



RONALD McDONALD
HOUSE CHARITIES
OF SOUTHERN
COLORADO

2014

Annual Report

"lifting children & families in need to a better tomorrow"

OUR MISSION

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Colorado (RMHCSC)
lifts children and families in need to a better tomorrow

"Love comes in all shapes and sizes"

For Kami Anderson, that size had to be at least 6'4" tall.

In middle school, Kami started playing volleyball as middle block. She was good at it, continuing to play in both high school and at BYU in Idaho. An athlete from Florida State University came to visit a friend who attended BYU. Upon meeting Kami, she felt sure that she knew the "right someone" for her. Playing matchmaker, an introduction was made. When Kami met "him", the two immediately saw eye-to-eye.

At 7' tall, David was a star on FSU's basketball team. Courting, they learned they shared their faith, the pursuit of healthy lifestyles and a deep love for one another. Soon, they were married and were praying for a large family. It was 30 months after they said, "I do" that their two became three when son, Bridger, was born. They were ecstatic! In 2008, Bridger was joined by Brother Jackson, born six weeks premature.



From Lamar, Colorado, the Andersons were thrilled to be able to stay at our Ronald McDonald House, being so near Jackson as the best medical professionals cared for issues related to premature birth and breathing problems.

Meeting the Anderson family's needs - housing that was mere steps away from their small son, in addition to providing emotional support and meals – fulfills our mission of "lifting children and families in need to a better tomorrow". Kami said being near Jackson's side was vital to not only his healing and well-being, but also both her and David's.

Awakened in the middle of the night, Kami intuitively felt a strong prompt to "GO!" Walking to the NICU she was by Jackson's side when he suddenly began to fail; her tiny son with breathing problems had simply quit breathing. Alarms were blaring, and Jackson was turning blue. A team of medical professionals rushed in, reviving him and administering a CPR emergency vent. "Looking back, although it was really scary, I'm glad I was there." She paused and added, "That moment was weighty. It has given me much to reflect on with the preciousness of each moment we're given with those we love."

Jackson is a walking miracle. Now 7, "he plays every sport, takes art and piano lessons and participates in Cub Scouts." Kami said. He also loves eating healthily and cooking for his family. Kami contributes MUCH of his healing to her being present and available for him when he was so small and required around the clock care. "Staying at the House was awesome! It helped me to feel like a normal person."

Fast forward to the evening of 12.10.2014. The doorbell rang and the familiar faces of Kami and David were standing on our front porch. Now parents of FIVE boys, (Bridger, 9, Jackson, 7, Talmadge, 6 and Kahler, 2), their youngest son, Knox, was born seven weeks premature. While Knox was in the NICU, the Anderson's were again receiving the best care our staff and volunteers can provide. Kami's heart has been enlarged by the ongoing support they've received, but none more than the gift of togetherness. Their family was with us for 39 days and nights, including over Christmas and New Year's.



Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Colorado



Receiving Christmas presents for their five boys (and she and David) from our Christmas Store “was a huge blessing for our family. We were so thankful!”

Kami said, “Being able to stay here, again, has been a huge stress relief. There’s no way we could have afforded a hotel for nearly 40 nights. For me, there’s so much reassurance knowing I’m right here. I spend as much time as I can with Knox, providing love and kangaroo care to help in his healing.” She added, “Honestly, I think the hours of skin on skin contact contribute to how well he’s doing.” Kami shared,

“Since our last stay with you, the Ronald McDonald Family Room was new to me. It was such a gift – whether I used it for facilities, to eat or to find support.” Kami recalled, “I remember one day, after receiving difficult news in the NICU, I went to the Family Room to gather myself. When my tears began to fall, the volunteer listened and provided a safe place for me in my sadness.”

Kami said, “There was comfort and security at the House for me and my family. I felt safe and well cared for. Having our own room, beds and space really made it feel like ‘home.’” And, from the bounty given, Kami has provided support for other families staying at the House, sharing her gift of perspective. “I know what it feels like to be in the midst. It feels like that’s the truest thing; that it will be like that forever. Thankfully, it won’t.”

David agrees. Kami calls her husband ‘her rock’. While he spent much of the last 39 days and nights in Lamar caring for their other boys (who were experiencing bouts of flu), he was thankful to know Kami’s emotional and physical safety were being taken care of while staying at our House.

Anxious for Knox’s release and to get home to her family, Kami smiled. “It’s pure GLORY... definitely, ‘mad chaos!’” Each of their boys is “energetic and excitable”, (and TALL! Bridger, at 9, is 5’4” with no sign of slowing down!) “They each have a big personality”.

We’re delighted that once Kami and David’s eyes met, they’ve never looked back. It’s a privilege to witness the Anderson’s living out the very slice of Heaven that they prayed for 12 years ago.



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Friends of Ronald McDonald House Charities -

We've long heard the study that critically ill children cope better and heal faster when their families are with them. Hospitals that Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Colorado partner with understand this, providing family centered care as a holistic approach, coming alongside and healing the entire familial unit.

Recently, Colorado Springs was near the top of the list in a study measuring the highest rates of "situational homelessness" in the United States. While many factors contribute to that result, unforeseen disease, illness or injuries top the list for many.

Nearly 80% of families served at our House live at or below the poverty level. Prolonged hospital stays, often in a city far from where a family lives, create very real financial strains and burdens with hospital bills and other unforeseen expenses. For the nearly 9,000 families who, over the last 28 years, have called our "House that Love Built" their home-away-from-home while their critically ill hospitalized child was receiving the best possible medical care available, we understand these statistics.

In 2014, nearly 4,000 children and their families received services from our cornerstone programs, including the Ronald McDonald House, the three Ronald McDonald Family Rooms located in area hospitals and the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile. Expressing their deepest gratitude, these families are so thankful they could stay (and heal) together.

I am proud to have served as Board President over the past two years. I am amazed at the number of families served by this small and mighty staff and band of volunteers. As a Mother of two beautiful young daughters, I love that Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Colorado continues to step up and come alongside families with the greatest needs, providing housing, and helping to meet financial, physical and emotional needs of those in crisis.

In over 28 years of operation, *no one* has *ever* been turned away from any of our services for lack of funds. In 2014 alone, the cost to support families unable to contribute to their stay at the House was over \$72,000.

Your ongoing belief in our mission and support assists Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Colorado raise 100% of their operating budget from community resources; 88% coming from individuals, foundations, corporations and businesses, with the remaining 12% coming from our relationship with McDonald's customers and Owner/Operators.

I know I speak for the entire Board of Directors when I say a heartfelt, "THANK YOU!" Your support and love meant the world for the thousands of families who, through no fault of their own, found themselves in need of compassion and care last year.

Out of respect for the privacy of our donors, we've chosen to not print names or amounts given. Please know we are so appreciative of every gift.



Tammy Rivera



Tammy Rivera

Cornerstone Programs of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Colorado



RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

The doors opened to "The House That Love Built" at 311 North Logan Avenue in Colorado Springs, Colorado on February 14th, 1987. Since that time, our Ronald McDonald House has served nearly 9,000 families with critically ill children who are receiving the best possible medical care at area hospitals. Primarily, families come from Southern Colorado, Northern New Mexico and Western Kansas. Staying at our House allows families to be just steps away from their seriously ill child. Studies show family centered care helps children heal faster and cope better. In addition, parents are able to stay connected to their child's medical team, understanding and keeping up with complicated protocols and treatment plans.

In 2014, **251 families** stayed at our Ronald McDonald House while their critically ill children were hospitalized.

RONALD MCDONALD FAMILY ROOM

When a child is critically or seriously ill, family and friends don't want to leave their bedside. Often there is too much at stake; things can change quickly. The Ronald McDonald Family Rooms located in Memorial Hospital, St. Francis Medical Center and inside Children's Hospital Colorado Outpatient Specialty Care location offer the needed amenities, allowing families and friends to be within steps of their hospitalized child. Open 365 days a year, 12 hours a day, the Family Rooms are staffed 100% by volunteers, who greet our guests into a warm, relaxing, home-like environment where they can relax and recharge. Amenities include comfortable seating areas, food and beverages, laptops with internet access, a kitchen, play room, resource library, private lockers and showering and laundry facilities.



In 2014, **1,684 families** were served by the Ronald McDonald Family Rooms.



RONALD MCDONALD CARE MOBILE

Our Ronald McDonald Care Mobile is the World's first "green" Care Mobile. A collaborative partnership between Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Colorado and Peak Vista Community Health Centers, the Care Mobile's mission is to provide exceptional health care to children and their families by "reducing community-wide geographic access barriers." Our 40' Care Mobile travels to eight counties along the Front Range, providing both preventative and restorative medical and dental care to children 0-21 who are uninsured and underinsured.

In 2014, the Care Mobile provided medical and dental care **1,828 times**



Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Colorado

BY THE NUMBERS:

2014 AUDITED FINANCIALS STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and Cash equivalents (including restricted cash)	\$613,228
Prepaid expenses	\$11,574
Short-term investments	\$51,891
Accounts receivable	\$63,339

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS \$740,032

LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS \$745,233

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT:

Furniture and Equipment	\$166,130
Building and Improvements	\$830,241
Memorial Hospital Family Room	\$23,647
St. Francis Family Room	\$21,699
Children's Specialty Clinic Family Room	\$4,063
Healing Garden	\$26,352
Land	\$50,000
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(\$646,150)
Property and Equipment - Net	\$475,982

TOTAL ASSETS \$1,961,247

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES:

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$8,708
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TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES \$8,708

NET ASSETS:

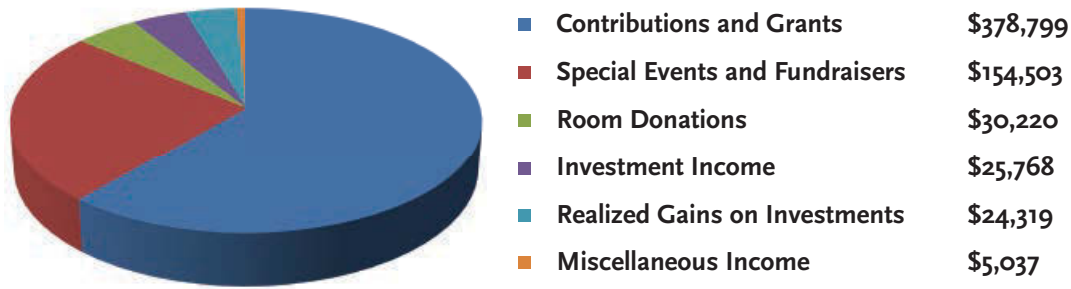
Unrestricted	\$1,339,861
Temporarily restricted	\$37,678
Permanently restricted	\$575,000

TOTAL NET ASSETS \$1,952,539

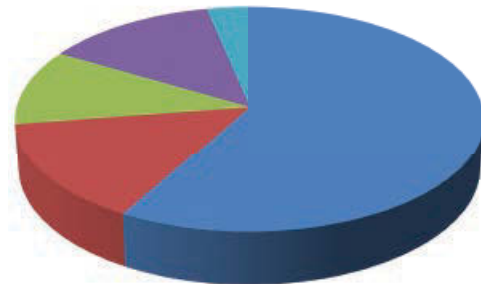
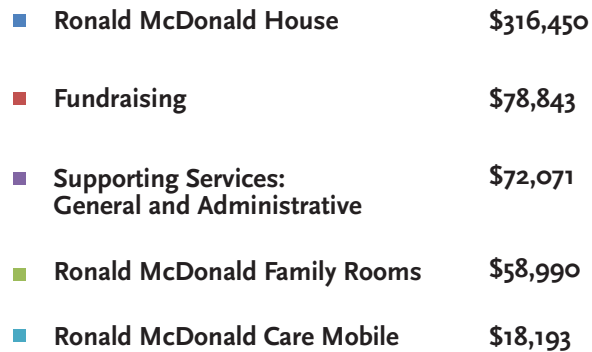
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS \$1,961,247

FINANCIAL POSITION

2014 TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES: \$618,646



2014 TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$544,547



In 2014

The Ronald McDonald House served 251 families

The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile provided medical and dental care to children 1,828 times

The Ronald McDonald Family Rooms in Memorial Hospital, St. Francis Medical Center and Children's Hospital Colorado Outpatient Specialty Care served 1,684 families



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