



Another Day To Be Thankful For...



Madelyn was born weighing 5 pounds, 7 ounces and was diagnosed with Down Syndrome and two congenital heart defects. One month old and staying at the hospital, in the middle of one scary night, Madelyn went into cardiac arrest. Fortunately, her parents were staying nearby at the RONALD McDONALD HOUSE® and they were able to get to the hospital quickly to be by her side.



After surgery to insert a shunt from her lungs to her heart, Madelyn was able to go home. At one year old, Madelyn was healthy enough to withstand open heart surgery. For a second time, her parents stayed at RMH, thankful for a *HOME-AWAY-FROM-HOME* that allowed them to sleep in shifts, and develop friendships with other families at the House, all while staying close to Madelyn.

Now, after her successful heart surgery, Madelyn is back at home. She's sitting, playing patty cake, and waving! Madelyn's family is just one of the 18,000 families that have benefited from Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Greater Washington, D.C. since we opened our doors in 1980. Though each family has their own story, they all have one thing in common: *you* and the love and support shown through your generous donations.