The Ronald McDonald House program, which is a core program of Ronald McDonald House Charities, helps families worldwide stay close to their children while receiving hospital care, increasing the caregivers’ ability to spend more time with their child, interact with their clinical care team and participate in medical care decisions. It also allows siblings and other family members to be present and engaged.

Ronald McDonald Houses worldwide help families stay close to their sick children when they need to heal.

Ronald McDonald House Benefits and Impact

Positive Overall Hospital Experience
In a study of more than 5,400 families with children in inpatient pediatric care and infants in NICU, those who stayed at a Ronald McDonald House reported a more positive overall hospital experience than families who didn’t.

Better Perceived Quality of Life
In a survey of 250 families, researchers found that children and their parents, who stayed at a Ronald McDonald House, had a better perceived quality of life than expected for children with chronic diseases.

Proximity to Hospitals
The Ronald McDonald Houses’ proximity to hospitals provides important benefits for children and their caregivers, such as improved psychological well-being and better perceptions of their child’s recovery.

Strengthen Coping Abilities
27% of parents experienced post-traumatic stress symptoms several months after their child’s discharge from a hospital stay, but Ronald McDonald Houses help their guests strengthen coping abilities by keeping families together.

Higher Quality Sleep
Parents whose children have longer hospital stays benefit from higher quality sleep at a Ronald McDonald House compared to parents who slept at their child’s hospital bedside.

Provide Spaces to Play
Ronald McDonald Houses provide spaces to play. Playing with other children experiencing similar situations can help these children cope with trauma.

Provide a Lodging Alternative
Ronald McDonald Houses can provide an alternative for patients who need to remain close to the hospital for extended periods but do not require active daily medical care.

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