Hello Everyone,

Just wanted to send a quick note about a special event the Bieber Gebhardt Advisory Group was pleased to be a part of this past week. On Thursday September 17th we were invited into the lives of 14 families who call the Ronald McDonald House home. A short walk from the Health Science Centre is a large brick house, a shining monument for those that know of it...and any other building for those that speed by.

**A bit of a preamble**

Before we took part in the event, we really didn't have any idea what the RMH was about. As kids, many of us shared in what Darrell reminisces what the house was; he imagined the RMH as a fun place for kids to go play with the Hamburgler, Grimace and of course Ronald McDonald. Little did we know that it was a place for families to seek refuge while their sick children are being treated for various health issues at the nearby hospital.

**Facts about the house**

Hometown: Winnipeg, MB  
Affiliated hospitals: Winnipeg Children’s Hospital, St-Boniface Hospital  
Opened: 1984 with 14 bedrooms  
Number of families helped each year: 687  
Number of families on a waiting list per year: 100  
13 staff members and 200 volunteers make the house a home  
Many shared spaces including a large kitchen, family dining room and kids play area
Prepping our home cooked meal

No matter how small the effort, it does make a difference

We simply made dinner...sounds easy enough, but to these families it’s all the difference. A home cooked meal has healing qualities. These parents and siblings spend long days in the hospital with no other thoughts on their mind other than the well-being of their loved one. Every member had a job to do, from prepping fruits and veggie trays, to bbq duties, to setting tables. Most importantly though, we tried to make everyone in the house comfortable. We met a number of very nice families whose only concern was when their child was able to leave the hospital with a clean bill of health. The home for dinner initiative provides a touch of normacy in their lives and that’s all that really mattered to us. Coming home for dinner is a chance to relax and recharge. We tried to brighten the day, see above.
Ronald McDonald's personality rubbing off on us

Ronald McDonald is a real person not just a statue outside of McDonald's Restaurant

Under the guise of Ronald himself, we tried to lift the spirits of those around us. We snapped a few photos while we were making “funny” faces. Some of the children were not impressed. Here is a breakdown of what we are doing here. Jeff...is really excited. Brock, trying not to breath is inevitably a little dizzy. Peter, is adjusting his glasses and airing out his eyeballs. Darrell is being cheeky. Matt is at the wrong party, pirates weren’t invited. Finally, Jenna whom happens to not be pictured here—may or may not be afraid of Ronald McDonald.
How you can help the Ronald McDonald House continue its mission

We highly recommend you host your own dinner at the house. Wendy was very accommodating for us and let us know exactly what we needed to bring and how many to cook for. It’s a great idea for a work function, a volunteer group or as a family to dedicate some time and energy to those that need it most.

RMH Contact: Wendy Galagan  
House Manager  
204-774-4777  
Galagan.wendy@rmhmanitoba.org  
www.rmhmanitoba.org

The Bieber Gebhardt Advisory Group  
National Bank Financial Wealth Management  
200 Waterfront Drive, Suite 400  
Winnipeg, MB, R3B 3P1

Office: 204 925 5174  
Fax: 204 942 6194  
Email: contact@biebergebhardt.com  
Website: www.biebergebhardt.com