



**RMHC**®  
Columbia, SC

*Inside  
the  
Red  
Door*

Spring into 2021 with Ronald McDonald House Charities  
Columbia, SC in this issue of Inside the Red Door!



Dear friends,

Like many, 2020 presented Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) Columbia, SC with several new challenges. We viewed these challenges as opportunities and decided to use those lemons to squeeze the day! The pandemic caused RMHC Columbia, SC to drastically pivot all its current programs and even created new ones in the process. Pack-a-Smile was the most significant new program created last year. The program provides complimentary breakfast and lunch to families with a child in the Prisma Health Children's Hospital. To date, RMHC Columbia, SC has distributed over 18,000 Pack-a-Smile meals.

Besides Pack-a-Smile, RMHC Columbia, SC also had to develop an extensive plan to operate under new covid-safe guidelines. We were thrilled to welcome families back to Ronald McDonald House, but this meant a daily health screening, weekly "room service" menus so our guest families can eat safely, a socially-distant volunteer program, and much more. The staff participated in several covid training sessions to safely check guest families in, prepare and serve meals, and day-to-day operation changes.

The pandemic also had a massive effect on RMHC Columbia, SC's events. The annual RMHC Gala was canceled, the Red Jacket Classic golf tournament and the RMHC Sporting Clay tournament were both revamped to ensure participant safety, and the Red Shoe Run was a virtual event. While these changes were challenging, RMHC Columbia, SC rose to the occasion with generous donors' help. Participants were even given a special covid-safe gift in their player bags - an official RMHC Columbia, SC face mask!

The pandemic allowed us to think outside the box for our 2021 events; thus, the Royal Rumble fundraiser was created. The event features a motorcycle ride to five spots around Lake Murray. Participants and their passengers will pick up a playing card at each of the five locations, and whoever has the best hand at the end wins \$500! There will also be a raffle, 50/50, and live music. The fun kicks off Saturday, May 1st at Twisted Roots at 10 am. You can find additional information on this event and all our upcoming events on our website: [rmhcofcolumbia.org/Events](http://rmhcofcolumbia.org/Events).

Again, thank you to every one of you who supported RMHC Columbia, SC in 2020. Our goal for 2021 is to continue to think outside of the box to help as many families as possible. If last year proved anything, it's that RMHC Columbia, SC is truly blessed to be surrounded by such a giving and caring community and is fantastic at squeezing the day out of whatever lemons are thrown. Instead of going "back to normal," RMHC Columbia, SC is moving forward to better. We are so excited to continue to serve families in 2021.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth Lowrie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Beth Lowrie**  
**Executive Director**  
**Ronald McDonald House Charities Columbia, SC**  
**[Beth@rmhcofcolumbia.org](mailto:Beth@rmhcofcolumbia.org)**

2901 Colonial Drive Columbia, SC 29203  
803-254-3181 (p), 803-254-8688 (f)  
[Rmhcofcolumbia.org](http://Rmhcofcolumbia.org)

# ARE YOU READY TO...

## ROYAL RUMBLE



### CHARITY RIDE FOR RMHC COLUMBIA, SC

### SATURDAY, MAY 1ST 2021

#### LOCATIONS:



**TWISTED ROOTS (STARTS/ENDS)**



**WINGS & ALE AT THE DAM**



**SOCIAL GRILL**



**TB'S SHACK**



**HIGHWAY 378**

**10AM-REGISTRATION**

**11 AM-KICKSTANDS UP**

**4 PM-LAST BIKE IN**

**\$20 PER RIDER**

**\$10 PER PASSENGER**

**INCLUDES ENTRY INTO  
POKER HAND**

**BEST HAND WINS**

# \$500!

**50/50. RAFFLE. MUSIC**



Ronald McDonald  
House Charities®  
Columbia, SC

**SOCIALLY**

**D I S T A N T**

*Acts of  
Service*

Volunteering from home is the easiest and safest way to support Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) Columbia, SC. The RMHC staff has put together some of the best acts of service you can do to help. We thank you for your support!

# COLLECT AND DONATE



## AMAZON WISHLIST & AMAZON SMILE

Find our wish list on [rmhcofcolumbia.org](http://rmhcofcolumbia.org) to find our most needed items. You can ship your donation directly to the house. You can also select RMHC Columbia, SC as your Amazon Smile charity of choice and Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase!

## PACK-A-SMILE



Collect items for our Pack-a-Smile, a program that provides free breakfast and lunch to families in the hospital. Most needed items: Hot Pockets, individual cups of Chef Boyardee and mac-n-cheese, Cup-o-Noodles, Lunchables, Uncrustables, breakfast bars, individually wrapped chips, and cookies, and bottled water. You can drop the items off at the house or have them delivered via our Amazon wish list!



## TOILETRY CARE KIT

Collect travel-size toiletry necessities (i.e.: toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, etc.) in a Ziplock bag. We will give them to families staying at the house!

## GIFT CARDS/MONETARY DONATIONS

Donate grocery store gift cards like Sam's Club, Walmart, Publix, or other local grocery stores. We use them to purchase food and supplies to prepare meals for the families. You may also choose to donate monetarily. You can donate via our website at [rmhcofcolumbia.org/makeadonation](http://rmhcofcolumbia.org/makeadonation), mail, or deliver donations to the house in person.



# CREATE AND DONATE

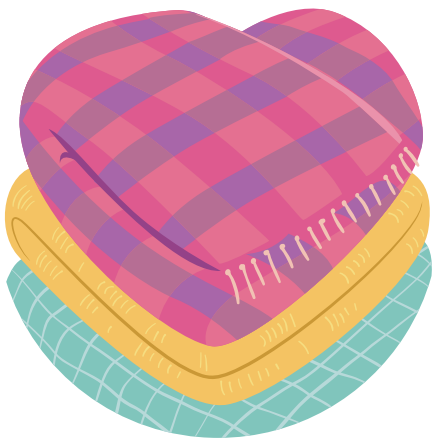


## JARS OF JOY

Fill mason jars with your favorite comfort items such as candy, chocolate, inspiring quotes, or small toys that you know would brighten any family's day.

## WORRY STONES

Buy or find smooth stones to paint and decorate. You can even make your own stones using polymer clay. These are great gifts for families to give them stress relief and comfort whenever they need it!

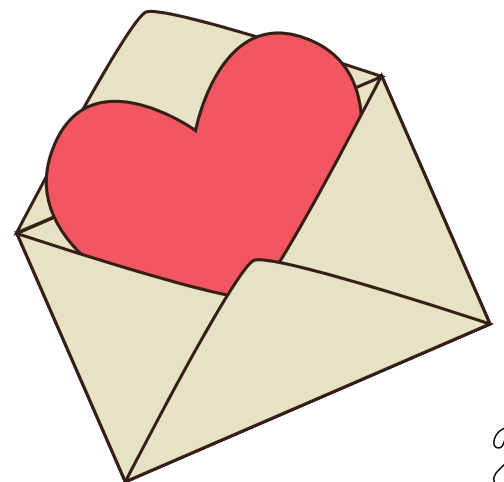


## QUILTED LAP BLANKETS

If you love sewing, this is the perfect project for you! Grab some fabric, have fun, and be creative. Families love to use quilted blankets to get cozy while staying at the hospital.

## NOTES OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Create an encouraging card for children in the hospital. Decorate your card with whatever you want and include a sweet message. We will deliver these cards to families in the hospital to brighten their day.



# PLAN A FUNDRAISER

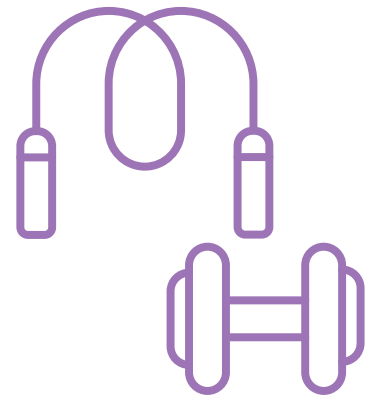


## FACEBOOK FUNDRAISER

Support RMHC on your birthday by choosing RMHC Columbia, SC as your charity of choice on Facebook. You can set your own fundraising goal and your friends and family can donate in honor of your special day!

## FITNESS CLASS SPONSORSHIP

Organize your own fitness class or partner up with your health and fitness center to donate a portion of the earnings to RMHC Columbia, SC.



## RESTAURANT PARTNERSHIP

Ask your favorite restaurant to host a percent night where they can donate a portion of their sales made during the event to RMHC Columbia, SC.

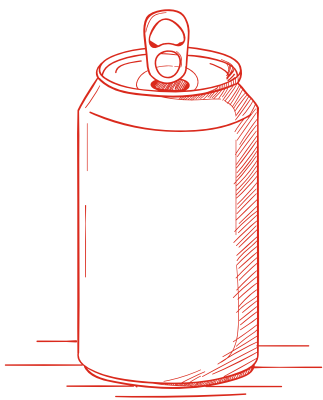
## PENNY WARS

Compete with your friends and family to see who can collect the most spare change for a week or month. Make sure to have an exciting prize for the winner! Donate the change to RMHC Columbia, SC.



## POP TABS COLLECTION

Make it a competition amongst your friends to collect the most pop tabs possible or place a jar to collect them at your work or school. You can drop off or mail the collected pop tabs to the house. We recycle them to receive funding for RMHC Columbia, SC!





## ROUND-UP FOR RMHC COLUMBIA, SC

You can ask a crew member at any McDonald's to round up your total to the nearest dollar. McDonald's will donate the extra change to RMHC. Any donation makes a huge difference for a family in need!

## ORGANIZE YOUR OWN SPECIAL FUNDRAISER

Host your own socially-distanced or virtual fundraiser like a Walk-A-Thon, Bike-A-Thon, or Dance-A-Thon to raise money for RMHC Columbia, SC. Ask all of your friends and family to participate and advertise your fundraiser. Find local businesses or community members to sponsor your event. Set an achievable fundraising goal and have fun!



# SPREAD AWARENESS

**Follow** us on social media and on [rmhccolumbia.org](https://rmhccolumbia.org) to keep up to date with our latest events, fundraisers, and RMHC Columbia, SC families.

**Like, and comment** on our posts to support RMHC Columbia, SC and our guest families.

**Share** your RMHC story to show how our organization has impacted you, and possibly help a family going through a similar situation. Spread the word about RMHC Columbia, SC's upcoming events online and with your friends and family.



**@rmhccolumbiasc**