



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
South Australia

Annual Impact Report

1 January - 31 December 2022



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
South Australia

RMHC SA Head Office

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#keepingfamiliesclose

Our Purpose Our Programs



Our Mission

To support the ever-changing needs of seriously ill children and their families.

Our Vision

To achieve the best outcomes for families by reducing the impact of their child's serious illness. We do this by providing a circle of support to the families - including a place to stay, a community to be a part of, and way to keep life as close to normal as possible while their children receive the treatment they need.

Our Programs

-  Ronald McDonald House Adelaide
-  Ronald McDonald Learning program
-  Charlie Bell Scholarship

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We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia are located. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and to those emerging. We recognise their long and continuing connection to Country and celebrate their rich cultural identity.

A message from our Chair and Executive Officer

It is our pleasure to present the 2022 Annual Impact Report for Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia. As our first time working together as Chair and Executive Officer, we are delighted to be able to share the positive outcomes from a year which saw a range of highlights for our organisation.

2022 saw Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia provide support to an incredible 319 families across 5,555 nights. For the third year running our board, staff and volunteers navigated a range of challenges from COVID-19, using our shared values and determination to provide the highest level of support possible to our families. We are immeasurably proud to have been able to continue providing a home-away-from-home to families with seriously ill and injured children.

Our key programs including Ronald McDonald House Adelaide, the Ronald McDonald Learning Program and Charlie Bell Scholarship continued throughout 2022, with 17 year old Ella Vaccaro receiving the award for 2022. You can read more about Ella's story on page 12.

As restrictions began to lift, we saw the return of some of our much-loved events, including the Ride For Sick Kids and Long Lunch En Blanc. It was fantastic to be able to once again deliver these events for our supporters and to raise vital funds for Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia. We identified additional opportunities to nurture and grow our connections with community, corporate partners and our valued volunteers, which will develop further in 2023.

Once again, throughout 2022 Ronald McDonald House Adelaide operated at almost full capacity every night of the year. The increasing number of families across South Australia and the Northern Territory requiring access to specialist medical services in Adelaide is continued to build high demand for our support. Unfortunately, this often lead a long waiting list to access our services. and some families being unable to access accommodation support entirely.

We recognise the clear and urgent need for Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia to increase our impact and assist more families who are desperately in need of our services. The growth of the organisation and support we provide to families with seriously ill and injured children is our highest priority in the immediate future.

We closed off 2022 with a strong feeling of sincere gratitude, knowing that although challenging, the year inspired us to come together as a community to support families during some of the toughest times of their lives. The ongoing resilience of our families, staff, volunteers, and board members who have navigated a variety of challenges both in the non-for-profit sector, as well as the pandemic in general, is nothing short of amazing.

As with every year, we would once again like to graciously acknowledge our donors, supporters and volunteers from across the country, who have generously given their time, energy, material and financial donations to Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia. Your impact has been truly felt and is deeply appreciated, and the lives of hundreds of families have been forever changed by the kindness and generosity of our community coming together to ensure that sick children and their loved ones received the support when they needed it most.

As we move forward into 2023, we remain focused on our priority of #keepingfamiliesclose. We look forward to what Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia will continue to accomplish, all of which is only made possible because of your support. Thank you.



Chris Baker
Chair of the Board,
Ronald McDonald
House Charities
South Australia



Melissa Monkhouse
Executive Officer,
Ronald McDonald
House Charities
South Australia

Our People

Our Board

Chris Baker - Chair
Rebecca Wessels - Vice Chair
Steven Wild - Treasurer
Jami Hodge - Secretary
Claire Connolly-Hay
Gavin Daniell (resigned April 2022)
Lindsey Gough
Phil Robinson
Rick McCleave
Tony Baj

Our Patron

Liz Scarce AM

Our Leadership Team

Melissa Monkhouse - Executive Officer
Georgina Johnson - Head of Operations & Programs
Kate Fitzpatrick - Head of Fundraising & Marketing



Treasurer's Report

It gives me great pleasure to report on the financial position of Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Despite difficult economic times that have challenged many charities, RMHC SA posted a net surplus of more than \$330,000 for the 2022 calendar year. This result is attributed to several factors including strong donor relationships and the ability to hold successful fundraising activities after COVID-19, as well as management having good control over expenses.

The house maintained high occupancy during the year, but unfortunately had to turn away too many families due to lack of available rooms.

Total revenue derived in 2022 just exceeded \$2.1m in the 2022 year and it is pleasing to report net assets at the end of 2022 exceeded \$10m. This puts the organisation in a strong position to embark upon expanding our programs, assisting many more families and establishing a new larger facility near the new Women's and Children's Hospital, in the future.

I wish to acknowledge and extend our grateful thanks to those people who made generous contributions of time or money during the year. You have made a real difference to the families that stay at Ronald McDonald House Adelaide.

We are indebted to the many volunteers who provide a wide range of services which would otherwise incur a charge to the organisation. The cost saving is enormous, for which we are extremely grateful.

Steven Wild
Treasurer



Our Impact

Thanks to your support...

Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia has been able to deliver the following support to families with seriously ill and injured children in 2022



Ronald McDonald Learning Program

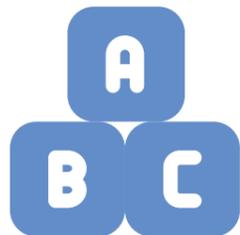
68
Students
received
education



64
Students
learned
face-to-face



24
School
holiday
programs
provided



33
children
attended
holiday
programs



Ronald McDonald House Adelaide



319
Family visits
(251 individual families)

15,191
nights of
support
provided



4,695
Volunteer
hours
donated

Our Families ...newborn Daniel's story

Dein and Mary Cantrill were expecting their third little bundle of joy, when on September 15, 2022, Mary was urgently flown to Adelaide from Darwin as an at-risk pregnancy.

Mary gave birth to a little boy, Daniel, but their challenges had sadly only just begun.

The most urgent of Daniel's health issues was that his oesophagus hadn't properly developed, and he needed an 18-hour surgery, just moments after his birth, to stretch it. Daniel was tube fed over this time but quickly began feeding on demand.

Once he had gained a little more strength, the doctor's attention quickly turned to surgery to fix his club foot, and his thumb that was turning and growing inward.

Hopeful that the worst was behind them, Daniel's family started making progress towards resuming normal life.

However, this was short lived as they were met with another hurdle - Daniel was allergic to cow's milk (which he was digesting through breastfeeding) and developed a very serious infection.



Daniel, a few days old

While Mary was clearing her system of cow's milk for the next two weeks, Daniel was formula fed, and underwent a second surgery to once again stretch his oesophagus - another grueling 18 hours for the newborn and his worried family.

During this time, Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia were providing support and accommodation for little Daniel (when he wasn't in hospital), his mum Mary, dad Dein and their two other children, Declin and Maya.

To alleviate the stress of trying to care for three children, Dein and Mary's parents were also welcomed to join the family at Ronald McDonald House Adelaide.

The grandparents took turns in staying in Adelaide to support the family, swapping over every few weeks, helping to provide a sense of normality for Declin and Maya, and relieving the burden on Dein and Mary.

The family really pulled together in their time of need, but it was also their Ronald McDonald House Adelaide family that supported them with necessities they needed during this time.



Maya and Declin on the playground

Our Families ...newborn Daniel's story



Mary, Daniel, Maya, Dein, Declin and Janelle

The Cantrill's settled into life at Ronald McDonald House, grandad helped put together our new pantry storage, grandma was always wiping down the kitchen and Declin would patiently wait at the window every Tuesday morning for the rubbish truck, just like he did at home.

To Mary and Dein, Ronald McDonald House Adelaide was not only a place to call home, but also provided vital connections with other families going through similar situations, dinner programs and daytime activities to help get them through their difficult time.

For Mary and Dein's parents, they provided love and support to all families in the house and became 'House Grandparents'.

After 62 days, the family were finally given the "all clear" to return back to Darwin, and planned a surprise arrival at a family barbeque where the whole family got to finally have a cuddle with Daniel.

Daniel and his family are one of the more than 250 families who called Ronald McDonald House Adelaide their home in 2022.

Each of these families had their own unique stories, challenges, family dynamics, highs and low.

That's why Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia is there for them, supporting the ever-changing needs of families with seriously ill and injured children while they receive treatment when they need it most.

In the months following Daniel's departure from Ronald McDonald House Adelaide, his family kept in touch with the amazing staff and volunteers who created their home away from home.

They proudly reported that Daniel is growing into a healthy and happy little boy, and receiving lots of love and kisses, especially from his proud big brother and sister.



Getting ready to finally head home

Charlie Bell Scholarship

Our 2022 winner, Ella Vaccaro

Ella Vaccaro was just 15 when she was diagnosed with a brain tumour and Chiari Malformation 1 - a condition where the brain tissue extends into the spine as the brain and skull grow throughout childhood.

Ella's brain tumour resection operation became complicated when the surgeon identified that the tumour would be more difficult to remove than initially thought. During the attempted removal of this tumour, Ella suffered a stroke, resulting in partial brain damage. This led to two years of hospital admissions, multiple surgeries, and extensive rehabilitation.

Despite the challenges she faced, Ella's determination and resilience never wavered, and she worked hard every day so that she could once again live a full life. Thankfully, Ella's recovery was successful, and she is now thriving in her late teenage years.



Ella after her brain tumour resection operation

Through Ella's experience as a patient, and the care and support that she received, it is now Ella's dream to become a nurse. Ella learnt first-hand the difference that a friendly face can make during someone's time of need, and just how much that aided in her own recovery... that she is grateful for every day.

In 2021 Ella completed a 12 month VET course in Aged Care, which further reinforced her desire to care for others as a vocation. In 2022 Ella applied for Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia Charlie Bell Scholarship and her passion, determination and will was soon recognised by the judges.

Ella was awarded the 2022 Charlie Bell Scholarship and was proudly presented with the trophy by Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia Board Chair, Chris Baker, and Education Coordinator, Alison Page (pictured right).



Ella being awarded the 2022 Charlie Bell Scholarship trophy

More about the Charlie Bell Scholarship

The Charlie Bell Scholarship is awarded in memory of Charlie Bell, a long-term supporter of Ronald McDonald House Charities and an inspiring leader. After starting his career as a part time crew member with McDonald's at the age of 15, he progressed quickly through the ranks, becoming Australia's youngest Store Manager at just 19. By the age of 29, Charlie was a Vice President of McDonald's Australia and on the Australian Board of Directors.

Charlie was appointed Managing Director, McDonald's Australia and then ultimately, President and Chief Executive Officer of the global McDonald's system in 2004. Charlie passed away in 2005 after a courageous battle with cancer and he has left behind a legacy that allows many young Australians to follow their dreams, just like he did.

The Charlie Bell Scholarship will play a crucial role in helping Ella achieve her career goals, and we are proud to continue Charlie Bell's mission to make a difference in the lives of young individuals like Ella, who have faced serious illness and are in need of financial assistance to further their education and achieve their dreams.

Congratulations, Ella - we are proud to be supporting your career to provide care to those in need, just like the care you received when you needed it most. We look forward to following your journey.

Fundraising and engagement

Ride For Sick Kids

The Ride For Sick Kids resumed in March 2022 after a short break due to COVID-19. The 17 riders were excited to travel interstate to Melbourne after a border restrictions were lifted, so that they could cycle more than 1,000kms along the Great Ocean Road. The team returned back to Ronald McDonald House Adelaide for a Welcome Home party in the park to celebrate the phenomenal \$325,000 (more than 2,000 nights) raised through the event.

Adelaide City Plunge

The RMHC SA Adelaide Plunge returned for a third year in 2022, with 45 brave participants completing the 70m plunge from the Adelaide Intercontinental. This year 11 groups participated, ranging from corporate partners, community supporters, and our very own past and current families from Ronald McDonald House Adelaide. A total of \$82,000 was raised, equaling more than 500 nights! The Chelsea's Angels team celebrated raising the most amount of funds in memory of little Chelsea from Ronald McDonald House Adelaide, which coincided with the anniversary of Chelsea's passing.

Matched Giving Day

The 2022 Tax Appeal and Giving Day featured the story of little Eli and his mums Nisha and Berna from the Sunraysia region. Eli was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a form of bone cancer, and stayed at Ronald McDonald House Adelaide across 2022 and in to 2023. Elis' story, along with a generous dollar-for-dollar matched giving donation from McDonalds South Australia, and MGA Whittles, encouraged the broader community to raise almost \$65,000 for Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia.



Proud Ride For Sick Kids riders



The Chelsea's Angels team



Eli and his mums, Nisha and Berna

Fundraising and engagement

Long Lunch En Blanc

The 2022 Long Lunch was held on Friday 21 October at the National Wine Centre. Hosted by the lovely Adelady, featuring a traditional Welcome To Country from John Lochowiak and music from the Germein sisters, the event saw 350 people dressed in all-white and enjoying a three course meal, entertainment, auctions and fundraising activations. Young Nate and his mum, Kirsty, shared their story on stage and were interviewed by RMHC SA Executive Officer Melissa Monkhouse. Nate created his own unique piece of artwork depicting his home-away-from-home Ronald McDonald House Adelaide, which sold at auction for over \$5,000! With the support of generous event sponsors and guests, almost \$278,000 (more than 1,700 nights) was raised.

Christmas

During Christmas, Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia was humbled to witness the kindness and generosity of local businesses, community groups and donors. We gratefully accepted donations of presents and festive foods so our families could celebrate together in true Christmas tradition. For the second year in a row, RMHC SA joined with some other Ronald McDonald House chapters across Australia to hold our online Santa for Sick Kids fundraising campaign, which beat the target of 1,500 nights and raised an amazing \$410,000 which equaled 2,561 nights!

Drakes Christmas Bauble campaign

For the first time, Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia joined forces with Drakes Supermarkets as their 2022 Christmas Charity Partner! \$2 Christmas baubles were available for purchase at checkouts, with all South Australian IGA supermarket funds going Ronald McDonald House Charities Adelaide. Roger and John-Paul Drake were delighted to present the cheque, totaling more than \$38,000, or 237 nights.



Long Lunch En Blanc festivities



Presents kindly delivered by the ute load!



Drakes Christmas cheque presentation

Volunteering

at Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia

At Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia we recognise that our dedicated volunteers are the lifeblood of our organisation. Without the help of our volunteers, we simply would not be able to provide the high quality support we deliver to our families each and every day of the year.

We wish to express our sincere gratitude for the following volunteers and volunteer committees for helping us to continue our mission in supporting the ever-changing needs of seriously ill children and their families.

Our Volunteers

2022 Ronald McDonald House Charities South Australia Volunteers

Abbie Soloman	Don Bui	Lotti Nagy
Alicia Owston	Eleanor Eastoe	Maria Pointon
Amy Wellalagodage	Emmalee Atze	Michelle Wilson
Amy Materne	Hayley Mannix	Nicole Meissner
Anna Zoanetti	Henry Cowell	Olivia Burling
Carolyn Obst	Jamie Gurney	Paul Kelly
Catherine Commane	Janine Haynes	Peter Wigg
Chloe Chong	Jobina Johnson	Rebecca Bagusaskas
Chloe Park	Judy White	Ruby Brabyn
Chris Shenton	Karen Aspery	Shane Munchenberg
Christine Sutton	Katelyn Searle	Tara Wilson
Colleen Billows	Kevin Hannam	Thien Bui
Debbie Dennis	Kiah Elsworthy	Tracey Simpson
Declan Ee	Lesley Rawlings	Travis Quinn
Dianne Stevens	Lisa Smyth	Victoria Tzamtzidis

Our Volunteer Committees

2022 RMHC SA Ride For Sick Kids Committee Volunteers

Jami Hodge
Neil Lucas
Wayne Armitage

2022 RMHC SA Long Lunch Committee Volunteers

Anna Zoanetti
Lynne Collins

2022 Friends of RMHC SA Committee Volunteers

Amy Materne
Anna Zoanetti
Katelyn Searle
Kiah Elsworthy
Lisa Smyth
Tara Wilson



Volunteer Alicia in the playroom with Anthony

Our Partners, Sponsors and Supporters

National Mission Founding Partner



RMHC SA Major Partner



Proudly Supported by
McDonald's South Australia

National Partners



Our Partners, Sponsors and Supporters

Program Supporters

- AbbVie
- AGL Australia
- APG Workforce
- Ambius Plants
- BOSCH
- Ezycharge Australia
- Clorox Australia
- Coca Cola
- Commonwealth Bank of Australia
- Deane Apparel
- DELL
- Disrupt Sports
- DFK
- Ecolab
- Findex Community Fund
- FOXTEL
- Bushells
- Initial Hygiene
- La-Z-Boy
- Pact Group
- Popcake
- Rentokil Pest Control
- Signature Media
- SCIS Property Group
- Suncorp Brighter Futures
- Tork

National Agency and In-Kind Supporters

- Corrs Chambers Westgarth
- DDB Group Australia
- DoneSafe
- DVM Law
- Ernst & Young
- Guihen Jones
- Mango
- Microsoft
- OMD
- Phocas
- Sparke Helmore Lawyers
- The Hard Word
- VMLY&R Australia
- Webvine
- Williamson-Barwick



Local Corporate, Community, Event and In-Kind Supporters

- Aussie Engineering & Steel Supplies
- Australian Football League Players' Association
- Bakery on O'Connell
- Benson Radiology -Wayville
- Cavpower
- City East IGA
- City of Norwood
- Copyworld
- Detpak/Detmold Packaging Group
- Dominant Home Care Products
- Drakes Supermarkets
- Farmer's Leap Pty Ltd
- Gintonak Pty Ltd
- IGA Foodland Taillem Bend
- Illuminate Adelaide
- In Good Company Choir
- IPAR Rehabilitation
- knit4charities
- Legal Funding Australia
- Majero Investments Pty Ltd
- McDonald's South Australia Owner/Operators
- MGA Whittles Community Foundation Inc
- Nightglo Transport
- Paint Supplies
- Parmalat Australia Ltd (Lactalis)
- Pathway Community Centre Inc
- PKF Accountants
- PKF Adelaide Foundation
- Port Lincoln Racing Club
- RAH Cancer Centre
- Rentokil Initial Pty Ltd
- SA Ambulance Barossa
- Saint Ignatius College
- Send a Gourmet Basket
- South Australian Cricket Association
- Southern Eyre South Cricket Club
- St Ann's College
- The Advertiser Sunday Mail Foundation
- ToyBox Australia
- Veolia Environmental Services
- We Create Print Deliver
- White Glove Assembly

