



Hanover Rotary Club Minutes 9/12/2018

Hanover Rotarians:

Visiting Rotarians: None

Guests: Kimberley Sherrill, Prospective Member

Speaker(s): Kerry Blumberg, RMHC of Richmond

Grace: Mike **Pledge:** Norm

Important Dates:

- Friday, Sept. 28th, Golf with Glenn, to raise money for Henrico North Rotary Club, donations to this event are encouraged.

Other Announcements:

- Rotary Minute: Ken: The Rotary Gear Wheel was created in Chicago in 1922. Thanks Ken!
- Congratulations to JoAnn for achieving her Paul Harris Fellow plus 5!
- Welcome Kimberly to our club! She will be transferring from the Manassas Club.
- Clint went to Rise against Hunger on the 7th – good event with a good turnout.
- District Conference is the weekend of Sept. 28th and 29th.
- Plantation Peanut Sales fundraiser is coming up. JoAnn handed out order forms. Orders are due November 14th.
- Marshall is doing okay – while he is not at the meeting tonight – do not fret – he is still on track for perfect attendance ☺ He made up at Mechanicsville this morning!

Program: Kerry Blumberg, Executive Director, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Richmond

- RMHC's mission is to provide temporary housing to families of youth who are receiving care at our local hospitals. They want to provide a comfortable hub for families as they go through these difficult circumstances.
- They are located in Richmond on Monument Avenue between Strawberry and Davis Streets; they opened in 1980 and have been open 24/7, 365 days a year ever since.
- They have 9 bedrooms in their home and also offer shuttle service to 10 area hospitals.
- Volunteers cook warm meals for families every day and on the weekends; they also deliver 65 lunches to the hospitals every week.
- The average length of stay for families in their home is nine days, however, the longest family stay has been 18 months.
- They have served families from 80 different counties in VA and 7 foreign countries.
- The average rate for a one night stay is \$1.41/night, however, only 16% of families are able to pay and no family is ever turned away for their inability to pay.
- They work with social workers from all over the city and help coordinate transportation for families.
- In addition to offering the rooms in their house, they also have programs they facilitate within a few local hospitals.
 - They have 2 rooms at St. Mary's and 3 rooms at Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU

- They also have a new sibling center and run a program called Happy Wheels – a cart that runs at 3 hospitals – serving 40 families each day that they run it.
- This year, volunteers at RMHC logged over 12,000 hours of volunteer service!
- 20% of their operating budget comes from McDonald's.
- In our region, there are 70 McDonald's stores that are owned by 18 local owners.
- A penny from every happy meal goes to their local program.
- Monday the 24th is their largest fundraiser, Red Shoe Rendezvous, a business casual event where they host tastings from 15 area restaurants – Highly recommended!
- RMHC have 5 full time staff and 12 part time staff.
- There are 189 RMHC's chapters in the US.
- They just had a feasibility study done and they found that the true need is for 62 rooms/night.
- There are a few organizations in our community who provide these types of services however, RMHC is the only organization that serves pediatric families.
- Here is the link to their upcoming fundraiser... <https://www.rmhc-richmond.org/events/the-red-shoe-rendezvous/>

4-Way Test: David E. for Marshall ☺