



Help give families a home away from home when the distance to healthcare is too far

My name is Amanda Welsh. I am from Bagot, MB, which is an hour and a half drive away from HSC Children's Hospital in Winnipeg, MB. My daughter, Daphne, was born prematurely on Dec. 20, 2017 at 30 weeks and 6 days due to her heart condition.

The day after she was born, we were flown to Edmonton to receive immediate surgery on her heart. While in Edmonton, she received three openheart surgeries and one extra surgery where they had to go through her back.

She now has artificial heart pieces in her heart. Those artificial pieces don't grow with her, which means she's going to have a lifelong journey of open-heart surgeries. She's 6 today and has had 11 surgeries in total.

When she has her heart surgeries, I have to sign a waiver that she might not make it. Because of that, we make sure we make the best of every day.

Telling your child they have to have a surgery is never easy. Telling your child she has to have an overnight stay away from home is even harder. When I tell her we get to stay at Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) Manitoba's Ronald McDonald House, the stress is lifted from her. It makes our journey a little bit easier knowing she's not afraid. Daphne loves Ronald McDonald House!

We need your support for families facing childhood illness or injury

Please consider making a donation to RMHC Manitoba by December 31st so children facing illness or injury can stay close to the essential medical care they need with their families.

RMHC Manitoba is now helping more families than ever before thanks to its new Ronald McDonald House program, which opened in 2022. Last year, RMHC Manitoba supported 1,327 families from 292 communities with 10,929 nights of accommodations. This helped families save \$3.4M in costly, out-of-pocket expenses.



Amanda and Daphne





Turn over to help families in need today.

With your generosity, our Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Family Room programs can continue to offer families a sense of normalcy during one of the most challenging times in their lives. Your donation helps create a comforting and welcoming space where families can focus on what matters most — being together and supporting each other throughout their healing journey.







Hospitals do an amazing job of taking care of Daphne and other pediatric patients, but parents often get left behind. The staff at RMHC Manitoba's Ronald McDonald House and Family Room programs make sure the entire family is taken care of during our stay. They always ask, 'Have you eaten?', 'Have you had enough rest?', or 'Have you showered?'. When you're in the hospital, you don't think of those things. RMHC Manitoba helps you remember to take care of yourself so you stay healthy and resilient to better care for your child.

To all who support RMHC Manitoba, thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Because of you, we're able to stay at a welcoming home away from home with accommodations, meals, parking, transportation, family programming, and more. Not having to worry about the financial burden of Daphne's healing journey has been incredible and very much needed.

Please donate what you can this holiday season to help RMHC Manitoba reach its \$100,000 fundraising goal. With your support, Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Family Room can continue to be there for families like us.

Your generous gift will give families the security of knowing they have all they need to be together and close to their child's essential medical care.

Help keep families stronger for each other and stronger together. ♥

Anarda Welsh





To be eligible to receive a 2024 charitable tax receipt, all donations must be dated and postmarked no later than December 31, 2024.



<u>Click here</u> to make an online donation in support of RMHC Manitoba.

Together, we can help families stay close to the essential care they need and each other.



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Ronald McDonald House Charities Manitoba respects your privacy. We do not sell, trade, or release our mailing list or any part of the information we collect to any other

party or agency.

An official tax receipt will be issued for donations of \$20.00 or more.

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