



April 19, 2010

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I am writing to you as the President of the Board of Directors for Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas. The first thing I want to do is thank you for your generous support. You know how important that is to us.

Secondly, in light of the unfortunate closure of one of Austin's non-profit organizations, I want to share with you some of the Board Governance Guidelines and practices that we adhere to so we can best ensure that your financial contributions are carefully accounted for and used as you intend.

- Every Board member is provided with Board Governance Guidelines that outline the responsibilities each board member has in ensuring the fiduciary strength and mission focused success of our organization.
- We have strict board term limits to ensure we have an annual influx of new ideas and fresh eyes to keep our organizational practices relevant and effective.
- We have board sub-committees, including a finance committee that is comprised of current board members as well as financial experts from the community.
- Our Board President or Board Treasurer is involved in the selection and oversight of our auditing firm.
- Drafts of our audit and IRS 990 are examined by our finance committee.
- The final audit and IRS 990 are distributed to each board member for review and comment.
- The audit and IRS 990 are reviewed by the Ronald McDonald House Charities Global accounting office for accuracy and adherence to charity guidelines.
- All Board members are provided organization financial information when requested.
- Kent Burress, our Chief Executive Officer, is evaluated annually by the full board under the direction of our Human Resource Committee.

Certainly, this is not an exhaustive list but I hope this information will re-affirm your trust and confidence in Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas. If you ever have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me directly, or Kent Burress at the Ronald McDonald House.

In closing, I would not be exercising one of my other important board duties if I did not also use this opportunity to ask for your continued generous support of Austin's Ronald McDonald House. You've helped make a big difference in thousands of lives.

Best Regards,

President, Board of Directors
Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas