



**Ronald McDonald House Charities
of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois**
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Iowa City, Iowa 52246

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gerdin Family Foundation donates \$350,000 to the renovation of Ronald McDonald House of Iowa City

Iowa City, IA— The Gerdin Family Foundation has donated \$350,000 to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois (RMHC-EIWI) to kick off the second phase of Ronald McDonald House renovations which include new flooring and updated HVAC systems. This gift is part of the REFRESH project that will update the Ronald McDonald House of Iowa City to improve the comfort, safety, and services for families with children being treated at local medical facilities.

“The staff at the Ronald McDonald House and the families we serve are so grateful to the Gerdin family for this amazing gift,” 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 Iowa City Ronald McDonald House was built in 1985 and expanded in 2001 to include 31 guest rooms. The House provides lodging and accommodations to families who have traveled to Iowa City seeking medical treatment for their sick or injured child. Nearly 1,000 families are served at the Ronald McDonald House of Iowa City each year with an average of 15 families per night on a list waiting to receive accommodations.

“RMHC-EIWI has assisted so many families in their time of need over the last 35 years. We are honored and happy to be a part of the renovation project in the Iowa City location. We hope our donation assists RMHC in helping many more families on their visits to Iowa City,” said Mike Gerdin on behalf of the Gerdin Family Foundation.

There are still several naming opportunities available for those who wish to support the ongoing REFRESH project. Contact the RMHC-EIWI development department for more information at 319-384-5852.

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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 families of children receiving medical treatment 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.*