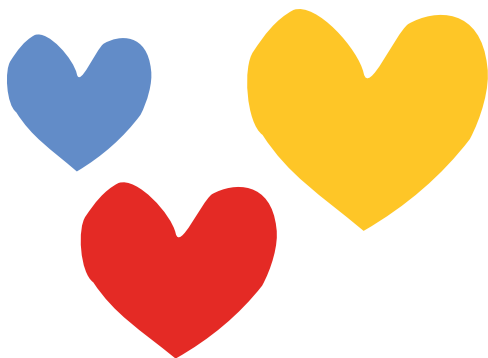


# Your Impact in 2024



*The Stephens Family  
185 nights stayed*

*"Families like the Stephens shouldn't  
have to choose between being together  
and accessing critical care."*

When baby Thatcher was diagnosed with stage four neuroblastoma, the Stephens family faced unthinkable challenges like an 8-hour journey to Vancouver, months of treatment far from home, the fear of being separated during Thatcher's first Christmas. Thanks to Ronald McDonald House BC & Yukon, the Stephens found a place where they could stay together, surrounded by comfort, community, and care. Over six months, the House became their home, making it possible to focus on what mattered most: Thatcher's recovery.

## 2 out of 3

Canadians live in a city or town without a specialized children's hospital.

## 1 in 4

Canadians have stayed at a Ronald McDonald House, or know someone who has.

## RMH BC & Yukon

enables critical access to health care for families as an essential partner to the paediatric health care system.



RMH BC & Yukon served **627** unique families with **148** of those families requiring two or more stays. **141** families stayed two or more times each year. The most stays by one family in 2024 was **12** stays.



The healing power of being together at RMH BC & Yukon with family: in 2024, **361** healthy siblings were able to stay close to their brother or sister who was in the hospital.



**23** Nights: the average length of a stay at RMH BC & Yukon.  
**365** Nights: the longest stay in 2024.



Last year, the Ronald McDonald Family Room at Surrey Memorial Hospital had **15,784** drop-ins from families and caregivers. The room also served **2290** meals, **1203** snack bags and over **1200** loads of laundry.



Our Ronald McDonald Family Room in Surrey served **79** families with the longest stay of 74 nights in 2024.



We've been cooking up something special with our NEW Chef-led meal program that empowers corporate and community groups to prepare meals for families. Over the course of **195** meal service days, we whipped up a total of **63,606** meals and **5,240** grab-and-go bags.

Your generous contribution strengthens family bonds during difficult times, providing a supportive environment that fosters holistic healing and is instrumental in a child's recovery process.

# BENEFITS TO STAYING AT RMH BC & YUKON

## Reduced Financial Burden



A family could incur up to **\$11,000** in out-of-pocket expenses to be by the side of their sick child for just one 18-day hospital stay, without RMH BC & Yukon.

A 2023 RBC Economic Impact Study revealed that RMH BC & Yukon saves families **\$8.4M** annually in out-of-pocket expenses such as food, lodging, and other essentials.



Our Medical Play program was recognized as a *RMHC Global Award* finalist! The program helps children navigate medical experiences with play. In 2024, we provided **254** hours to **174** patients, **309** siblings and **165** adults,

## Family Wellness Program



Staying at RMH BC & Yukon offers not only a sense of community but also relief from social isolation for sick children and their families. Families have access to a variety of Wellness Programs, including Music Therapy, Art Therapy, Medical Play, Massage Therapy, and Pet Therapy, designed to support patients, siblings, and caregivers alike.



RMH BC's Music Therapy has truly been making a difference since 2015. In 2024, **Certified Music Therapist Erin Parr led over 540 hours** of sing-a-longs, instrument play and even a spontaneous dad's Rockband session!



*"We were simply grateful to have a place close to the hospital where we could take a shower or sleep. But as soon as Vian was able to leave the hospital and all three of us could stay together, that's when we really understood what it meant to stay at RMH BC. All of the programs, like Medical Play and Music Therapy kept him busy, which was a big part of his recovery. Because he was happy, because he was playful, the chemo and other therapies didn't bother him as much.."*

- The Raj Family

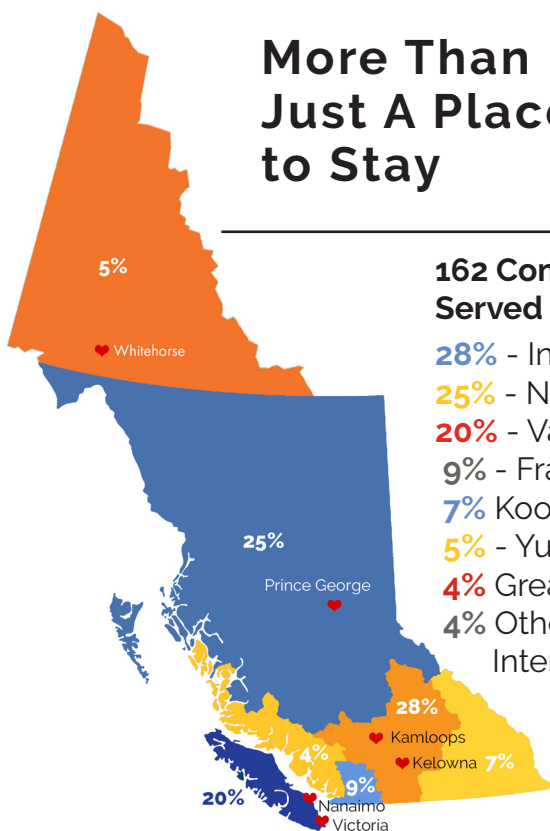
## More Than Just A Place to Stay

**41 visits** from certified therapy dogs. The smiles and licks? - Unlimited!

**11 excursions** to family favourite spots such as the aquarium, Science World, Emma Lee Farms, and Canyon Lights.

**50 lbs** of slime were created in the STEM Program.

**503** massages provided through the partnership with the Vancouver College of Massage Therapy Student Program.



### 162 Communities Served in 2024:

- 28% - Interior
- 25% - Northern BC
- 20% - Vancouver Island
- 9% - Fraser Valley
- 7% Kootenays
- 5% - Yukon
- 4% Greater Vancouver
- 4% Other Provinces & International

### 2024 Reasons for Stay:

