



Aloha

# From Our House to Yours

www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org

Newsletter of Ronald McDonald House Charities® Hawaii

Issue 2, August 2020

## Message from our President



Jerri Chong

Aloha,

We are so happy to be welcoming new families to our House again. As with many businesses, we have had to adapt and change.

For the safety of our families, volunteers, and staff, we temporarily suspended programs and cancelled fundraisers at the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Now we

have implemented some of the strictest safety protocols at our Houses to protect families with seriously ill children.

By opening our House on a limited basis and taking the highest sanitary measures, we hope to alleviate at least some of the fear and anxiety associated with a life-threatening illness during these uncertain times. Our goal is to keep families together so they can grow stronger and heal during their time of crisis.

For the past 33 years, community support has enabled us to continue to provide a home-away-from-home for these families who must seek critical medical care on Oahu. We truly rely on donors for us to continue our work.

Mahalo again for all of your support that makes our visions and families' dreams for recovering come true.

Sincerely,

Jerri Chong, RMHC Hawaii President

**"Aloha From Our House to Yours," the newsletter of Ronald McDonald House Charities Hawaii (RMHC-Hawaii), is published three times a year.**

## Safety First

Welcoming our families back while taking safety and sanitary precautions. Safety is a top priority as our House re-opens to new families on a limited basis. [#thehousethatlovebuilt](#) [#homeawayfromhome](#) [#ohana](#) [#keepingfamiliesclose](#) [#bettertogether](#) [#safetyfirst](#)



## Mahalo Supporters

Thank you for your generous donations. Your support helps us provide care and services for overwhelmed families and contributes to:

- A family's stay at our House for a night
- Transportation to and from a hospital for medical treatments
- A nourishing meal that we will prepare and shop for during these cautious times of social distancing
- Sanitizers, PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), and items that help keep immune suppressed children safe
- And other services so necessary to a family in need



*“RMHC provided us a home and comfort during our difficult times. Talking to Kappy (Oahu House Manager) and other families going through similar situations gave us strength, hope, and faith.”*

Zoe and her family stayed at our House while Zoe was in Kaiser Permanente NICU after being born prematurely at 24 weeks.

Kiara “Kiki” was born early after her mom got severe preeclampsia.

*“Ronald McDonald House...was a true blessing! We were in Hawaii for a vacation, but I ended up in the hospital having my baby very early, which meant I had to stay on Oahu until it was safe for her to return home. RMHC Hawaii provided a safe place for us to eat and sleep, somewhere for me to heal, recover, and rest at ease while knowing my baby was in the hospital. I could just focus on her growing healthy.”*



## Family Rec Center - “Tree of Hope”

As community needs have grown and changed, RMHC Hawaii has also evolved to address the needs of entire families that find respite and care at the Ronald McDonald House.

Early this year, we began construction of our Family Recreation Center, combining existing playroom and outdoor lanai space at our Judd Hillside House to provide multi-purpose areas for family-centered activities. Our first capital renovation and expansion since 2006, the Center will foster sharing and caring between families who are going through their toughest times. It will include computer stations, a reading loft and library, indoor tree house, and

central family and guest gathering areas. Teens can hone gaming skills or do school work; caregivers and young moms can rest; children can read in the loft or play in the treehouse—all with loved ones nearby.

We were fortunate to cover construction and capital costs, but are still looking for funding to complete the interior design and to purchase amenities.

Our “Tree of Hope,” will be in the center of the room, a symbol of caring and love representing community and corporate donors who adopt this project. Their names will be engraved on perpetual plaques and added to the tree trunk—forever recognizing them as the sustaining force behind this very special place.



Our multi-purpose family gathering space nears completion.



New windows let the sunshine in.

# RMHC Virtual Golf Offers Two Options

This summer, RMHC Hawaii is holding two virtual golf tournaments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and cancellation of RMHC Hawaii's 29th Annual Golf Classic, in which nearly 200 golfers participate each year. Both virtual golf tournaments comply with social distancing etiquette and help with fundraising—so crucial to our House and mission of providing a home-away-from-home for seriously ill children and their families. All proceeds support Ronald McDonald House Charities Hawaii.

## At Bayview Golf Course on TOPTRACER July 1 through July 31

We held our first-ever virtual golf tournament throughout the month of July at the Bayview Golf Course driving range, using its new TOPTRACER technology. Participants entered the tournament on RMHC Hawaii's website and then played virtually on Harbour Town Golf Links (South Carolina), hitting balls and following their progress on the video screen.

Bayview Golf Course is the first to bring the new TOPTRACER technology to Hawaii, engaging keiki and families, as well as seasoned golfers, in an exciting game at the driving range.



## On the Course – August 1 through September 30

There's still time to enter our second golf tournament of 2020. A re-imagined RMHC Hawaii Golf Classic, this tournament is played on a golf course of your choice. Players compete against one another, photographing scorecards and being paired with a surprise player and scratch card to complete their team.

Sponsorships are available for play on the Hawaii Prince Golf Course. Participants can register as a sponsor or individual player. *Photos below are from 2019.*



Register on our website [www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org](http://www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org)  
For more information, please contact Tina Scotty, email [golf@rmhchawaii.org](mailto:golf@rmhchawaii.org)  
Remember to join our Facebook Golf Group for tournament results and photographs  
[www.facebook.com/groups/RMHC2020golf/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/RMHC2020golf/)



#MahaloSupporters



**Wish List**

- disinfectant wipes/sprays
- antibacterial hand soap
- disposable nitrile gloves (for cleaning)
- kitchen trash bags
- laundry detergent
- Xerox/copy paper

Check out our Facebook photo album at [www.facebook.com/RonaldHouseHawaii](http://www.facebook.com/RonaldHouseHawaii)