



Aloha

# From Our House to Yours

www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org

Newsletter of Ronald McDonald House Charities® Hawaii

Issue 3, October 2022

## Keeping a Positive Spirit

*“When we learned Keaka needed radiation treatments for cancer Monday through Friday, we knew we needed the Ronald McDonald House on Oahu.” – Cara Dudoit*

Keaka Dudoit had already been getting chemotherapy for cancer on the Big Island where he and his family lived. But after a consult at Kapiolani Medical Center on Oahu, he and his family found out that the next phase of treatment on Oahu would be daily.

That’s when the Dudoits knew they needed the Ronald McDonald House. Keaka’s mom, Cara, had heard that it was a nice place for family to stay together close to the hospital.



Keaka uses the Judd Hillside House computer to do school work remotely.

After Keaka started daily radiation treatment, the physical and financial drain of flying back and forth to the Big Island while trying to get medical care on Oahu was taking its toll. Dad kept working at Coca Cola while Cara worked virtually for Easter Seals, taking Keaka to doctor appointments and treatments on Oahu, and still trying to be there for Keaka’s father and sisters on the Big Island.

With blessings from hospital social workers, Keaka and his mom checked



Keaka built his masterpiece with Legos.

into the Judd Hillside Ronald McDonald House in April.

Cara said the House exceeded her expectations. “I got teary eyed when RMHC staff explained how the idea for Ronald McDonald House Hawaii rose out of a need and continues through community support and care. The ‘*manao*’ behind the family recreation center built by community members wanting to give back is so impressive.

“Ronald McDonald House takes care of so many of the basic needs you don’t have time for that it’s such a relief. The ability to still feel normal and not having to worry about additional financials on top of medical care is such a blessing. Having a place to stay like the Ronald

House lets you focus on your child’s health and care.”

During their month-long stay at the House, Cara still gave Keaka three meals a day, but the preparation time was minimal due to a full refrigerator and pantry, donated meals, and kitchen supplies. She was able to heat up his favorite meals from the night before or give him donated breakfasts and his favorite—chocolate milk—throughout his stay.

For a month, Keaka did school work on the House computer or laptop and Cara continued her job at Easter Seals remotely from the Judd Hillside House.



Cara shares her thought about “Keeping Positive.” See our YouTube channel for more.



Cara and Keaka Dudoit stayed with us at our Judd Hillside House for a month earlier this year.

# Message from our President



Jerri Chong

Aloha,

As fall approaches, we are filled with hope. We have learned from the many families who stay with us while a child gets medical care nearby that

“positivity” is essential. During the toughest times, keeping positive and having hope can help you endure, grow stronger, and move forward.

For the past 35 years, we have been able to host nearly 15,000 families and help them get through their crises of having ill or injured children. We have been able to offer them a home-away-from-home with essential services at no

cost to the families. This alleviates stress and lets them focus on the health of their children.

Despite them becoming part of our Ohana when staying at the Ronald McDonald House, we love watching them return home to a Neighbor Island, the Mainland, or a Pacific Island following treatment and on the road to recovery.

In this issue, we feature a couple of our families who have kept the positivity and hope, become part of our ohana, and gone home with a healthier and happier child. Whether a premature baby or a child with cancer or a rare and sudden illness or injury, keiki and their families are why we are here.

In the spirit of keeping the hope, we have themed our 2022 Share a Night Benefit and Auction—Hope! We appreciate all of you who have donated, volunteered, sponsored or participated in our events, especially our recent 31st Annual Golf Classic that was held on August 4. What a fun day and awesome way to help out a good cause.

We will continue to be here to offer a home, nurturing, and essential services for families when they need it the most...thanks to you, our volunteers, donors, and loyal supporters.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Jerri Chong, RMHC Hawaii

“Aloha From Our House to Yours,” the newsletter of Ronald McDonald House Charities Hawaii (RMHC Hawaii), is published three times a year. **Editor:** Kris Reisdorf, **Printing:** Ryan’s Graphics Corp.

## Ronald McDonald House Charities Hawaii

### Board of Directors

**Duane Seabolt**  
Chair

**Dr. Lois Chiu**  
1st Vice Chair

**Dr. Barry Mizuo**  
2nd Vice Chair

**Wesley B. Hiyane**  
Treasurer

**Lisa Kikuta**  
Secretary

Angela Ballard	Stacey Miyamoto	Markus Staib
Dylan Bothamley	Justin Nowak	Melissa Yara
Kukui Claydon	Dyanna Okazaki	
Natalie Fogle	Tommy Silva	

Welcome to our new board members: Natalie Fogle, Sr. VP & Director at Bank of Hawaii; Dr. Dylan Bothamley, Straub Hospitals; and Kukui Claydon, J.D., Starn – O’Toole – Marcus & Fisher, a Law Corporation. All bring additional strengths and experience to our board.

*“Ronald McDonald House Charities Hawaii fills a niche in the community for an ongoing need, which can’t be met by the business community alone. It takes an organization like RMHC to raise awareness, fund raise and provide a home-away-from-home and essential services for families of children in need of critical medical care on Oahu. This is why I felt it was important and worthwhile to join the RMHC Hawaii board.” Dylan Bothamley*

*Hope Share a Night Benefit Gala*  
**Featured Entertainer: Lani Misalucha**  
**JOIN US!**  
Saturday, November 19th, 2022  
Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach  
**Sponsorship Levels:**  
HEART \$15,000 | HOPE \$10,000 | COURAGE \$5,000  
STRENGTH \$3,000 | INDIVIDUAL SEAT \$300  
Visit [RMHC.cbo.io](http://RMHC.cbo.io) to purchase tickets or sponsor a table.  
**H O P E**

# Around the House

Ioane and Heather Davis welcomed their daughter into the world on February 20, 2022. Anuhea was born three months before her expected due date, on a plane, at only 2lbs. 3 oz! (Read more in our last newsletter, June 2022, [www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org](http://www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org).)

They stayed at our Oahu House while visiting their daughter daily at Kapiolani Medical Center and then brought her to our Judd Hillside House for a brief time. After four months, the Davis Ohana returned to Lana'i.

We're so happy to have been able to help the Davises during this journey and even happier that Anuhea is growing stronger every day!



*Anuhea joined her parents at the Judd Hillside House after being released from NICU at Kapiolani Medical Center.*



*Ioane and Heather hold Anuhea in front of the Judd Hillside House as they leave to return to Lana'i after staying with us for nearly four months.*



*Ebony Butihi waits for the Ronald McDonald House shuttle to the hospital, driven by our volunteers.*



*Baby Halo in the hospital NICU after being born prematurely.*

Baby Halo needed specialized care at Kapiolani Medical Center after being born prematurely. From Kahului, Maui, her mother, Ebony, stayed with us at our Judd Hillside House for just over a month. She caught our shuttle daily to and from the hospital where she would stay with Halo. Her husband and other children joined her here at the House on some weekends.

Baby Halo and Ebony have both returned to Maui and reunited with Dad and her two sisters, Phoenix and Natalie. We wish Halo and her family good health and happiness.



*Baby Lidia's Grandma cooks ono meals.*

The Sanchez-Cardenas family enjoys Grandma's home cooking while staying at our Judd Hillside House. From Lahaina, Maui, Grandma, Mom, and Dad take turns staying at the House and visiting Baby Lidia at Kaiser Permanente Moanalua. Lidia was born prematurely, but is growing healthier by the day.



*Solia and Mom, Lizet, enjoy a meal together and with other families before visiting the hospital.*



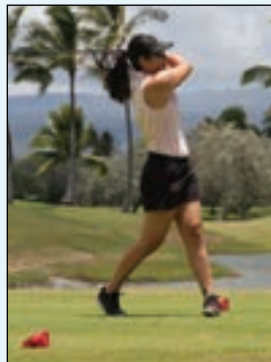
Mahalo to all of the sponsors, prize and food donors, volunteers, and players who helped us make our RMHC 31st Annual Golf Classic a spectacular and memorable event. Held again this year at the Hawaii Prince Golf Club, the sold out tournament provided a great time for all and exceeded fundraising goals, bringing in more than \$150,000.

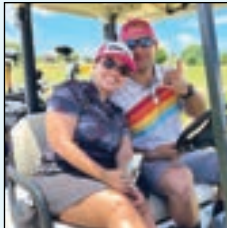
Golfers were delighted with the games and food along the course. Keurig Dr Pepper sponsored Hole-in-Won contests at par 3s. Our Lucky 8 Draw and Greenie winners were thrilled as were all, because everyone walked away with a prize and other goodies before the end of the day.

Prizes included a trip to Las Vegas, a 55" television, Southwest Air travel, gift certificates, wine and so much more—all donated by loyal supporters. Ono food/beverages started with our build-a-burger lunch and plentiful snacks on the course. At the end of play, golfers enjoyed a Mahalo to-go meal featuring Outback Steakhouse Waipio's BBQ ribs, chicken wings and more from our McFamily!

Everyone won big—not only on the course, but off! Players swung to help RMHC stay on course, providing a home-away-from-home “fore” seriously ill children and their families.

See more photos at [www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org](http://www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org)





### PLATINUM SPONSORS



### GOLD SPONSORS

'Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach  
Aspire Bakeries  
Castle Resorts & Hotels  
DMA Services LLC

Egami & Ichikawa Certified Public Accountants, Inc.  
First Insurance Company of Hawaii  
H&H Overhead Door of Oahu  
Hamasaki Construction LLC

Hawaii Five Stars dba McDonald's Big Island, Inc.  
Island Insurance Companies  
Newtown Veterinary Clinic, Inc. (2)

### SILVER SPONSORS

Action Realty Corporation  
American Savings Bank  
BF Tile, Inc.  
Brown & Brown  
James Campbell  
Castle Resorts & Hotels  
C C Engineering & Construction, Inc.  
Commercial Sheetmetal Co.  
Creative Fundraising Solutions LLC  
Daltile  
Dennis & Sandra Okazaki  
Ham Produce & Seafood

Hawaii Coffee Company  
Helen's Garden  
Wes & Elyne Hiyane  
Honolulu Freight Service  
HPC Foods  
Kopke Enterprises  
Lee Financial Group Hawaii, Inc. (2)  
Daniel Lim, MD  
Locations Foundation  
Matheson Gas  
N&K CPAs, Inc.  
Pacific Insurance Co., LLC

PAMCAH-UA Local 675 Coop Fund (2)  
Plumbers & Fitters UA Local 675  
Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association of Hawaii  
Premier Insurance  
R.K. Oshiro Door Service  
SI Group Certified Pension Consultants  
SummitMedia Hawaii (2)  
Team Noa  
Todd & Seabolt LLC

### SPECIAL FRIENDS

Mr. Russell Akamine  
Aloha Petroleum, Ltd.  
Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach  
American Savings Bank  
The Coca Cola Company  
CQ Communications, Inc.  
Crazy Shirts  
Friends of RMHC Hawaii

Golden State Foods  
Mr. Charlie Harrington-  
Hawaii Military Guide  
Hawaii Prince Golf Club  
Mr. Rob Hienaman-ESPN Honolulu  
Holua Resort at Mauna Loa Village  
Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa  
Keurig Dr Pepper

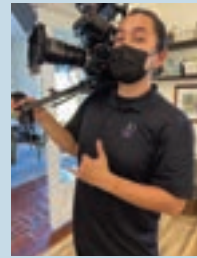
Kuoha Culinary  
Mid-Pacific Country Club  
Midas Hawaii  
Mrs. JoAnn Okawa  
Paradise Beverages  
Mr. and Mrs. Bob and Dianne Pereira  
Prince Waikiki  
ProService Hawaii

Royal Kona Resort  
Mr. and Mrs. Mel and Jane Shigeta  
Southwest Airlines  
T&T Tinting Specialist  
TBC Corporation/Midas  
Turtle Bay Golf  
Mr. Troy Wada  
Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort & Spa

Wailea Beach Resort -  
Marriott, Maui  
Mr. Wayne Wakeman  
Mr. Jon Whittington - Nations  
Lending Hawaii  
Mr. Bruce Yanagihara

# Behind the Scenes

As part of their “Giving Voice” – PSA Service for non-profits to tell their stories, OLELO Hawaii has teamed with Ronald McDonald House Charities to produce a media kit with public service announcements about the House. Filming and script development are under way.



## Summer Digital Media Intern



Our Digital Media Intern, Austin Lam, brought his experience in film production, media, writing, and photography to Ronald McDonald House Charities Hawaii during the summer. He produced a series of video clips about our families for YouTube and other media and enhanced our social media presence.

Austin has returned to the University of British Columbia, where he is a

junior majoring in Digital Media Studies. Check out our **YouTube channel!!**



## Wish List

- Individually Wrapped Snacks
- Juice Boxes
- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Lysol Wipes or Lysol Spray
- Tin Foil, Saran Wrap, and Wax Paper
- Plastic Food Containers
- Ziploc Bags (all sizes)
- To-go Food Containers
- Food Handling Gloves
- Liquid Dishwashing Detergent
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Baking Soda
- Kellogg's Cereal Bowls
- Paper Towels, Toilet Paper and Napkins
- Gift Cards
- Holiday Toys for Infants, Tweens, and Teens

# Other Ways the Community Supports Us

**Aloha Petroleum** has made us the beneficiary of their Giving Pump campaign. From August 1st through October 31st, one cent from each gallon of gas sold at select Shell stations will be given to RMHC Hawaii to help families with ill children getting medical treatment nearby.

“It’s great knowing that we have friends like Aloha Petroleum within our community supporting our efforts,” RMHC Hawaii President Jerri Chong said. “These funds will help hundreds of kids seeking life-saving treatments stay close to their families while getting the care they need.”



*Aloha Petroleum’s Cassie Bui speaks with KITV Weekend News Anchor/Reporter about the Giving Pump campaign and how it benefits Ronald McDonald House Charities and its families.*

**For information on participating locations visit [www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org](http://www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org).**



**Shidler College of Business** is one of our loyal supporters. Not only did Shidler Global Leader Sydni Kim volunteer as a digital media intern at our House while studying at UH Manoa during the spring semester this year, she also organized her group to help us with direct mail and our upcoming benefit gala.



Schools are back in session and looking for ways to raise funds. Our **McFun-Raising program** offers them a booklet with McDonald’s coupons (6) to raise funds for the school and Ronald McDonald House Charities. A win win!



We had a visit from the **GameStop** team who came by to help wash our vans and cook for our families. Ohana staying at our Judd Hillside House were treated to a dinner of Kalua pig and chicken long rice made by these volunteers.

Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Hawaii  
1970 Judd Hillside Road  
P.O. Box 61777  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96839-1777  
Phone: (808) 973-5683  
info@rmhchawaii.org  
www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Honolulu HI  
Permit No. 635

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## Workplace Giving Changes Lives

Workplace giving programs provide essential support for families in need, and many donors find it to be an easy and convenient way to make their annual tax-deductible donations.

If you are a federal government employee (civilian or military), please consider designating a portion of your Combined Federal Campaign gift to Hawaii's Ronald McDonald House.

If Aloha United Way is your choice for workplace giving, you can select OPTIONAL INVESTMENT on the pledge form, and allocate your gift of \$48 or more per year to help keep families together. *Mahalo for your life-changing support.*



**#70680**



**#89629**



### Read all about it online!!

Check out our newsletter online

at

[www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org](http://www.RonaldHouseHawaii.org)

or

scan the QR code here.

Email [info@rmhchawaii.org](mailto:info@rmhchawaii.org)  
if you'd prefer to only receive  
our online version.