very scary experience. Having a dedicated space that is bright, cheerful and created just for them makes a difference not only for the child, but also the parents, grandparents, and caregivers.

UMC Children's Emergency Center was built with children in mind to allow kids to feel comfortable and confident that they will get the best care possible. The dedicated pediatric staff have specialized education to provide the best care for little ones and work to increase that knowledge daily. There are so many things included in the UMC Children's EC to make the visit pass by with as little trauma as possible such as TVs with movies, game consoles, toys, fun staff, bright colors, and even a special reward "treat" machine. Even adults will want to spend time in the area.

UMC works hard to provide the highest standard of care as the only Level 1 Designated Trauma Center and the only burn center within 400 miles, and now the new UMC Children's Emergency center dedicated just for kids!

From the time children enter the EC to the time they get to leave, the area is meant to decrease their anxiety and help families know their children deserve the highest standard of care and a place that is extra special.

What does UMC Children's Emergency Center provide?

- Lobby dedicated only to pediatric patients
- 2 fast track/triage rooms
- 8 EC rooms just for kids
- 1 Procedure room
- Specialty trauma rooms
- Pediatric specific nurses
- Full-time dedicated child life support
- Imaging designed for kids including x-rays, ultrasound, CT scans and MRI

UMC Health System is also the only Children's Miracle Network (CMN) hospital in the region. Through CMN's community partners and individuals helping to support UMC Children's Hospital, UMC is proud to be able to provide this amazing Children's Emergency Center to our community.



RMHC 2021 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Dina Jeffries Leadership Scholarship

Leadership and commitment are keys to success in business and in life. This scholarship honors Dina Jeffries thirteen years of leadership and service to RMHC. This scholarship will be awarded to applicants who are members of an illness-affected family and exemplify leadership within their school and community.

Scout Sonnenberg, Frenship High School

Scout will attend Texas Tech University, pursuing a degree in Studio Art/Art Therapy. Scout and her two siblings have a rare genetic anomaly similar to Rieger's Syndrome. Scout has malignant glaucoma leading to 42 eye surgeries and legal blindness. She and her family stayed at the Ronald McDonald House in Cleveland and have volunteered here in Lubbock.



RMHC of the Southwest

Janice Flemmons Scholarship

Focusing on children's health, this scholarship will be awarded to applicants who have had a childhood illness or injury or are part of family impacted by childhood illness. This scholarship honors Janice Flemmons fifteen years of service to RMHC.

Hannah Purdy, Lubbock Cooper High School

Hannah will be attending Lubbock Christian University, pursuing a degree in teaching.



She is the recipient of many honors - Third in her class, UIL Scholar Award, F.W. Mattax Scholarship Award, and National Honor Society to name a few.

Hannah's family was impacted by RMHC during her childhood hospitalization following an accident and she continued to be involved as a volunteer through her youth group.

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

One House



One Mission



One Heart

NEXTSTAR DAY OF CARING



In honor of Nextstar's Day of Caring, community partners from KLBK and KAMC joined the RMHC volunteer team. Along with gardening, painting and more, the team prepared lunch and dinner for the families of RMHC.

What a pleasure to have local media partners supporting and advancing the mission of RMHC!



The **RMHC Guest Chef Program** has many available dates this summer. We need your help!

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

THANKS & FAREWELL



South Plains Police Chiefs Association has faithfully made milk pick-ups the last 2 years. This service to RMHC has been greatly appreciated and will be missed as they move to other projects.

RMHC RUNS ON VOLUNTEER POWER

Without the support of our many community volunteer groups and individuals, RMHC could not serve the families of hospitalized ill or injured children as effectively.

"Thank You!" isn't nearly enough, but it has to be said. Each volunteer is important to us!



WE NEED YOU ON THE CREW

Have you missed our annual Red Shoe Shindig gala the last few years? So have we! The RMHC Board of Directors has approved the planning of the 2022 Red Shoe Shindig and it's time to get started.

We need a diverse group of dynamic volunteers to join this Red Shoe Crew. It is a fun way to network, build relationships, spread the RMHC mission and help promote the event that is historically our biggest fundraiser of the year!

If you, or someone you know, would be interested in hearing more about joining the Crew, please let us know by contacting Julie or Meghan at 806-744-8877. We are ready to shake off the dust of the last few years and focus on what we do best...

Keeping families close!



RMHC FAMILY FEATURE

Meet The Ogletree Family of Glen Rose, TX



On May 16, 2021, then 19 year old Texas Tech University student, Laura was experiencing significant pain which led her to go to University Medical Center for treatment. After testing, it was determined that she had blood clots in her legs and lungs. The scale of her emergency situation was moderate and she was admitted for treatment with medication.

Laura's family, residing in Glen Rose, Texas, rushed to Lubbock to be with her during this health crisis. Her father Doug, mother Joelle, and 16 year old sister Catherine were referred to Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Southwest and were registered to stay during Laura's medical journey.

On May 19th, Laura's 20th birthday, a surgical procedure was scheduled to remove clots not resolved with heparin treatment. During the surgery, Laura suffered a pulmonary embolism and coded. (A coded patient is one who is not breathing and/or has no pulse.)



For approximately an hour, Laura received CPR and was then placed on the highest level of life support medically available for several long days. With the knowledge that only the smallest percent of patients with similar conditions survive these events, they waited in uncertainty.

After 7 days, Laura was taken off life support but remained in ICU. Doctors were surprised at her recovery, sometimes even calling it miraculous. On June 11th, she moved to an in-patient rehabilitation facility and then was released for out-patient rehabilitation and physical therapy on June 16th. The family remains at the Ronald McDonald House together as Laura continues with follow-up appointments and therapy.

"Every day gets a little easier and I'm feeling better all the time." Laura reports, "Now that I'm awake and able to think about things, I realize that I didn't know my family was staying at Ronald McDonald House at first but I'm so happy to know that they were so close. I didn't want them to have to be paying for a hotel all that time."

Joelle shared, "I had no idea how much our whole family need to be cared for as well. Since we were focusing on Laura, it was so nice to be emotionally cared for and supported here. I never knew how much it would mean to just be able to do laundry so we could have clean clothes. And having meals provided, real meals that are not fast food, has been so nice."

While Laura was still admitted at UMC, her parents took turns sitting with her. They would switch places around 2 A.M. each morning. Joelle said, "Being so close to the hospital and having the shuttle available to ride for our shift switch was so comforting. It made us feel so much safer."

"When I got the call from her mother that she was having the embolism, I was resting in our room at Ronald McDonald House. I was able to be dressed and by her side within five minutes." said Doug. "We've been at RMHC for a full month now. We are all surprised at how well she is recovering."

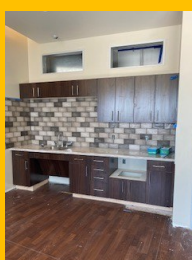
Laura feels her athletic background equipped her to work hard to make a full recovery. She's so glad that she completed her semester at TTU before her medical crisis. The family states that they know being together through this difficult time made it much less stressful. RMHC is happy to serve the Ogletree family and many others each day.



Search "RMHC of the Southwest" in your app store and download our App for up to date RMHC info.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN MIDLAND

RONALD McDONALD FAMILY ROOM @ MMH



CHIEF CHEER OFFICER JAX



RETIRING IN AUGUST

As he turns 9 years old, and after devoting his life to the care and cheering of thousands of friends and families, Jax will be retiring from his position as RMHC in-house therapy dog. He plans to live out his remaining years as a pet and enjoying the peace and quiet he has earned these last nearly 7 years as the Chief Cheer Officer of RMHC of the Southwest.

Jax has been a joy to have on staff and has helped to shape the therapy dog program of RMHC. He is irreplaceable, and will be missed. However, we are so happy for him to enjoy his remaining years at home with his family.

RMHC is now looking for our next Chief Cheer Officer and a personal handler who will step into the role. If you know someone who might be interested, please contact the office at 806-744-8877.

Follow us on social media for details about Jax's retirement party, to be held at our Back to School bash in August!

Love Letters to The House That Love Built

Here are a few recent heartfelt **"Thank You"** notes from the families YOUR support has helped.

A family from Cannon AFB, Clovis, NM

"The staff members were truly amazing! Always greeted us with a smile every time we came in. Checked in with us to make sure we didn't need anything. Went above and beyond with their caring and kindness. We cannot say enough amazing things about these ladies. They made a very tough time in our lives so much easier. Staying at RMHC while our child was in the NICU was a huge stress relief. We were able to be less than 5 minutes away and be at the hospital the maximum amount of time for our son. Having meals provided as well helped our family greatly during this stressful time. RMHC was truly a blessing during a tough time in our lives. We will be forever grateful." ~Katie

A Family from Keller, TX

"Everything at the house was perfect! The staff took such great care of us!! They were always checking on us and helping make our lives a little easier any way they could. We are extremely thankful for RMHC. Without you we would have had a much more stressful time in Lubbock during our 16 night stay." ~Mandy



A family from Midland, TX

"Everyone at RMHC made us feel welcome. We had such a great experience and we loved that we were comfortable the whole time. We felt very cared for and taken care of. Thank you for caring for our family." ~Mayra

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

How is it mid-year already? We are proud of the work we do every single day and it is important that we share the good work with you. Our quarterly newsletters shed light into all of our programs and the happenings around the House. You will find the dollars you give at work through our programs. More families are being served by your monetary donations. You will also find that RMHC runs on volunteer power. Our volunteer program extends our budget through volunteer hours and in-kind gifts and services.

We are excited to share with you the new University Medical Center Children's Hospital Emergency Center. UMC has been a partner of RMHC since inception. We continue to collaborate and work together to ensure children and families have access to medical care and additional resources. We are excited and congratulate UMC for their commitment to providing quality care to children.

We are also excited to announce the RMHC's 2021 Scholarship recipients. Scout Sonnenberg is the recipient for the Dina Jefferies Leadership Scholarship. Hannah Purdy is the recipient for the Janice Flemmons Scholarship. Congratulations and wishing our recipients success in their academics.

Thank YOU for your continued support and investment in our mission!

Emmanuel Ramirez

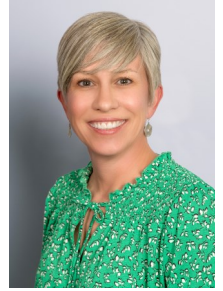


Emmanuel Ramirez
Interim President & CEO

NEW RMHC STAFF MEMBERS

Director of Finance

Michelle Briggs joined the RMHC family on April 26, 2021. With a background in non-profit finance and management, Michelle brings experience and fresh ideas to the team!



Events & Social Media Coordinator



Meghan O'Rourke is the newest member of the RMHC family, coming on-board June 14, 2021. Meghan is part of the Development and Communications Department. We look forward to the new ideas and insight she brings.

When ordering your favorite McDonald's treat, don't forget to Round Up for RMHC & help families! Your change makes a difference.



**Round Up your
order for RMHC®**

Keeping families close!



FOOD TRUCK FRIDAY

Come enjoy lunch with various local food trucks and your friends at RMHC!



Ronald McDonald
House Charities
of the Southwest

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
JULY 2 • AUGUST 6 • SEPTEMBER 3
11AM-2PM
RMHC PARKING LOT • 3413 10TH STREET



For more information, contact

Julie Barron Wells at julie@rmhcsouthwest.com

Shalah Smith at shalah@rmhcsouthwest.com

Meghan O'Rourke at Meghan@rmhcsouthwest.com

or call 806.744.8877

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Your gift helps
Families and
Hospitalized
children!



RMHC
of the Southwest

Please use my gift to support the Ronald McDonald House Charity mission of 'Keeping families close'. I've enclosed a donation in the amount of: \$ _____

TO COMPLETE YOUR DONATION:

- ☐ Visit rmhcsouthwest.com & click DONATE
- ☐ Send a Check back in the return envelope - Check # _____
(Please make payable to RMHC of the Southwest)

NAME _____

BUSINESS _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL?



RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES® OF THE SOUTHWEST

Join RMHC & Quarterback S.A.C.K. Chairman -
TTU Defensive Line **Coach, Paul Randolph** as we
count down to the 2021 TTU Football Season!
How many **S.A.C.K.**s will this year bring?

1. YOU PLEDGE
per # of times TTU will S.A.C.K.
the other team's quarterback.

2. RED RAIDERS "D"
gets the **S.A.C.K.S**

**3. FAMILIES &
Red Raiders
WIN!**

SCAN
THE
CODE



JOIN
THE
TEAM!

Make your pledge this year and help **Support And Comfort Kids!**

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