

# Volunteer Newsletter

## DECEMBER 2021

Kimberlynn Irene Bailey entered this world with what doctors call half a heart on April 2, weighing 5 pounds, 11 ounces. At 1 day old, she was diagnosed with situs inversus, a condition in which she was missing the left ventricle in her heart, and her organs were flipped.

"I was devastated and confused. I didn't know what was happening," said Kimberlynn's mother, Christina Bailey, from Macon, Georgia. "I was worried I might lose her."

Upon her diagnosis, Kimberlynn was immediately transferred to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. For the past seven months, the Baileys have called our Ronald McDonald House near Eggleston their "home."

"The Ronald McDonald House is exactly like its name says. It's a place where families can stay so they can be near their children while they're in the hospital," Christina says. "Here, you don't have to worry about having to travel between home and the hospital. The House is also comfortable and spacious and has everything a family could need."

Christina says the first time she and Kimberlynn's father, Robert, were able to bring her home to the Ronald McDonald House, "It was the first time my husband and I felt complete."

Staying at the House allows the Baileys to focus more on Kimberlynn and not worry about paying for a hotel, food, or other necessities. "We can spend time with Kimberlynn every day, watch her grow, and be there for her through the most challenging times."

If it weren't for the House, "We wouldn't have been able to afford the travel and probably would have only been able to visit once a week or possibly once a month." Christina says. "They genuinely care about the families staying there, and they go above and beyond to make things as easy as possible for us."

## Meet the Baileys, Eagerly Waiting to Bring Their Baby Home



# Highlights of the Month



2-year-old Braelyn pulling our BMW Raffle finalists!



Congrats to our grand prize winner, Richard Sweitzer!

**Donation from Tiff's Treats to celebrate International Day of Kindness on Nov. 13th!**



## Key Donations

- ♡ Catered Meals
- ♡ Wish List Items
- ♡ Snack Bags
- ♡ Thanksgiving Meals
- ♡ Movie Night Kits
- ♡ Fresh Flowers



# Fun Fact Alert

An almanac prediction states that if snow falls on Christmas Day, Easter will be warm, green, and sunny.



**We are so grateful to have such an amazing team of volunteers to help keep our families close when it matters most. We truly hope that you and your families have a wonderful Holiday Season filled with love, laughter, and warmth. We look forward to seeing you soon!**



## Meal Heroes Needed

**Available Dates at our Peachtree Dunwoody House:**

12/3, 12/7, 12/13, 12/15, 12/23, 12/24, 12/26, 12/30, 12/31

**Available Dates at our Gatewood House:**

12/1, 12/2, 12/5, 12/9, 12/10, 12/13, 12/14, 12/19, 12/20, 12/21, 12/24, 12/26, 12/27, 12/28, 12/29

**Available Dates at our Family Room:**

12/6

## Volunteer Anniversaries

**6 Years**

Teresa Joel

**3 Years**

Jenelle Booth-Kegler



# Upcoming Events

## In-House Volunteer Opportunities!

We are eager to have our individual guest services volunteers back in our Houses!

As we continue to monitor COVID rates in our area, please stay tuned for additional communication about returning to in-House volunteering and available shift times for the month of December.

*Don't forget, you can make a difference for our families when you order on AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases to your favorite charity, @ARMHC, when you shop.*



## Ronald's Holiday Shop

The most wonderful time of the year is finally here! Looking for a meaningful way to give back this holiday season? Consider making a family's holiday wish come true by building an Atlanta RMHC snowman. It's as simple as printing out our snowman poster and adding the printable accessories as you collect #HolidayWishList items for our Houses and families.

Click [here](#) to learn more.



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