



## RMHC SCHOOL FUNDRAISING KIT

Dear Fundraiser

Thank you for your interest in fundraising on behalf of Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) as we endeavour to help seriously ill children and their families. We know that you will have a great time both planning and running your event.

Fundraising is all about having fun while raising money for those that most need it. Fundraising events are a way to involve students, teachers and parents while providing RMHC with much needed funds.

We are always looking for new and inventive ways to raise money, so get together with your classmates and come up with ideas to raise money for Ronald McDonald House Charities. We have some examples on the next page that may help to get you started.

This fundraising kit includes:

- **Registration form** (to be completed before fundraiser begins and returned to us)
- **Brief for Teachers and Students**
- **Fundraising ideas**
- **Information on handling money**

Please complete the registration form on page 2 of this kit and return it to us via fax on 02 9875 6588 or post to 21-29 Central Avenue Thornleigh. Once we receive this registration for an Authority to Fundraise will be sent out to you so that you can get started.

We hope you have a great time with your fundraising event. If you have any questions please contact me and I will be happy to assist you as much as possible. You may also want to visit our website [www.rmhc.org](http://www.rmhc.org) for more information.

Happy Fundraising!

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Ronald McDonald House Charities – Australia  
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# REGISTRATION FORM

Please provide RMHC with the following details:

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisers  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Best time/method of contact: \_\_\_\_\_

No of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Please give details of planned fundraising activities:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Why did you choose to fundraise on behalf of Ronald McDonald House Charities?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please circle appropriate school/group classification:**

Government      Independent      Catholic      Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form before you begin your fundraiser via fax 02 9875 6588 or post to 21-29 Central Avenue Thornleigh NSW 2120.**



# RMHC BRIEF FOR TEACHERS & STUDENTS

**Please copy the following 2 pages and distribute to all involved in your fundraiser so that they know what Ronald McDonald House is all about**

## **1: What Does Ronald McDonald House Charities Do?**

Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) supports Ronald McDonald Houses in Australia and other programs that directly help seriously ill children live happier, healthier lives.

The main project of RMHC is the 12 Ronald McDonald Houses throughout Australia. Ronald McDonald Houses provide affordable accommodation for families of sick children being treated at hospitals.

Since 1981 Australia's 12 Ronald McDonald Houses have provided more than 25,000 families more than 750,000 individual nights of accommodation.

## **2: Global Charity**

RMHC is a global charity, which began in the US in 1974 as Ronald McDonald Children's Charities (RMCC) in memory of Ray Kroc, the pioneer of the McDonald's Corporation. In that year the first Ronald McDonald House was opened. The House was named Ronald McDonald House because Ronald McDonald represented fun, happiness and trust for children. For sick children, a Ronald McDonald House was a place where they felt safe could be with their families and could not be hurt.

To date, RMHC worldwide has awarded more than US \$400 million in grants to children's programs. RMHC has a network of 181 local charities serving in 48 countries and there are currently 238 Ronald McDonald Houses in 24 countries, 68 Ronald McDonald Family Rooms in nine countries and 21 Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles in two countries throughout the world.



### **3: History in Australia**

The first Ronald McDonald House in Australia was opened at the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children, Camperdown Sydney in September 1981. Four years later, in 1985, McDonald's Australia established Ronald McDonald House Charities Australia. McDonald's continue to pay all administration and management costs for the Charity.

### **4: What is a Ronald McDonald House**

Ronald McDonald House is a low cost home-away-from-home for the families of seriously ill children being treated at nearby hospitals. Rather than spend the night in a hospital waiting room, family members can stay in comfort at a Ronald McDonald House and receive support from staff, volunteers or other families who are sharing similar experiences. Houses contain private family rooms with en-suits and common kitchens, lounges, quiet rooms and play areas. As many as 237 families will be sleeping at a Ronald McDonald House tonight and this year our Houses will provide home away from home for over 3,700 families.

### **5: Who is eligible to stay at Ronald McDonald Houses?**

The Houses are located next to major women's and children's hospitals in each state. Any family with a sick child receiving treatment at the hospital is able to stay at the House, however the House is primarily set-up for families that have to travel long distances for their child to receive treatment.

### **6: What hospitals have Ronald McDonald Houses?**

The twelve Ronald McDonald Houses are located at the following hospitals;

- Westmead House, NSW – The Children's Hospital Westmead
- Randwick House, NSW – Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick
- Hunter House, NSW – The John Hunter Hospital Newcastle
- Mater House, QLD – Mater Children's Hospital, Brisbane
- Herston House, QLD – Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Brisbane
- Townsville House, QLD – Townsville General Hospital, Townsville
- Parkville House, VIC – Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne
- Monash House, VIC – Monash Medical Centre, Clayton
- Adelaide House, SA – Women's and Children's Hospital, Adelaide
- Perth House, WA – Princess Margaret Hospital for Children, Perth
- Hobart House, TAS – Royal Hobart Hospital, Hobart
- Wagga Wagga, NSW – Wagga Wagga Base Hospital, Wagga Wagga



## **7: How is RMHC Funded?**

McDonald Corporation pays all of RMHC's administrative expenses. That means every cent donated goes directly to the programs which will benefit children.

RMHC also receives financial help from the following:-

- Customers putting money in money boxes in McDonald's restaurants.
- General public sending cheques and supporting McHappy Day
- Businesses and schools running events like mufti days and raffles
- Businesses supporting fundraising events like Charity Balls and making donations

## **8: What other projects does RMHC provide?**

RMHC supports a number of other programs that help seriously ill children to live happier healthier lives in addition to the Houses. These include:-

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- Ronald McDonald Learning Program
- RMHC Cord Blood Bank Program
- Ronald McDonald Family Rooms
- Ronald McDonald Beach Houses
- RMHC Grants & Facilities

**The Ronald McDonald Learning Program** gives specialist education to children who are recovering from serious illness. The program aims to help children 'catch up' on their basic education skills following lengthy hospital stays and absence from school. The Ronald McDonald Learning Program was launched in 1999 and operates in several NSW regional and metropolitan areas including Wollongong, Coffs Harbour, Newcastle and Sydney. It also operates in Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Brisbane and is soon to commence an online program to assist students in Tasmania as well as isolated students in Victoria.



This year an additional 110 children will be enrolled in the Learning Program bringing the total enrolment for the year to 330 children. Since 1998 more than 700 children have received help to catch up with their education from the Learning Program and the 1,000<sup>th</sup> enrolment will occur in 2006.

**The RMHC Cord Blood Bank Program** funds the collection and storage of umbilical cord blood. Cord blood is rich in marrow stem cells and is being used as an alternative to bone marrow in treating childhood leukaemia and some cancers.

**Ronald McDonald Family Rooms** provide comfortable home like rooms within hospitals for families to relax in whilst attending to their sick children. They often contain kitchens, laundries, bathrooms, lounges and quiet nap rooms. RMHC has Family Rooms at the Princess Margaret Hospital, Perth; the John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle; the Canberra Hospital and Rotary House in Ballarat. As many as 500 families per month and 6,000 families per year visit the John Hunter Family Room. RMHC plans to build more Family Rooms over the next few years.

**Ronald McDonald Beach Houses** provide families with seriously ill children free holiday accommodation. There are now five Beach House projects in Australia: Fiona Lodge and Forster Beach House, NSW; Kessia's Cottage, Victoria, and Bunbury and Jurien Bay Beach Houses in WA. Together these Houses accommodate over 460 families per year.

**Ronald McDonald Grants & Facilities** RMHC regularly makes grants to hospitals to enhance the quality of care and support for both children and their families. Our Facilities include children's wards, children's treatment clinics, and RMHC Care-By-Parent Units. Care-By-Parent Units provide accommodation within the hospital for parents and their seriously ill children who still need hospital care, but no longer require on-ward treatment.

Further Information can be obtained from the RMHC website  
[www.rmhc.org.au](http://www.rmhc.org.au).



## THE A-Z OF SCHOOL FUNDRAISING IDEAS

**Auction:** do something positive with those unwanted gifts, clear out the cupboards and sell/ auction them.

**Balloon Racing:** collect a donation for each tagged balloon and see which balloon can fly the furthest.

**Bring and buy sale:** donated goods make great bargains

**Cricket:** challenge other schools or classes– get the number of runs sponsored, organise a sweepstake, charge for tickets and even have a raffle.

**Drawing Competition:** draw or paint a picture, perhaps on a theme, and get parents to pay an entry fee for each one, with a prize for the judges favourite.

**Easter egg Hunt:** for an entry fee students can hunt for carefully concealed eggs. Parents could also pledge a certain sum for every egg their children find.

**Fun Run:** organise your own or find a locally organised event – you could even try it three-legged.

**Fancy Dress:** raise money by dressing up for the day; the more outrageous the better.

**Guess the weight:** of the cake, the teddy or the jar of sweets.

**Horrible Hair Day:** pay to wig out, or get sponsored for your bad hair wear.

**It's a Knockout:** organise a sponsored fun day or a day for the students.

**Inter-School Tennis League:** or soccer, or rounders or badminton or anything!

**Jumble Sale:** if there is anything left after the auction or bring and buy sale, there is always the jumble sale.

**Karaoke:** a chance to share your singing skills or pay for a song.

**Learn:** learn a story, a poem or even to play a musical instrument and get sponsored for every note you get right! Don't forget the ear plugs!

**Mini:** mini-birthday parties; invite 20 friends and ask them to bring \$5.

**Night walk:** plan a walk or mini hike around your area at night. Perhaps a local wildlife expert or someone who tells ghost stories could make it more interesting and all participants could pay a couple of dollars.

**Open School:** Why not host a coffee morning planned by students.



**Plant Sale:** perfect for people with green fingers.

**Pantomime:** organise a panto for families and friends with a charge for tickets.

**Quiz:** charge \$1 dollar to enter and half the proceeds form the jackpot.

**Raffle:** a traditional fundraising favourite.

**Red, yellow & blue mufti day:** pay 50c to come to school in red, yellow & blue - Ronald McDonald House Charities colours

**Recycling:** recycle your paper, aluminium cans and toner cartridges, donate the returns and enhance the school image at the same time.

**Recycling Centre:** ask people to donate any good second-hand clothes which could either be sold at a general sale or...

**Second hand fashion parade:**

Out of donated clothes, pick outfits which students & teachers can model and other students, parents and teachers can bid for.

**Sleep Out/over:** brave the cold in your sleeping bag (or the less-cold by having a sleep over in the school hall).

**Treasure Hunt:** write the clues to a treasure hunt by car, push bike or on foot.

**Tug of War:** between students and teachers.

**Tennis Tournament:** ask a local club or private owner to lend you courts free and charge players an entry fee for a one day tournament.

**Uplifting:** which is what fundraising should be...Have Fun!

**Variety Show:** dust off your dancing shoes, look out that magician's hat and put on a show.

**Who Was That Baby:** hold a 'guess the baby from the photo' competition.

**Xmas Party:** it's never too early for Xmas.

**Xmas Cards:** make them and sell them for a good cause or you can sell RMHC Christmas Cards. If you would like to do this please call Kelly at RMHC on 02 9875 7172

**Your own ideas:** they're often the best.

**Zany Ideas:** run a competition to think of a fundraiser beginning with Z.



## HANDLING THE MONEY

Thank you for fundraising on behalf of RMHC, your efforts assist us to help families in need and provide them with a “home-away-from-home”, a years worth of catch up education or even a free holiday when they have a sick child.

Please send your RMHC fundraising proceeds to Ronald McDonald House Charities as soon as possible.

How to make your donation to Ronald McDonald House Charities:

**1. Send a cheque (preferable)**

Write a cheque payable to Ronald McDonald House Charities and post it to

Kelly Mancey  
Ronald McDonald House Charities – Australia  
21-29 Central Avenue  
Thornleigh NSW 2120

**OR**

**2. Bank the funds directly**

Westpac Bank  
BSB: 032 087  
Account #: 154 315

Please note it is very important that you send notification to RMHC that this donation has been made so that we can find it and allocate it appropriately. You can either email [rmhc@rmhc.org.au](mailto:rmhc@rmhc.org.au) or post to the details below. Thanks

Thanks again for all of your efforts. We hope you had fun with your fundraising activities! You will receive a certificate of appreciation for your efforts in the mail very soon to display at your school.