



**Ronald McDonald House Charities
of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois**
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE RECEIVES CURBSIDE MAKEOVER

Major landscape overhaul made possible through generous donation

Iowa City, IA— On Thursday, September 26, 40 volunteers from the Iowa Nursery & Landscaping Association (INLA) and local colleges spent the day adding and re-facing landscaping around the Ronald McDonald House of Iowa City as part of its annual Day of Service. Each year INLA selects a local nonprofit to benefit from their donated labor and landscape design, and this year selected the Ronald McDonald House of Iowa City as the site for the event. Student volunteers from Kirkwood Community College and DMACC worked with INLA member companies to beautify the landscape surrounding the Ronald McDonald House campus, which is currently undergoing their House Refresh, a campaign to modernize and provide necessary upgrades to the House.

“The staff at the Ronald McDonald House and the families we serve are so grateful to INLA and the student volunteers,” said Barbara Werning, RMHC-EIWI Executive Director. “Our House Refresh is an important project that will ensure we continue to provide a safe, welcoming place for families at such a critical point in their lives. The new landscaping is a beautiful addition to the area surrounding the House that will help create an enjoyable and peaceful atmosphere for the families we serve.”

Landscape designer and INLA Hall of Famer Linda Grieve designed the landscaping for the project. Volunteers provided new additions including a Children’s Garden and a Butterfly Garden, which will provide a serene place for visiting families to play and relax. The INLA also made improvements to beautify existing landscape in the Ian Wagner Memorial Garden and along the newly expanded parking lot.

This landscape overhaul comes after two other major renovations, including a parking lot expansion provided in part by King’s Materials, and an upgraded loft space provided by Centro and Ethan Allen.

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About Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois: *Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern Iowa & Western Illinois strives to keep families close to each other and the care they need, when they need it most. RMHC-EIWI provides care and comfort to children receiving medical treatment and their families by supporting the 31-room Ronald McDonald House of Iowa City. Additional programs include a Ronald McDonald Family Room at UnityPoint St. Luke’s Hospital in Cedar Rapids and a Ronald McDonald Family Room at University of Iowa Stead Family Children’s Hospital. Learn more at rmhc-eiwi.org.*