



Ronald McDonald  
House Charities®  
South East QLD

# HEART OF OUR HOME

A family's life can be turned upside down when they receive the devastating news that their child is sick and they will need to travel for specialist medical care. Often, they simply cannot afford to stay in hotels while their child receives treatment for extended periods of time.

RMHC SEQ cares for families with children who are ill or injured. We provide essential services that remove barriers, strengthen families, and promote healing when children need healthcare, including vital accommodation. We are not diagnosis specific and support all medical conditions.

Ronald McDonald Houses provide a homely and inviting place for parents, guardians, carers and siblings to stay while their child is undergoing treatment in a nearby hospital.

We have three Houses:

- **Ronald McDonald House Herston:** adjacent to the Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital
- **Ronald McDonald House South Brisbane,** directly opposite the Queensland Children's Hospital and Mater Mothers' Hospital
- **Ronald McDonald House in Queensland Children's Hospital;** specifically to support patients of the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit

Our Houses offer private units where families can rest and find sanctuary, as well as communal spaces where they can relax, unwind, and connect with others.

We aspire to provide all the comforts of home for adults and children alike.

- Every year, around **3,500 families** travel to Brisbane or the Gold Coast so their sick or injured child can receive specialist medical treatment.
- Families stay with us for **7.5 days** on average; however, some families have needed our accommodation for as long as 700 nights.
- Some families travel as far as **600 kilometres** and many need to come multiple times through the duration of their child's treatment.

On average, it costs \$160 a night to cover the necessary costs associated with maintaining a room for a family, including all linen, electricity, cleaning, and general maintenance. That's more than \$58,000 per year, per room.

The cost of providing a home away from home for families with ill or injured children currently exceeds \$10 million a year and these costs are increasing. As a not-for-profit organisation, we rely on the generous support of individuals, community and corporate partners to ensure our doors stay open for families when they need us the most.

# You hold the key to the Heart of our Home

You can help us support more families by sponsoring one of the 148 rooms in our Ronald McDonald Houses in Herston and South Brisbane.

**The annual cost of supporting a room through the Heart of our Home program is \$5,000 + GST.**

## Our Impact

By supporting this program, you'll have your name on the door of a room, but you'll be providing so much more. All funds raised will provide families with essentials that we all take for granted:

- vital accommodation close to specialist treatment and medical care
- access to laundry services, kitchens, televisions, computers and games
- access to indoor and outdoor play areas, video games, chill out spaces, movie nights, regular activities and so much more
- 24-hour restricted access to our Houses ensure families are always safe and secure
- a sense of community with other families who are also going through their own journey.



*Born with congenital kidney disease, little Lachlan has been on dialysis since he was 4.5 months old. Mum Rebecca, Dad Brett, and big sisters Charlotte and Olivia called RMH South Brisbane their home away-from-home for over 376 nights, allowing them to remain together and close to the medical care Lachlan needed.*

## In return:

### Personalised recognition

Your preferred acknowledgement name will be featured prominently on dedicated signage located on the door of your room for a 12-month period.

### Engagement opportunities

You will have the opportunity to participate in our engagement programs, including Meals from the Heart and Baking a Difference.

### Event attendance

You will have the opportunity to attend selected events hosted by RMHC SEQ. (Please note attendance at some events may incur an expense.)

### Your impact

We will provide you with a report on the annual impact of your support so you can see how you are making a difference to those families we serve.



## To become a Heart of our Home Program supporter, please contact:

If you are a corporate organisation or community group, please call:

**Natalie Godbold**

Corporate Partnership Manager  
0499 290 976  
natalie.godbold@rmhc.org.au

If you are an individual donor, please call:

**Phil Petch**

Individual Giving Manager  
0407 024 434  
phil.petch@rmhc.org.au



**Ronald McDonald  
House Charities®**  
South East QLD