



Dinner Program Guidelines

"The House that Love Built" continues to be filled with love through your generous contribution as a meal provider. On behalf of our families, thank you for your time and effort. The following is a list of procedures and dinner guidelines to help you prepare for your evening!

- * You can volunteer to cook dinner any night of the week. Simply call the Ronald McDonald House or visit www.rmhlv.com to find out what dates are open and sign up.
- * Groups are limited to 10 and minors must be accompanied by at least one supervising adult. Please remind members of your group to respect the atmosphere of comfort and caring that the House offers to families staying with us. Groups that become too loud and disruptive will be asked to leave.
- * **Dinner must be served at 6:00 PM.** You are welcome to use our double kitchen, which is fully stocked with utility sized appliances, pots, pans, plates, bowls, cups, silverware, serving utensils, etc., as well as ice and beverages (the only thing you need to provide is the food!); or you may prepare the meal prior to coming in. We also have a barbecue grill located outside.
- * When you arrive at the House, the manager on duty will show you the kitchen and help you with anything you need. The meal should be layed out buffet style so families can help themselves.
- * The menu is up to you! Families enjoy a variety of menus, including ethnic, holiday and themed dinners. We also suggest cooking meals that can be easily stored and reheated.
- * Once you've signed up, be sure to **contact the House one day prior** to find out how many people to prepare for. Our occupancy rates change daily, but usually we have between 10-20 people.
- * Following the meal, you are responsible for cleaning the kitchen and dining room areas and storing any leftovers. This includes loading and running the dishwashers, mopping the floors and emptying the trash cans. If the outside grill is used, this must be thoroughly cleaned as well. All storage and cleaning materials are provided by the House!
- * Leftover food needs to be stored in Zip-Lock bags or sealed Tupperware containers (provided by the House). They must be labeled, dated, and placed in the family refrigerators. Families who are at the hospital during the evening know to look in the refrigerators for leftovers when they get back to the House.
- * Please do not be disappointed if there is little or no turnout when you serve dinner. Several of our families stay at the hospital until visiting hours are over and don't return to the House until after 8:00 PM. We have a posted dinner calendar and we leave messages in their rooms when dinner has been prepared, so they know there is a homemade meal waiting when they return. Our families truly appreciate your efforts even if they're not here to thank you themselves!

IMPORTANT NOTE - Infectious Disease Policy

Because many of the children staying at the Ronald McDonald House have suppressed immune systems, it is extremely important that proper hand-washing and sanitation efforts be made. **All dishes and utensils must be washed in the dishwasher** – only large pots and pans should be washed by hand. If a member of your group is sick (even with a cold) or has recently been exposed to a communicable illness, we must ask that they not visit the House. Also, please notify the House if anyone in your group becomes ill within 3 days after preparing a meal. We appreciate your cooperation.

