

## The Ronald McDonald House Charity Providing Family Centred Care in Ireland since 2004



Keeping families close™

### RMHC Ireland Mission Statement:

The mission of RMHC, Ireland, is to provide a Ronald McDonald House to support families whose children are seriously ill in hospital. The Ronald McDonald House provides accommodation and a caring and supportive environment for families whose children are seriously ill and are hospitalised or undergoing medical treatment at Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin, Dublin 12.

### What we do:

- The Ronald McDonald House Charity helps families with sick children stay close to each other and to the care and resources they need, when they need it most.
  - RMHC Ireland has provided this service for the past 14.5 years at their facilities in Crumlin and are recognised experts in their field.
  - We provide family centred accommodation to help keep families together, close to their sick child and close to the support they need throughout their child's attendance in hospital.
  - This caring environment gives families with a sick child what they often need most - each other. For a sick child, sometimes the best medicine is having family nearby for more hugs and love.
  - We help families cope better and focus on the needs of their sick child because they have support from their own and other families in similar difficulties.
  - We help give families the ability to spend more time with their sick children, to interact with their doctors, and to make important decisions about their children's care.
  - We Serve families who must travel far from home, thus reducing the stress & cost of travel, accommodation, meals, parking etc. RMHC helps Irish families save more than €700,000 annually and it is anticipated that this economic benefit will be c. €1.75m annually in the new facility.

### Benefits to Families and the Hospital:

- The House is much more than a room to stay in. It provides comfort, support and resources for families with sick children and is just steps from the hospital.
- The facility reduces pressure on the Hospital to provide and operate a similar facility.
  - Current Operating Cost Savings to Crumlin Hospital - €400,000 per annum
  - Operating Cost Savings at the New Hospital - €1.25m per annum.

### Research shows that RMHC and the Ronald McDonald House program:

- Supports a family's psychological well-being by keeping them close together and providing emotional and physical comfort and support.
- Enhances the hospital experience for the child and the family.
- Helps alleviate the financial stress of accommodation needs.
- Results in better sleep quality for parents which gives them the rest they need to make critical decisions related to their child's care.
- Helps families cope better and focus on the needs of their sick child when they have support from family members and other families.
- Gives families who stay at a Ronald McDonald House a better perceived quality of life.
- Allows children to express their emotions and feel a sense of normalcy in the face of stress and medical trauma through play spaces at the Ronald McDonald House.
- 40 percent of families served at Ronald McDonald Houses have children in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU)
- Our hospital partners agree that RMHC reduces stress and financial burden for families, and helps them deliver the best care possible.
  - Data available on request

### Our Support comes from the wider community:

- McDonald's Owner/Operators, Suppliers, Employees and Customers.
  - Instore Events
  - Fundraising

- RMHC Event Support
  - In-kind Support
  - Financial Contributions
  - Volunteering – including Board Membership
- Many leading Irish companies across all sectors.
  - In-Kind donations
  - Services
  - Event Support
  - Financial contribution
  - Volunteers.
- Local Communities & Individuals
  - Volunteering
  - Fundraising
- Families that have stayed with us.
  - Volunteering – including Board Membership
  - Fundraising
  - Telling their Stories
- RMHC Ireland is an independent, not-for-profit company
  - We rely on the support of the entire community to provide our services.

#### **Governance:**

- RMHC is committed to the highest standards of Good Governance and is a charity you can trust.
  - Eighty-six cents of every Euro donated is used to fund The Ronald McDonald House in Crumlin and to help raise funds for a new 53 bedroomed Ronald McDonald House alongside the New Children’s Hospital thereby benefitting children and their families from across Ireland.
  - RMHC is supported by approximately 1,500 volunteers annually who dedicate their time and talent helping to offset costs and allowing the Charity to direct more donations back to the Ronald McDonald House supporting children and their families.
  - RMHC Ireland complies fully with The Governance Code for the Community, Voluntary and Charitable Sector in Ireland. RMHC Ireland is fully committed to achieving the standards contained within the Statement of Guiding Principles of Fundraising from the Irish Charities Tax Reform group.
  - Members of the Board including the Chairperson and the full-time C.E.O., provide their services on a Pro Bono basis.

#### **Overall Impact:**

- RMHC provides vital resources and compassionate care to families and their children, who are being served by leading hospitals worldwide.
- To date, eleven peer-reviewed, published studies illustrate the important role that RMHC programmes play, in enabling family-centred care.

#### **RMHC Global**

- RMHC Ireland receives its Operating License from RMHC Global.
- RMHC keeps families together, close to the care they need through more than 368 Ronald McDonald Houses, 249 Ronald McDonald Family Rooms, and 49 Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles in 64 countries and regions around the world.
- In 2017 RMHC provided care and resources to more than five and a half million children and families and provided approximately 2.4 million overnight stays in neighbourhoods and in communities around the world.
- Worldwide Families saved an estimated \$880,104,484 in out-of-pocket lodging and meal expenses due to the presence of Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Family Room programs.
- As a global organisation RMHC strives for excellence and seeks to operate with efficiency and effectiveness. To this end the framework in which they operate is the RMHC Global Performance Plan. RMHC provides Guides to cover the following areas of the Performance Plan:
  - Programme Performance
  - Community Engagement
  - Financial Sustainability
  - Environmental Sustainability
  - Management Effectiveness

- In order to ensure consistent operational standards throughout the world all chapters are asked to partake in free monthly webinars, educational and information sessions covering:
  - Governance, Operations, Environmental Sustainability, Financial Management, Marketing and Communications.
- RMHC Regional and International Conferences are hosted by RMHC Global. Attendance is strongly recommended. RMHC Ireland are active attendees.
- RMHC Global are committed to presenting Annual Awards of Excellence to Chapters who meet the operational standards as set out in the RMHC Operating Licence. RMHC Ireland receives this grant every year.

### **Looking to the Future. The New Children's Hospital:**

- The New Children's Hospital, on the St. James's site is the most significant capital investment project ever undertaken in healthcare in Ireland.
  - A network of care with a New Children's Hospital at the epicentre will reach out through satellites and regional centres to deliver comprehensive paediatric care for Ireland's children and young people.
  - The new hospital will offer no less than 39 Paediatric specialties, care in the new hospital will be supported with state-of-the-art equipment, facilities and systems. It will be the national hospital for the island of Ireland catering for children and young people in need of specialist and complex care.
  - The New Children's Hospital will play a central role in educating and training doctors, nurses, health and social care professionals who specialise in Paediatrics and neonatology.
  - The hospital will be 'research active' with the knowledge that today's child health research is tomorrow's standard of care. The expected opening date is 2023

### **The New 53 Bedroom Ronald McDonald House:**

- The land has been kindly provided by the HSE
- The Board of RMHC is committed to delivering this essential service alongside the new hospital.
  - The new House will cost in the region of €19 million (Inc. VAT) to build and fit out.
  - The annual running costs will be approximately €1.25 million
- The new House will provide 53 families every night, from across the island of Ireland with:
  - 53 fully equipped, ensuite bedrooms which will cater for the whole family.
  - 5 Kitchens so families can cook their own meals
  - A semi industrial Kitchen to enable our Cooking4Families Programme provide meals FOC for families every day.
  - Direct, immediate and easy access to the Hospital.
  - A direct phone line to the hospital in every room.
  - Intimate living areas to protect the privacy of family life.
  - Play areas and recreation rooms for children of all ages.
  - On-site car parking facilities.

### **Between now and 2023, The Charity will raise funds to:**

- Continue to provide the essential, low-cost service for families whose children are attending Crumlin Hospital.
- Continue to follow its current fundraising model to raise the funds necessary to help build, fit out and run the new Ronald McDonald House alongside the New Children's Hospital.

### **RMHC position is clear.**

- RMHC Ireland will transfer its operation of providing Family Accommodation in The Ronald McDonald House at Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin, to the New Children's Hospital, at St. James's Hospital, Rialto.
- RMHC Ireland will make a significant commitment to the capital cost of the new 53-bedroom House and will be responsible for the ongoing running costs.
- In accordance with the Charity's Operating Licence, the family accommodation unit that RMHC Ireland will provide and run at the New Children's Hospital will operate under the name The Ronald McDonald House.

## Appendix 1

### The New National Children's Hospital | New Ronald McDonald House | Discussion Timelines

- Following the publication of the McKinsey report in 2006, a joint HSE and Department of Health group was formed and decided that a New Children's Hospital should be built at the Mater site.
- In 2007 RMHC Ireland began talks with the HSE & the NPHDB in relation to providing a Ronald McDonald House alongside the New Children's Hospital. The provision of Family Accommodation was strongly recommended in the 2006 McKinsey Report – Children's Health First. As space was limited in the area we designed a 35-bedroom facility that would sit alongside the New Hospital. Expected cost: €8 million. Planning permission for the new hospital was refused in February 2012.
- A new site was agreed at St James's hospital in November 2012. RMHC entered into discussions with the New Hospital Group Board, The New Hospital Development Board and the HSE. Having previously completed a feasibility study for the Mater site we knew that a 60 bedroom Ronald McDonald House would be required for the number of beds proposed for the new hospital.
- RMHC worked with BDP and the Development Board to design the new family accommodation facility prior to submission of the New Hospital Site Plan to An Board Pleanála in August 2015. In order to prevent overshadowing the existing residences close to the site we agreed to reduce the building size and this resulted in a four story, 53-bedroom facility that also included kitchens, playrooms, laundry rooms, gardens and general family centred spaces. Planning permission was granted for the New Hospital and the Family Accommodation Unit in April 2016. During the entire process it was always accepted by the NHDB, the NHGB and the HSE that this facility would be named The Ronald McDonald House and would be operated by RMHC Ireland.
- In December 2015 we signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the three entities listed above. Since 2016 the cost for the House has escalated from €12 million to the current estimate of approximately €19 million (€16.5 million excluding VAT).
- In the absence of any state funding RMHC has always relied on the generosity of individuals and companies to enable us, since 2004, to provide our services at Our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin while at the same time raising the capital required to build the New House on the St. James's site. The HSE had always been willing to provide the land at a peppercorn rent but always expected the charity to cover the cost of the build and fit out. The HSE were willing to draw up a 25-year renewable lease after which time the building would become the property of the HSE.
- As the result of escalating construction costs our proposed House is now estimated to cost €19 million. RMHC advised the HSE (November 2018) that it would not be possible for us to raise the necessary capital without some assistance from the State. RMHC said we could guarantee a contribution of €10 million towards the build/fit-out cost. We also said that we would cover the annual running costs. We believe these costs will be in the region of €1.2 million. Over 25 years this would save the state approximately €30 million in running costs. In addition to the €10 million donation the charity also advised the HSE of its willingness to transfer ownership of our current House on the grounds of Our Lady's Children's Hospital to the HSE. A substantial and well maintained 16-bedroom facility that has never received any capital or operational contribution from the State.
- The estimated cost of €19 million covers the following:
  - Build Cost. Fit-Out Cost. VAT and Government Levies.
    - RMHC has received a derogation on the VAT costs from Revenue.
    - We do not propose to pay any levies.
- If RMHC continue the current level of fundraising over the next 4 years we believe the capital amount that will be required from the HSE will be in the region of €6 million. In return for this contribution the HSE will receive our House in Crumlin and will be assisting in the provision of this vital accommodation that families will need for generations to come.