



Ronald McDonald Care Mobile FAQ

What is the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile program? The goal of the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile program is to serve as a bridge to accessible health care, improve health outcomes, and provide continuity of care for underserved children around the world. This community-based approach identifies children who otherwise would go without medical care. The 40-foot vehicles travel directly into areas where children are medically underserved, offering high-quality medical care and health education.

What makes the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile program unique?

- **Prevention:** We deliver health education, which reduces overall medical costs, addresses behavior and lifestyle choices and helps motivate families to improve and maintain their health.
- **Treatment:** We provide services ranging from immunizations to preventive check-ups.
- **Referral:** Medical providers will work with families to help them gain access to ongoing care with a primary doctor.

Why do we need a Ronald McDonald Care Mobile in Northeast Indiana?

A high percentage of families in the communities the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile will serve are low-income. Because of this, and because of statistics such as the below, we are honored to present a Care Mobile to the communities of Northeast Indiana.

- Approximately 22% of all households in northeast Indiana have an income less than \$25,000
- Homeless shelters in Allen County are typically fully. In 2016, the Rescue Mission served 217,000 meals to homeless individuals. Additionally, there are approximately 10,000 people without a permanent residence.
- Infant mortality (death of a baby before his/her first birthday continues to be higher than that of the rest of Indiana and much higher than the rest of the U.S.
- According to the CDC, approximately 13% of children 3-17 have a developmental or behavioral disability; many are not diagnosed before the age of 10. Research shows early intervention greatly improves a child's development.
- Sixty percent of uninsured children do not visit a physician's office during the year, and more than half have no care from a provider of any type (physician or non-physician) in an office-based setting.
- Uninsured children are at greater risk of experiencing health problems such as obesity, heart disease and asthma that continue to affect them later in adulthood.

Do Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles only treat children? Yes. Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles provide health care and health education services to children from birth to 21 years old. Because of the incredible healthcare need for young children in our community, the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile of Northeast Indiana will specifically treat child zero to 5 years old.

Does the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile program replace regular visits to a doctor? Services provided on a Ronald McDonald Care Mobile are not meant to replace regular visits to a doctor. Rather, they

provide an entry point into a regular pattern of health care for vulnerable children, with the goal of connecting the child and his or her family to a medical home.

Do families have to pay for health care services provided by Ronald McDonald Care Mobile? For patients who present with self or no insurance, there will be no charge for care. For patients who present with Medicaid or other third party insurances PPG will process the insurance for consistency and due to contractual requirements. However, PPG will not collect a co-pay nor will a bill be sent to the patient. The care received on the RMCM is truly free of charge.

What services will the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile provide? Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles provide a number of services based on the needs of the community, including:

- Primary care, well-child visits and developmental screening
- Hearing
- Vision
- Vaccination
- Point of Care testing
- Strep test
- Influenza screening
- Lead screening
- Fluoride treatment
- Health & Safety education

How many Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles are there? There are currently 39 Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles in the United States. There are 50 Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles in the world. The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile of Northeast Indiana will be the 40th in the United States.

Where do Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles operate worldwide? Through relationships with clinical service providers, Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles currently operate in nine countries in Argentina, Canada, Latvia, New Zealand, Poland, Thailand, Indonesia, Australia and the U.S.

Where will the Care Mobile of Northeast Indiana operate? Our Care Mobile will operate in Allen, Huntington, LaGrange, Whitley, Wabash, and Noble counties. The Care Mobile will operate 4 days a week based on a set calendar which will be published to the community.

Who is providing the medical care? Parkview Physicians Group will provide medical and education services for the Care Mobile of Northeast Indiana.

When will the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile arrive? The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile is expected to arrive in June 2018 and begin operations in July 2018.

How can I support the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile? Individual and corporate donations are welcome. For more information on how you can become a sponsor or make a donation, please contact Teresa White at (260) 266-3593.