



Ronald McDonald  
House Charities®  
New York Metro

# Love Heals, Hope Grows

*Keeping Families Close in Suffolk County*

**A Capital Campaign for  
the Ronald McDonald House  
at Stony Brook**



# Our Story

Located in New Hyde Park on the campus of the Steven and Alexandra Cohen Children's Medical Center, the Ronald McDonald House of Long Island provides vital resources and compassionate care to children and their families in a warm and supportive environment.

Since 1986, Ronald McDonald House of Long Island has helped tens of thousands of families with sick children find comfort and support when they need it most. Our programs, tailored to meet the urgent needs of our community, make a difference in the lives of families with critically ill children.

Many families travel far from home and spend several weeks or months getting treatment for their seriously ill or injured children — a long time to be away or to divide a family. For children facing a serious medical crisis, nothing seems scarier than not having mom and dad close by for love and support. The Ronald McDonald House provides a place for families to call home so they can stay close to their hospitalized child at little or at no cost.

Over the last 35 years, Ronald McDonald House of Long Island has served over 45,000 families in the United States, and from more than 80 countries around the world who are dealing with the pain of having a child undergo medical treatment at nearby hospitals.

To better respond to the evolving needs of families facing the medical uncertainty and financial stress of caring for a sick child, Ronald McDonald House Charities New York Tri State (RMHC Tri State) and Ronald McDonald House of Long Island have merged to become **Ronald McDonald House Charities New York Metro (RMHC New York Metro)**. The new organization will provide accommodation and a community of compassionate care, support and vital resources to over 6,000 families with sick children in 2021.



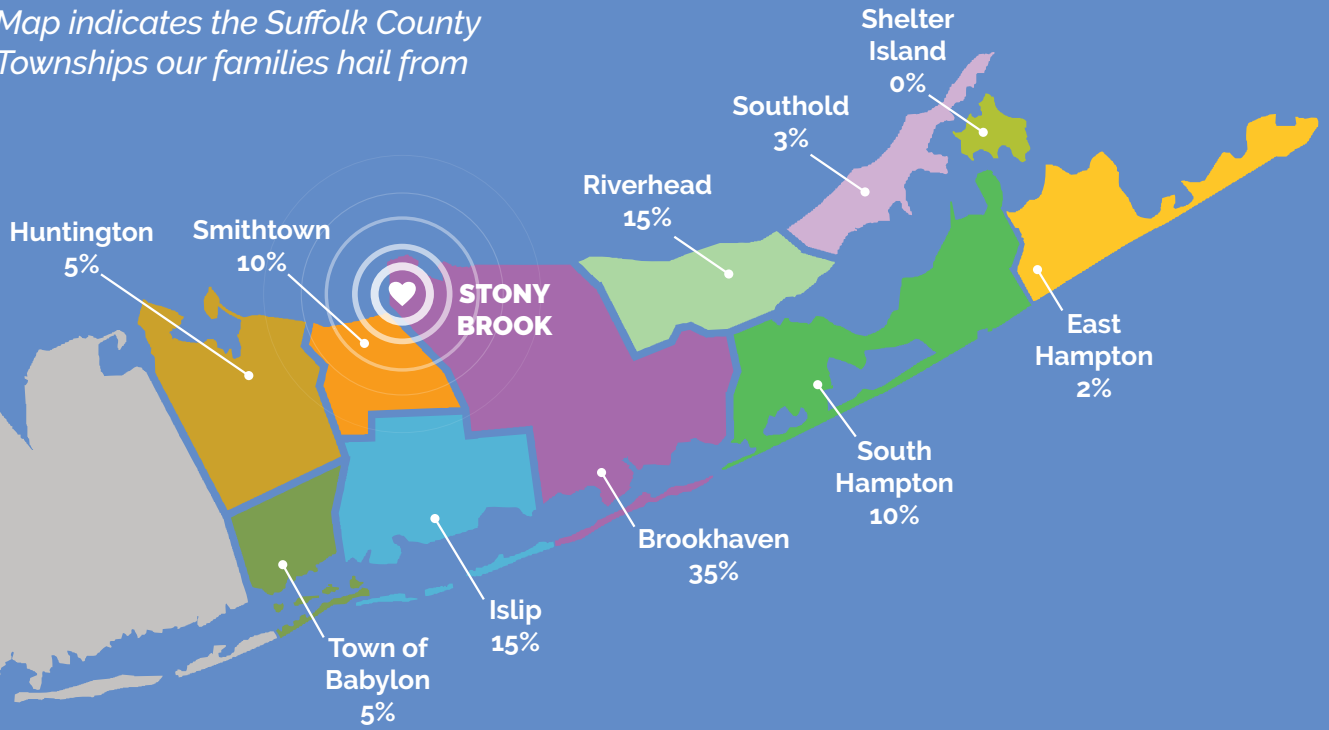
# Keeping Families Close Across All of Long Island

RMHC New York Metro has seen the need for its services grow and has expanded its mission to serve more of Suffolk County. With 104 beds and more than 180 pediatric specialists, Stony Brook Children's Hospital is Suffolk County's only children's hospital. More than 8,000 children and young adults are discharged each year.

A Ronald McDonald Family Room was built at Stony Brook Children's in 2013. In 2021, the Ronald McDonald Family Room at Stony Brook Children's served 1,077 families and 2,599 individuals. Realizing the need was great, we partnered with Stony Brook Children's in 2022 to add a second Ronald McDonald Family Room, doubling the number of families we could serve.



Map indicates the Suffolk County Townships our families hail from



## Supporting Suffolk County

- ♥ **27,277 families** from Suffolk County since 1986
- ♥ **21,000 families** at the Family Room at Stony Brook Children's Hospital since inception in 2013
- ♥ **Average of 3,500 families** per year at Stony Brook Children's Hospital with one Family Room and a second Family Room in 2022



# Making a Difference

Our small presence in Stony Brook makes a significant difference. When families walk into one of our Ronald McDonald Family Rooms, we want them to forget they're in a hospital. Closely located near the pediatric intensive care unit, our Ronald McDonald Family Rooms offer a place to rest and regroup right at the hospital, just steps away from their sick child. Research shows that staying close by allows parents to better communicate with their child's medical team and improves adherence to complicated treatment plans.

A recent study published in *Families, Systems and Health*, a journal of the American Psychological Association, finds that families who stayed together at a Ronald McDonald House, for even a portion of their seriously-ill child's hospital stay, believed their ability to stay nearby helped their child recover and spend less time in the hospital.



**Ronald  
McDonald  
Family Room®**

STONY BROOK CHILDREN'S

***The Ronald McDonald Family Rooms are a place of solace for the parents and family members of the children who are in the hospital, but there are only two rooms. Imagine the difference 20 family suites will make in our new House. This will be a transformational experience for thousands of families in Suffolk County.***





## OUR FAMILIES

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### Sophia's Story

"This time last year, my daughter Sophia was in the intensive care unit with Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), a respiratory virus that infects the lungs and breathing passages. Leaving her bedside was not an option. My husband could only come to the hospital at night, as he was working long hours to make ends meet.

Each day at the hospital felt like an eternity, staring at the bare institutionalized walls of my baby's room. One of the gracious nurses told me about the Ronald McDonald Family Room. When I stepped inside, I felt like I was at home for a moment. The holiday

decorations and bright lights lifted my spirits. There was a lounge area with comfortable couches and kitchen tables. It felt so warm and welcoming. There were showers to freshen up and a place to do laundry. The fully-stocked kitchen with access to snacks and beverages was so helpful, as it was a fortune to use the hospital cafeteria.

My beautiful baby Sophia gave me another miracle on December 24, when she was discharged. She was able to spend what was left of the holiday season with our family at home where she belonged."



### The Martin Family

“My son Kyle, who is now 7 years old experienced alarming symptoms such as sleep apnea and snoring at a very young age. It wasn’t until after visiting multiple doctors that an ENT at Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York diagnosed Kyle with a tumor in his nasopharynx this past summer.

After much anxiety and sleepless nights, Kyle’s surgery was successful, and his doctor was cautiously optimistic. We were relieved when Kyle slept through the night for the first time in almost a year!

Just as we thought we were on our way back to a normal life, we received the dreaded call to meet with a pediatric oncologist and hospital social worker. The greatest fear we could ever imagine became a reality. Kyle’s tumor was cancerous. Kyle had to begin

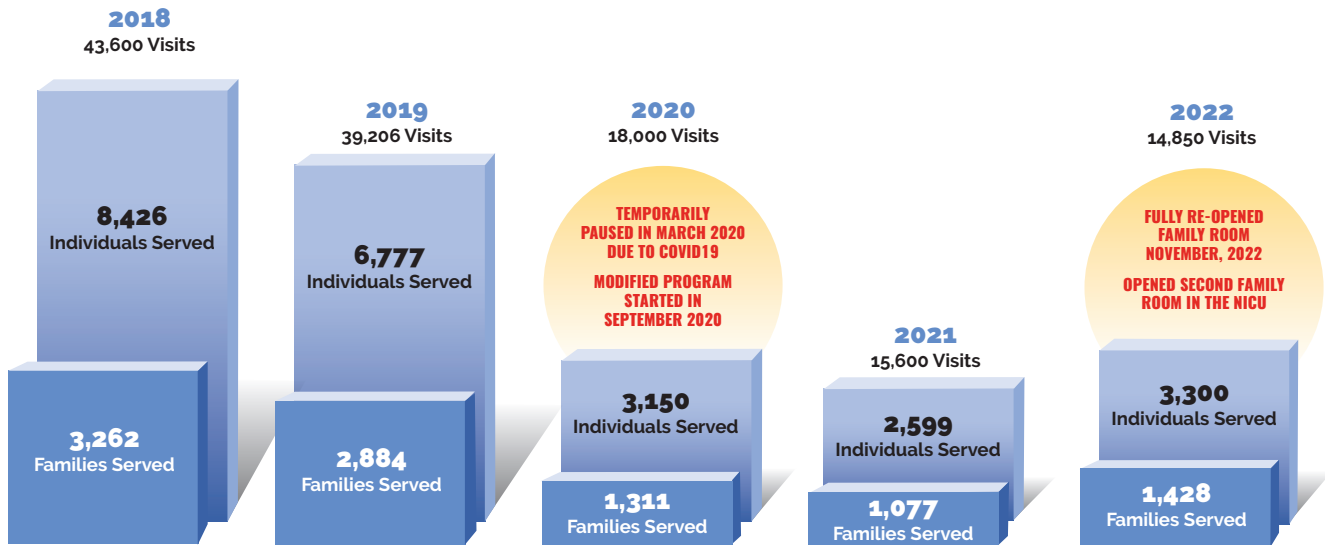
chemotherapy immediately. It felt like someone ripped my heart out.

Commuting from the east end of Long Island to the hospital during rush hour was an absolute nightmare, especially with bouts of nausea. The hospital staff told us about the RMHCNYM, just a two-minute walk from the hospital! Since we would be in and out of the hospital for chemotherapy for the following several weeks, they suggested this haven so that we could focus solely on Kyle’s recovery.

When we stay at the House, our troubles somehow seem to disappear for a short time. Ronald McDonald House Charities New York Metro provides a network of hope — a support system that offers a place for healing when our world is falling apart.”

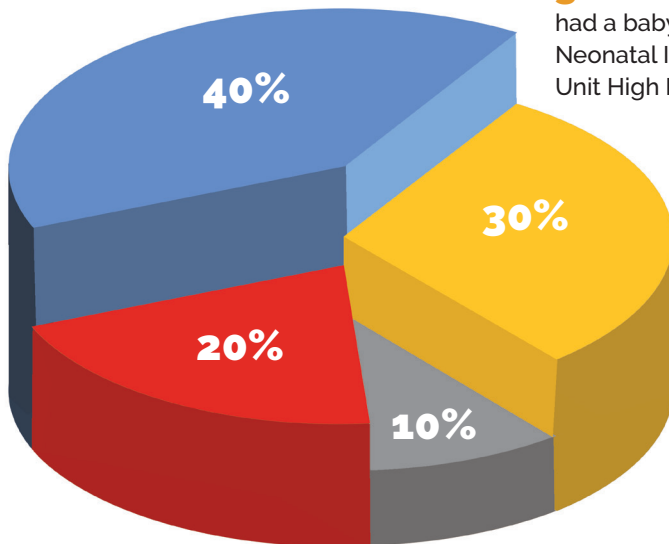


# Meeting Our Families' Needs



## Overview of Our Families

**40%** of our families had a child treated at the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Program



**20%** of our families had a child in the Pediatric Trauma Center

**10%** miscellaneous medical issues

**14**  
NIGHTS

Average Length of Stay



**252**  
NIGHTS

Longest Stay



# BUILDING HOPE: The New Ronald McDonald House at Stony Brook

*Architectural Rendering  
Ronald McDonald House Charities, Stony Brook  
Health Science Drive*



As the new Stony Brook Children's Hospital grows and expands, so does the need for RMHC New York Metro's programs.

In 2019, RMHC New York Metro began planning to build a new House, in partnership with Stony Brook Children's Hospital. The mission of the Ronald McDonald House at Stony Brook will be to provide comfort and shelter to families experiencing the pain of having a seriously ill child in Suffolk County's only children's hospital — Stony Brook Children's. The House will offer the parents and siblings of these children a temporary haven in a secure and comfortable environment among other families sharing a similar burden.

***"By providing comfort, compassion and a sense of community, the Ronald McDonald House at Stony Brook Children's Hospital is a home-away-from-home and will always be there to help families as they get the best possible care for their children at our hospital. The House will become an integral part of our young patients' and their family's healing process for many years to come."***

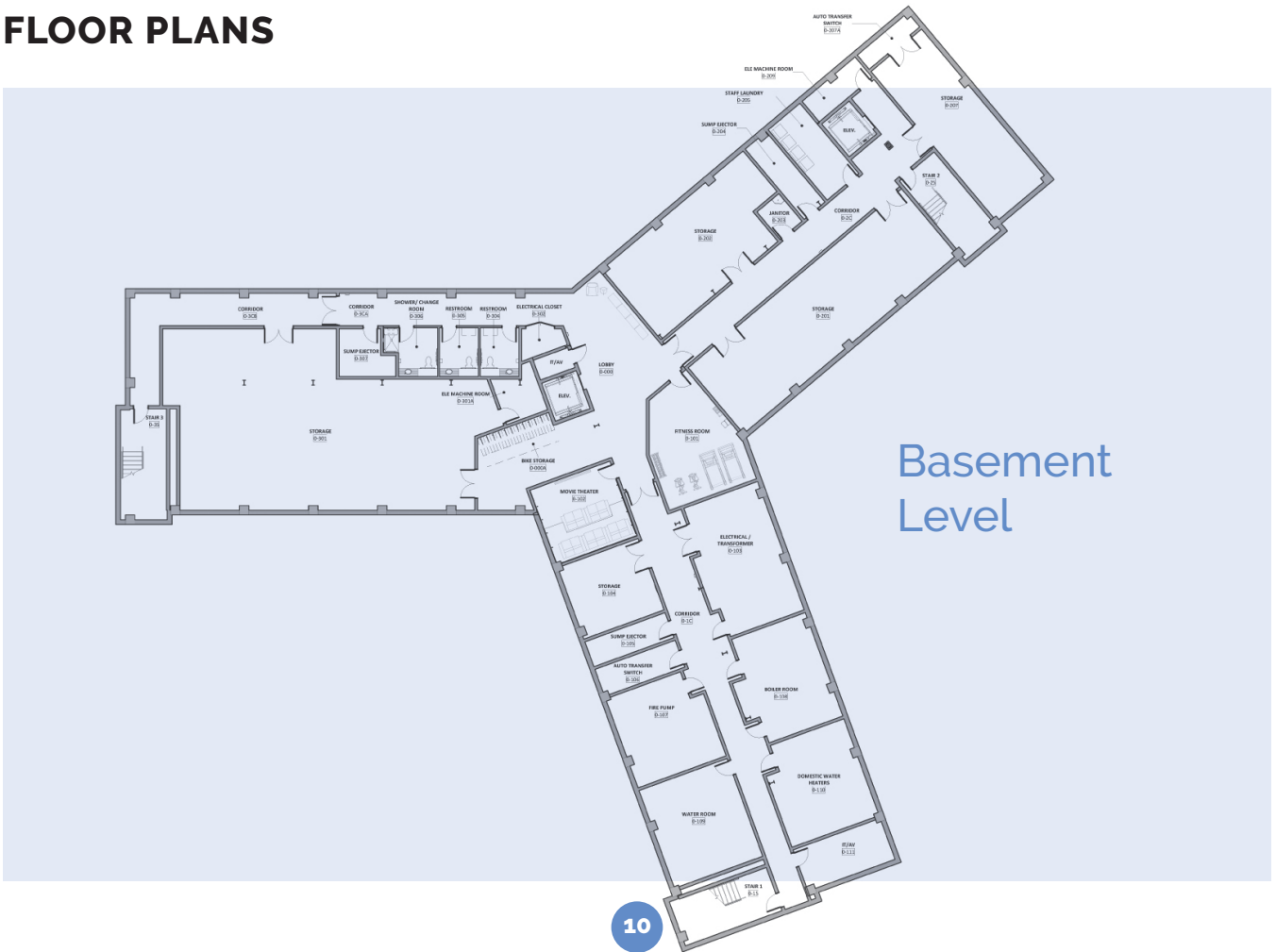


DR. CAROLYN MILANA  
Department MD of Pediatrics,  
Stony Brook University  
School of Medicine Chair and  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics

Architectural Rendering  
 Ronald McDonald House Charities, Stony Brook  
 Main Entrance



## FLOOR PLANS





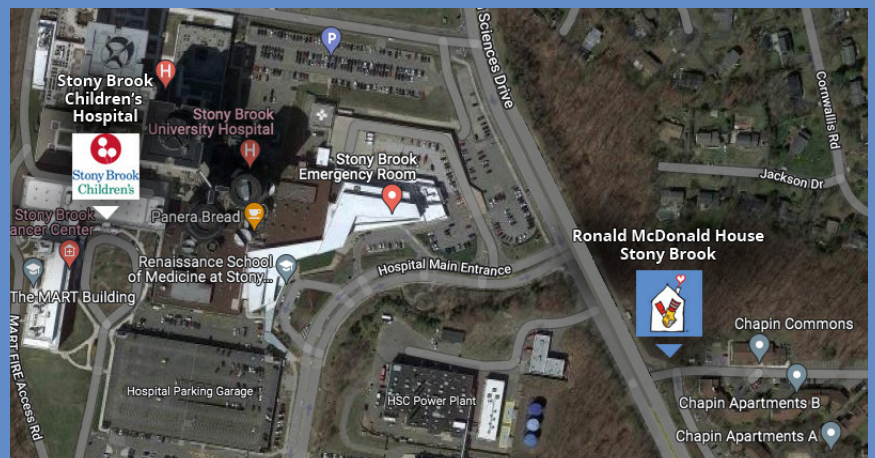


# Home Away From Home

## Features of the New Stony Brook House

- 20 bedrooms with private ensuite
- A media center to stay in touch with loved ones
- Outdoor playground
- Interactive playrooms
- Scheduled transportation services
- Kitchens and home-cooked meals each night
- Respite room for hourly visits
- In-House family events
- Volunteer hospitality program
- 24-hour security
- Pet therapy program
- Free parking
- Fully stocked pantries
- Complimentary laundry facilities
- Wi-Fi internet access
- Fitness Center
- Meditation Room

*Our new House will neighbor the renowned Stony Brook Children's Hospital, providing an invaluable service to the medical community and helping thousands of families in the years ahead. By providing comfort, compassion and a sense of community, the Ronald McDonald House at Stony Brook will always be there to help families when they need us the most and for as long as medically necessary.*





# You Make the Difference!

## Giving Opportunities

Leading by example, Ronald McDonald Charities, both globally and regionally, has pledged significant support to this campaign. Additionally, Stony Brook Children's Hospital has dedicated \$3.5 million towards the construction of the new House. However, there is still so much more to raise to make this life-changing project a reality.

We hope you will be inspired by our vision, and you will join our community of donors



***Please consider making a gift to help keep families together.***

committed to ensuring that we serve as many families as possible on Long Island. We are seeking three-year pledge commitments from individuals, families, corporations, and foundations to finance the construction of the new house..

## Give Now

- Your gift of cash makes the most immediate impact and allows you to receive full tax benefits to the extent allowed by law. We encourage you to also consider a multi-year pledge to maximize the power of your gift.
- You may also make a gift of appreciated securities, such as stock or mutual funds.
- Additionally, we welcome grants from donor advised funds, from personal, private, and public foundations and from family offices.

## Give Later

- You can designate any percentage or dollar amount of your will, life insurance, or retirement plan, naming Ronald McDonald House at Stony Brook as beneficiary.
- Bequests, IRA asset allocation, Charitable Gift Annuities (CGA), and Charitable Remainder Trusts are alternate ways to contribute to our campaign, and may offer you significant tax incentives.





*“We believe that when a child is hospitalized, the love and support of family is as powerful as the strongest medicine prescribed.”*

MATTHEW CAMPO, CEO  
Ronald McDonald House Charities  
New York Metro







Ronald McDonald  
House Charities®  
New York Metro

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