

# The Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare Foundation COMMUNITY UPDATE

September / October 2010

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES OF TALLAHASSEE  
and Ronald McDonald House Charities Global

## *Donate Family Lounge in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at TMH*

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tallahassee and Ronald McDonald House Charities Global have donated funding for a Family Lounge in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the Tallahassee Memorial Women's Pavilion. According to Kathy Anderson, Executive Director and President of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tallahassee, "At Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tallahassee, it is our mission to create, fund and support programs that directly improve the health and well being of children. We are pleased to provide this funding for the Family Lounge in the NICU at Tallahassee Memorial."

Three existing rooms in the Tallahassee Memorial Women's Pavilion, with a combined 495 square feet and located immediately outside the doors to the Level II NICU and Level III NICU, were renovated to house the Family Lounge. The first room is the Patient (Family) Education Center with educational materials and resources. The second room is the Refreshment Center with an under-counter refrigerator, microwave, ice machine, sink, table, chairs and telephone. Both the first and second rooms open onto the NICU hall. The third room is the Quiet Room that can be accessed only through the Refreshment Center. It will have soft lighting, a couch, chair, lamp, art work and a television. All rooms have complimentary Wi-Fi internet access for guests. This is consistent with the rest of the TMH campus.

TMH offers the only Level III (highest designation) NICU in a 20-county area of North Florida and South Georgia. More than 650 infants annually are admitted to the NICU and their stays can range from one day to weeks. Kathy Waleko, R.N., Ph.D. who serves as the Administrator of Women's and Children's Services at Tallahassee Memorial said, "The Family Lounge will be open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and will provide a wonderful environment for parents and families to have a cup of coffee, watch television and relax in a quiet space."

"The renovation project was completed in August and the date for the dedication ceremony will be announced in the fall," said Paula

Fortunas, President and CEO of the TMH Foundation. "TMH is exceedingly grateful for this Lounge that will serve both the physical and emotional needs of parents and families of critically ill babies and it is on their behalf that we applaud and recognize the local and global Ronald McDonald House Charities and the other major contributors – Ingram Enterprises and Carpet Studio."

Gary Stout, President and Owner of Ingram Enterprises, said, "We are very proud to support TMH by contributing toward the Family Lounge which is a comfortable, relaxing area for parents and families of the NICU patients." Both Gary Stout and his wife Joan Stout, who serves on the Board of Directors of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tallahassee, are long-time supporters of TMH. Carpet Studio Sales Manager Charles Maphis added, "It is a pleasure for Carpet Studio to participate in this important addition to the NICU at TMH where it will benefit so many families."



*Kiki Dunton, Immediate Past Chair of the Board of Directors for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tallahassee, Kathy Waleko, RN, PhD, Administrator of Women's and Children's Services at Tallahassee Memorial and Kathy Anderson, President/Executive Director for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tallahassee enjoy new surroundings in the Family Lounge's "Quiet Room."*



*Left to Right: Shelly Frazier, RN and Linda Frimmel, RN, BSN, NICU Nurse Manager, review the Family Lounge construction plans with donors Gary Stout who is President of Ingram Enterprises and Joan Stout who serves on the Board of Directors for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Tallahassee.*



**Tallahassee Memorial  
HealthCare Foundation**