

# Dear Friend,



Thanks so much for joining the Red Shoe Society. We're excited to team up with you to spread the word about this worthy cause, raise money for families in need and - most importantly - have a lot of fun! This ain't your mama's fundraising group and we've got a lot of great events planned for the year.

Our community is fortunate to have state-of-the-art medical facilities for our children. However, many families have to travel great distances for this level of care. The Long Beach Ronald McDonald House provides a "home away from home" for families at little to no-cost to them. A family is never turned away based on their ability to pay. That's why it's so important we get involved and ensure this great cause continues to flourish.

The House offers a warm environment and compassionate staff for families in distress. If you haven't yet taken the tour, please do so. It's not only a beautiful place, it's a place filled with beautiful and inspiring stories, like Ian.

*Silvia and David's joy and happiness at having a newborn baby quickly changed to sadness when doctors discovered Ian had a malignant tumor in his leg. After extensive chemotherapy and now facing traumatic amputation surgery, the family was connected with the Orthopedic Institute for Children in Los Angeles. Traveling from Mexico, Ian's parents worried about how they would afford an extended stay far from their home. That was when they learned about the LBRMH.*

*"Thanks to the Long Beach Ronald McDonald House we have found a place to stay, and security for Ian. Our stay has been motivating because of the many House activities for Ian to be entertained. We have received incredible comfort and care," Silvia says.*

*Throughout their time in the United States, the Alvarez-Alonso family have experienced all the comforts of home, along with love and support from House staff and volunteers. The Long Beach Ronald McDonald House has been their "home away from home" and helped ease their pain of being separated from family far away.*

Ian's family is just one of the more than 4,000 families (15,000 guests) who have stayed at the House since we opened our doors in December of 2011. Your annual donation of \$125 is the same as the cost to fund a family for one night in the House. So, your contribution makes a tangible difference for the people you're supporting. And, if that's not enough, you're going to get invited to some pretty great parties, too!

Cheers to a great year ahead and to all the things we'll accomplish together.

If you're interested in getting more personally involved with the Red Shoe Society, please contact Natalie Sauer at [info@redshoesocietylb.com](mailto:info@redshoesocietylb.com) to learn about our committees and governing board.

# Thanks!



*Natalie Sauer*

**Natalie Sauer**  
Red Shoe Society, President

*& Susan Wyant-Hermansader*

**Susan Wyant-Hermansader**  
Red Shoe Society, Vice President