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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Keeping families close

Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) of Dayton Opens Family Room at Miami Valley Hospital
RMHC Dayton Expands Programming, Offering Services to Families in Miami Valley Hospital

Dayton, OH – September 18, 2017

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Dayton will begin operating a Ronald McDonald Family Room Program at Miami Valley Hospital on October 1st. With the opening of this program, the number of families RMHC Dayton will serve is estimated to grow by 30%, totaling nearly 5,000 families per year.

Fully funded by the Miami Valley Hospital Foundation in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities of Dayton, it will be named the Ronald McDonald Family Room in Emmett's Place. The room acts as a respite from the stressful hospital setting positioned where immediate family members of the hospital's NICU patients can go to make a cup of coffee, eat, do laundry, and rest at no charge. Three sleeping rooms will also be available for these family members as well as for high-risk pregnant mothers and their immediate family members.

Thanks to the generosity of the Sorensen family, who provided the lead gift in memory of their son Emmett, the Family Room gives guests a place to relax near their child in the NICU. McAfee Heating and Air Conditioning also was a major donor.

Rita Cyr, CEO of RMHC Dayton states, "Ronald McDonald House Charities of Dayton exists to serve and sustain families when serious illness or injury strikes the most cherished part of their lives, their children. Families are stronger when they are together and near the medical care they need, and we are now able to offer these services to an increased number of families at Miami Valley Hospital. We're proud to say this is the second Ronald McDonald Family Room program in the region and fourth in the state".

The space will also allow for shared experiences during times of stress, offering the ability to spend time with other families that may be in the same situation.

"My child is in the NICU in critical condition. I don't know what I would do without a space to take a breather and compose myself," one mother stated.

The Ronald McDonald Family Room in Emmett's Place is located at Miami Valley Hospital near the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit on the First Floor and will be open from 10 AM to 10 PM hours a day, 7 days a week.

We ask the community to join us in celebrating this special milestone as RMHC Dayton's support grows throughout the Miami Valley region and beyond.

About Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Miami Valley Region

Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Miami Valley Region, Inc. is a private nonprofit organization that provides a temporary home-away-from-home for families of critically ill, hospitalized babies and children and supports efforts that improve children's health within our region. Each chapter of Ronald McDonald House Charities is autonomous, with its own Board of Trustees, responsible for the governance of the organization. The Ronald McDonald House and the Ronald McDonald Family Room is not owned by Dayton Children's, nor by McDonald's Restaurants, and is responsible for its own fundraising. All Ronald McDonald House Charities Chapters are licensed by McDonald's to use certain names and trademarks. For more information, and to receive updates on family stories, events, most needed items, and everyday life at The House, visit www.RMHCdayton.org or follow @RMHCDayton on Twitter, @RMHC Dayton on Facebook or visit our Instagram page at <http://www.instagram.com/rmhcd Dayton>

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