



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SIX (6) AREA NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
ARE AWARDED GRANT FUNDS BY
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES®
OF NORTHEASTERN OHIO, INC.

Cleveland, OH, May 25, 2011 — The Board of Directors of [Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Northeastern Ohio, Inc., \(RMHC-NEO\)](#) recently awarded grants in the amount of \$45,217.20 to six (6) area non-profit organizations whose services are provided to children.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northeastern Ohio, Inc., established in 1987 by local McDonald's Owner/Operators, has awarded more than \$7.7 Million to children's programs across Northeast Ohio, including ongoing financial support of the Ronald McDonald Houses in Akron and Cleveland.

- [Alliance Area Domestic Violence Shelter](#) received funds to purchase equipment and items to support recreational activities for children and youth and to renovate the outdoor playground used by children living in the shelter. The mission of the Alliance Area Domestic Violence Shelter is to empower and assist survivors of verbal, emotional, financial, sexual and physical abuse by providing education, resources, emergency shelter and transitional support services. This grant application was endorsed by McDonald's Owner/Operator Gaetano Cecchini, owner of McDonald's restaurants in Alliance.
- [Appleseed Community Mental Health Center](#), located in Ashland, was awarded grant funds to purchase equipment and items to support children and youth living in the [Rape Crisis Domestic Violence SAFE HAVEN](#) shelter. Appleseed Community Mental Health Center provides a wide range of services, including psychiatric, counseling, school programs, anxiety/depression treatment. Rape Crisis Domestic Violence SAFE HAVEN is a program of Appleseed Community Mental Health Center and is the only program in Ashland County providing shelter for survivors of abuse and their children. Their mission is to provide prevention, intervention, support and advocacy, with an emphasis on empowerment, to primary and secondary victims of sexual assault, intimate partner violence and

stalking in Ashland County, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This grant application was endorsed by McDonald's restaurants in Ashland.

- [Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland](#) received grant funds to purchase mobile cafeteria tables to support the Kids Café healthy lifestyle program at area Club locations. The hot meal program, “Kids Café”, is a partnership program with the Cleveland Foodbank and was launched in September 2006. The program has expanded into each of the five traditional Clubs and provides approximately 100,000 meals annually in the form of a warm dinner during the school year and a warm lunch during the summer. The mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland is to inspire and enable young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. This grant application was endorsed by McDonald's Owner/Operator Robert Jursich, Jr., owner of several McDonald's restaurants in the Greater Cleveland area.
- [Ronald McDonald House of Akron](#) was awarded funds to support their annual golf outing.
- [Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland](#) received grant funds to support their annual golf outing and to support their annual fashion show.
- [UNCF/The College Fund](#) was awarded funds to support their annual golf outing.

RMHC-NEO's mission is to support the Ronald McDonald House® programs in Akron and Cleveland and help children by awarding grants to qualified not-for-profit organizations whose programs improve the quality of life for children and their families in Northeastern Ohio. Founded in memory of McDonald's founder, Ray Kroc, RMHC-NEO awards grants to organizations with IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax exempt status whose programs benefit children in the areas of health care, medical research, education, the arts, and civic and social service.

Since the chapter formed in 1987, nearly \$7.8 Million has been awarded to children's programs across Northeast Ohio, including ongoing financial support of the Ronald McDonald Houses in Akron and Cleveland. Grant requests are considered for tax-exempt organizations within the 20 county area represented by McDonald's Restaurant Owner/Operators in Northeast Ohio. The Board of Directors meets three times a year to award funding. Grant application deadlines are early April, early August and early December. For more information, contact Ann Newman, Executive Director, at 216-986-0855, at email Director@rmhc-neo.org or visit the web site at <http://rmhc-neo.org>.

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