



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
Idaho

Idaho Ronald McDonald House®

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can stay at the Idaho Ronald McDonald House?

The families of seriously ill or injured children, 18 years of age or younger, who are receiving treatment at a Boise area hospital or clinic. Families must reside outside of Ada County and initially be referred by a social worker or medical professional.

How long do families stay at the Idaho Ronald McDonald House?

A family can stay at the House for as long as the child is receiving inpatient or outpatient medical treatment at a local hospital and/or clinic. The average length of stay is 8 days. Some are here just a night and some for several months, it all depends on the individual child's illness and treatment.

Doesn't McDonald's own and fund the Ronald McDonald House?

Local McDonald's restaurant owner/operators generously fund portions of the annual operating costs of the House. However, the majority of the annual operating income comes from the community through individual donors, businesses, and fundraising events.

How do I get a room at the House?

A social worker or medical staff member at the facility where the child is being treated must make the initial referral directly to the Idaho RMH. We cannot guarantee placement until the day before intended arrival, but we will place families on a waiting list if the House is at full occupancy.

Are meals provided?

Volunteers come to the House to provide breakfast, lunch, or dinner for our families on a regular basis along with baking snack items for families to enjoy. The House also maintains a stock of various food items for families to prepare meals for themselves throughout their stay.

I'd like to volunteer. How does that work?

Check out the information on our Volunteer page to learn more!

What do volunteers do?

Volunteers are the true heart of the Idaho Ronald McDonald House. They work the front desk, help with family services, participate in fundraisers, cook dinners, clean and sanitize the House, do yard work, and much more. Come and join us!

How can I help the Idaho Ronald McDonald House?

Donate! The generosity of the community is what keeps the doors of the House open. While we ask families to contribute \$10 per night for their stay, no family is ever turned away for inability to pay. It costs over \$195 (source: 2018 per diem rates for Idaho) per night to provide a room, meals, and amenities for a family. Your donations help bridge that gap. So a financial gift, an in-kind gift, or a gift of time are all ways you can make a difference.

