



Fall 2024

Love Notes

News & Updates from Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Triangle

Twin Miracles: Miles & Faris

The Bade family of Virginia stayed at Ronald McDonald House in 2023 and 2024 while twins Miles and Faris grew strong in the NICU. The boys are now home and thriving.

We delivered identical twin boys at 34 weeks. We had a planned C-section at Duke because one of the twins, Miles, was diagnosed with a congenital heart disease, Tetralogy of Fallot.

We knew Miles would need surgery after birth, but hopefully not for a few months. Both boys also had selective intrauterine growth restriction (SIUGR), meaning they were not growing in line with the growth chart and were quite small.

There is no cure or treatment for SIUGR. Miles had a more severe case, but our other twin, Faris, also received the diagnosis a few weeks before birth.

There was a time we didn't know if Miles would survive in utero. If one twin didn't make it, it would put the other twin at high risk as well since they were identical and shared a placenta.

We are from Richmond, but we chose Duke for their pediatric cardiology program and their maternal-fetal medicine specialists who helped get us to the point of delivery.

Faris was at the NICU for 9 days, and Miles was there 34 days.

RMH gave us a home away from home. RMH helped us immensely, giving me a wheelchair and a shower chair after my C-section when I could barely move. RMH gave us a free place to stay. We had a wonderful meal every single day. The staff and volunteers are absolutely amazing! We could truly tell they cared about us. I hope to come back in the future and volunteer.

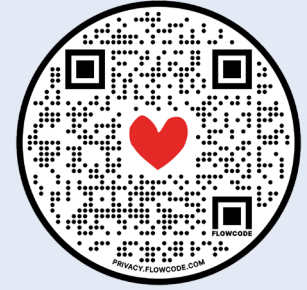
Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

- Andrea Bade (Richmond, VA)



MAKE A CHILD'S HOLIDAY WISH COME TRUE WITH

The Wishing Tree



The Wishing Tree is an angel-tree program to support seriously ill children and their families during the holidays. This heartfelt program is a meaningful group activity for companies, schools, and groups of all sizes.

If you set up a tree, our ornaments offer gift ideas for pediatric patients, siblings, and caregivers who will be staying at Ronald McDonald Houses in the Triangle this holiday season. There are also ornaments for food and household items needed to operate our Houses and hospital-based respite programs.

A one-page wish list and links to our Amazon lists are available through the QR code above, or online at www.RMHCTriangle.org/the-wishing-tree/.

Unwrapped gifts may be delivered to RMH in Durham or Chapel Hill – or they may be delivered directly through Amazon.

DELIVERY DEADLINE – DEC. 13

(So Santa's elves can get to work early!)

Thank you for making holiday wishes come true!



Info@RMHCTriangle.org



Billy



We are Randy & Sallie.

Our son Billy was born 10 weeks early at only 2 pounds, 7 ounces. We were in the hospital for more than 6 months and stayed at Ronald McDonald House the whole time - 3 months in Greenville and 3 months in the Triangle.

It has been such a blessing.

Billy was transferred to Duke at 3 months old for open heart surgery. He has had a lot of complications since birth but has been an absolute warrior. Emergency delivery, pneumonia, open heart surgery, cardiac arrest, and lung disease have all been battles for him, but he remains the sweetest and happiest baby. He is being so brave and showing so much improvement.

My name is Alejandra. We are here from Colorado.

We were given the opportunity to transfer to North Carolina for electroconvulsive treatment for my son's disease, NMDA encephalitis and malignant catatonia.

With the help of a hospital social worker, we were given the opportunity to stay at Ronald McDonald House. The House has been such a gift as Miguel continues to fight and we are able to be by his side.

It is just amazing!



Miguel

Tonight, 95 families just like Billy and Miguel's will stay with us at Ronald McDonald Houses in Raleigh, Durham & Chapel Hill. *And there's more!* The families of ALL pediatric patients at our partner hospitals receive respite and support inside the walls of the hospitals every day. **This is made possible by friends like you!**



Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
of the Triangle

Business Office
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Durham, NC 27705

Share light for
the **holidays!**

Honor a light in your life with a holiday gift.

Show your love with a holiday donation to Ronald McDonald House Charities. We'll send a special card to your honoree to let them know. Memorial cards will be mailed to honoree family members. Honoree names received by December 10 will be recognized with a light on the field at our *Lights of Love* evening at the Durham Bulls Athletic Park on December 12.

Questions: Light@RMHCTriangle.org

