

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*Imagine buying all your groceries for the year on one shopping day.
For the Ronald McDonald House® of Greater Las Vegas, that day is
Saturday, February 7th...*

All Smith's locations throughout Las Vegas will be hosting an annual food drive for Ronald McDonald House Charities® (RMHC®) of Greater Las Vegas on Saturday, February 7th, 2009, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in recognition of Food Check-Out Day.

Volunteers will be on hand at Smith's Food Stores to provide information on Food Check-Out Day and assist shoppers in making their donations. Shoppers will be handed a Wish List as they enter the store and invited to pick up items for the House as they shop.

"The remarkable thing about this food drive is that in one day, we receive everything we need to provide our families with food and a clean and comfortable place to stay for the entire year," says Katherine Petersen, House Manager of the Las Vegas Ronald McDonald House. "We'll have stacks of cereal boxes rise to the ceiling, entire rooms filled with canned goods, and freezers packed with meats and frozen dinners – all because of the generosity of individuals in this city!"

Food Check Out Day is recognized by the National Farm Bureau as the day of the year when most Americans will have earned enough income to pay for their yearly food supply. To commemorate Food Check Out Day, the National Farm Bureau makes food donations to Ronald McDonald Houses in cities across the nation.

This is the eighth year Las Vegas Smith's stores have supported the Ronald McDonald House by hosting Food Check-Out Day. The food drive stocks the shelves at the Ronald McDonald House with non-perishable and frozen food items, paper products, such as toilet paper and napkins, and cleaning supplies.

The Ronald McDonald House provides a "home away from home" for families who must travel

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to Las Vegas to receive critical medical treatment for their children. These families face great hardship while their children undergo hospitalization or out-patient care for serious illness or trauma, and the Ronald McDonald House offers a place of comfort and support while they're away from home.



Volunteers help stock the shelves at the Ronald McDonald House at the 2006 food drive.

Our Mission: Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) of Greater Las Vegas creates and supports programs that directly improve the health, education and well-being of children in our community. The Ronald McDonald House of Greater Las Vegas is the cornerstone program of RMHC, and provides temporary housing for families who travel to Las Vegas to receive critical medical treatment for their children.

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