## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Since moving to the Lowcountry over a decade ago, I have had the privilege of serving as the Chairman of the Board of Directors for RMHC Charleston for 5 years. It is now my great honor to lead the efforts in this Capital Campaign. I invite you to join us in *Expanding Hope*.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Charleston offers comfort, encouragement, and hope to families during their children's treatment at MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital and neighboring medical centers.

Since opening our doors in 1983, we have served over 70,000 families, and we have reached a critical point. Over the past five years, we have turned away an average of 550+ families annually. With MUSC's recent expansion and continued award-winning excellence in pediatrics, these numbers are growing; we must add rooms.

For this reason, we are thrilled to announce that we have successfully secured the land through MUSC and approximately half of the estimated \$25,000,000 of funds needed to expand the House.

We hope you will be inspired by our need. You will be joining a community of donors committed to creating compassionate environments and programs that provide families the best chance of success in caring for their children with complex medical needs.

Gratefully,

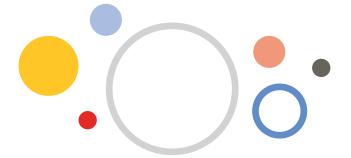
**Bert Hefke** 

Chairman Emeritus Capital Campaign, Chair

"MUSC is very excited about the Ronald McDonald Charities of Charleston Expansion. Since 1983, RMHC Charleston has been a staple of our community, offering a safe harbor for the families of critically ill children, and been a critical partner with MUSC. Expanding this 'Home-away-from-home' will magnify its impact for our community, and help us to better meet the rising demand for specialized pediatric health care services. It is only with the help of community partners such as the Ronald McDonald House that we can provide the best possible care

—David J. Cole, M.D., FACS,President of the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC).

to the families of the children we serve."





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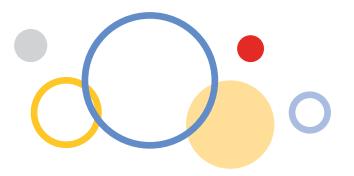
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