

**Linda Dunham,  
Board Chair, Ronald McDonald House Charities®  
McDonald's® Owner/Operator**

Linda Dunham and her husband Lee own and operate seven McDonald's restaurants in New York and New Jersey. The entrepreneurs divide their duties: Lee focuses on the operations of the restaurants and Linda directs the financial, administrative and personnel matters.

After 17 years at Chemical Bank (now JPMorgan Chase), Linda left to join the growing family business. She brought with her the varied skills acquired from many years in the Retail and Private Banking Divisions where she was an Assistant Vice President holding such positions as Branch Manager in large profit centers and as Account Officer specializing in providing select banking services to upscale, high net worth individuals in the Doctors Group.

Eager to learn the business, Linda enrolled in McDonald's Management Training Program. After a year of intensive training and numerous awards for outstanding performance and leadership, she obtained her degree from Hamburger University with the knowledge required to operate McDonald's restaurants. While managing her other duties, she established an ongoing training program for employees to meet the company's goal of providing outstanding customer service. Linda understood that her team had to be well-trained to positively impact the customer's experience. She successfully developed her employees and continues to support their training and transfer of knowledge to others.

Always aware of the importance of giving back to her community, Linda continued her philanthropic efforts at McDonald's. She has supported literacy programs, after-school programs and cultural and artistic programs that help young people reach their fullest potential. Linda has also supported organizations throughout her community and has served on numerous boards locally and nationally to further support the well being children.

As part of these efforts, Linda has been a dedicated and committed member of the Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) Global Board of Trustees for 15 years. The mission of RMHC is to directly improve the health and well being of children around the world. The Charity accomplishes this through the development of its three core programs – the Ronald McDonald House, Ronald McDonald Family Room and Ronald McDonald Care Mobile – and other involvement in local communities, specifically in terms of providing funding for scholarships and grants.

During her tenure as a board member, Linda has been responsible for helping to guide the tremendous growth of RMHC and to expand its ability to help children around the world:

- The Ronald McDonald House program provides a home-away-from-home for the families of hospitalized children. The number of House programs increased from less than 150 in nine countries in 1991 to 275 in 33 countries today. Each night, more than 6,300 bedrooms are available to families in crisis around the world.
- The Ronald McDonald Family Room program provides a place of respite *within* the walls of the hospital. Often located just steps away from neonatal and

- pediatric intensive care units, families of critically ill and injured children can rest, shower, do laundry and eat a home-cooked meal, without leaving their children's sides. Since its establishment in 1992, the number of Family Room programs has grown to 125 in 13 countries.
- The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile program was established in August 2000 to bring cost-effective medical, dental and health education services to underserved children. In just 5 years, this program has grown to 26 Care Mobiles serving more than 80,000 children in Argentina and the United States.

Linda's belief in promoting the health and well being of children extends particularly to children from underserved communities. She has been a champion of providing access to education and career opportunities to graduating high school students from disadvantaged households. Through the RMHC Scholarship programs and contributions by RMHC to other established scholarship programs, the Charity is able to lift children up and reward their academic accomplishments:

Additionally, to further its mission, the Global Board of RMHC awards grants to other nonprofit organizations benefiting children. RMHC grants have made a profound impact in neighborhoods and communities around the world, with more than \$4.4 million awarded to nonprofit organization serving children in 2004 alone.

Linda's commitment to helping children is also exemplified by her service in her own community. In addition to her role on the Global Board of RMHC, Linda serves on the local board for RMHC of the Tri-State, which serves New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. In this capacity, Linda has been instrumental in merging two independent RMHC Chapters into one, in order to expand grant-making ability and to better serve the needs of children in the metropolitan area.

Linda Dunham is a proven leader in terms of service to the global community. Children are the future and hope of the world and Linda's many contributions are bringing this hope to life – one child at a time.