



Keeping families close

**Photo: (left to right – front)** Meghan Scanlon-Roach; Lindsay Adkins; Venisha Taylor-Rivers; Adala Boyd; Kristin Holmes; Zack Murdock; Shamael Mustafa; Jim Vaughn; Justin Tibbals  
**(left to right – back)** Heather Elliott; Nicole Woody; Amanda Puckett; Bert Simmons; Rhamon Silva; Chris Socite; Brandon Bergin; Sonda Teligades

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Truist Lighthouse Project Donates \$10,000 to the Red Hot Renovation Campaign**

*The donation will go towards replacing outdated appliances in the House.*

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. – Dec. 1, 2021 – Ronald McDonald House Charities® (RMHC) of Greater Chattanooga was honored to receive a generous grant through the Truist Lighthouse Project recently. This project required nominations from Truist employees who then voted on the various proposed projects. Ronald McDonald House recently celebrated 30 years of providing services to families of critically-ill children and has plans for renovation of the main kitchen. When Truist employees learned of the project, they wanted to play an important part.

Jane Kaylor, President and CEO of RMHC Chattanooga, shared, “I was so thrilled to receive the phone call from Jim (JV) Vaughn of Truist, asking how their Lighthouse Project could help with our kitchen renovation.” The Lighthouse Project supports Truist’s purpose of inspiring to build better lives and communities.

The replacement of all the appliances in the kitchen is a major line item on the budget for the project, and Truist employees were happy to go shopping with the RMHC staff at All-South Appliances to make the purchase! The main kitchen was built in 1990 and the only improvement in 30 years was the replacement of some appliances in 2000. The main kitchen serves as the “help yourself” food pantry for Ronald McDonald House residents as well as the prep kitchen for the evening meal. During the pandemic, restrictions require food to be served in carry-out containers instead of the typical buffet style. Plans for the new kitchen area include a more efficient layout with one-half of the kitchen being ADA compliant, expanded seating in the dining area, new flooring and improved lighting.

Josh Dempsey, Director of Operations at RMHC Chattanooga, said, “The donation from Truist Lighthouse Project has given us a great start on the project, and we are delighted to have this element of the project donated and purchased!”

Donations to the Red Hot Kitchen Renovation Project can be made by contacting Jane Kaylor at [jane.kaylor@rmhchattanooga.com](mailto:jane.kaylor@rmhchattanooga.com) or calling (423) 778-4331.

**About Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Greater Chattanooga**

*Established in 1990, the mission of Chattanooga's Ronald McDonald House Charities is to provide families with the care and resources they need when their child is sick and to support programs that address the health and well-being of children. RMHC of Greater Chattanooga is an independent, 501(c) 3 registered non-profit that operates solely on donations from individuals, businesses and foundations. The cornerstone programs are the 28-bedroom Ronald McDonald House and the Ronald McDonald Family Room located inside Children's Hospital at Erlanger. McDonald House Charities also offers scholarships to area high school seniors.*

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