Introduction

Thank-you for your interest in volunteering to host an activity at Ronald McDonald House of Southern New Jersey. The following slides give an overview of Ronald McDonald House volunteer experiences and guidelines for preparing an activity for our families.

Our Mission is to reduce the burden of childhood illness on children and their families by:

- Creating a caring and uplifting environment
- Providing comfortable housing convenient to a hospital facility
- Investing in affiliated programs that comfort and assist children with health concerns, and their families
- Undertaking resource and fund development activities that support our facilities, programs and services

A Year in Review

- House Program - serves nearly 800 families per year with an average stay of 20 days
- Families with children born prematurely or with birth defects, treatment for cancer, eye disease, heart problems, surgery, trauma and more
- Priority is given to families residing 35 or more miles from our HOUSE in Camden
All group members must be free of contagious illnesses (i.e. chicken pox, flu, colds, strep throat, etc.) when volunteering at the House.

Groups should be limited to 4-5 volunteers as this leads to the best House experience for you and our guests. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult. We encourage one adult per three children.

Arrive between 6:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Activities should last no more than 1 hour. All visitors, including volunteer groups, are required to exit the premises by 8:00 pm.

There are 25 families staying in our house, but the number of children participating varies according to their age, health and interest level. We announce activities on a weekly basis but cannot guarantee participation.
Safety Guidelines for Activities

- If your activity includes small parts or pieces, please make sure that you have an alternative activity for children under the age of 3 as these may present a choking hazard.

- If your activity involves any of the following, please follow our suggestions as listed. Please bring a plastic tablecloth to protect our tables during your craft.

  **Glue:** Use glue sticks instead of liquid glue as this allows for faster drying time and less mess.

  **Paint:** Crayola washable paints are suggested.

  **Glitter:** Instead of fine glitter, we suggest glitter glue.

  **Food:** Please do not bring cupcakes or cookies unless approved by RMHSNJ since desserts are provided by our volunteer dinner groups.

- If your activity involves a movie, please make sure that the rating is G or PG. Popcorn is allowed, but must be eaten in the dining room.

- Once families have finished the activity, please allow 15 minutes for cleaning the work area and putting away any extra materials in our craft closet.

- Pay close attention to any small parts that may present a hazard to small children.
Activity Ideas

- All group members must be free of contagious illnesses (i.e. chicken pox, flu, colds, strep throat, etc.) when volunteering at the House.

- Check out our suggestions for activities that families seem to enjoy!
  - Jewelry-Making and Beading
  - Card-Making
  - Seasonal Paper Crafts
  - Massages, Manicures, Haircuts
  - Magic Shows, Balloon Art, Game Night, Bingo

- You are welcomed to view our Pinterest Page where we have a Funtastic Activities Board with tons of fun and easy ideas, visit http://pinterest.com/rmhsnj/
Parking is available in our gated lot. Upon arrival ring the buzzer at the gate. We will open the gate and you may park in any available parking spot. At the back door ring the doorbell and let the front desk know you are here for a scheduled activity. The manager on duty or house volunteer will help you get settled.
Ronald McDonald House of Southern New Jersey would not be successful without the volunteers who graciously give their time and talents to assist our House in offering fun activities for our families.

It is through your dedication and support that we are able to serve so many families year after year.

Thank you for supporting our mission in the “House that Love Built.”