



Home for Dinner Guidelines

How does this volunteer opportunity work?

Volunteers plan the menu, buy the groceries, bring the ingredients to the House to cook, set out the meal, clean up and enjoy dinner with the families.

Meals must be prepared or assembled onsite at the Ronald McDonald House. Meals may also be delivered from a restaurant or catering service. Due to health code, we cannot serve meals or foods that are prepared in a non-commercial (i.e., home) kitchen.

The kitchen is fully equipped and fully stocked with all the cookware and utensils you will need. If there is a special piece of equipment you need, call to find out if we have it. If not, you will need to bring your own.

The kitchen has plenty of plates, bowls, glasses, silverware, etc. for the families to use.

Volunteer group size: Groups should not exceed more than 6 people, both youth and adults combined.

Dinner: Prepare enough to feed at least 20 people. **Dinner should be ready by 5 pm.** Please have 2 - 3 volunteers available to clean up and put away leftovers by 6 pm.

The week before your scheduled date: The House Manager will confirm your volunteer date and time via email and indicate if you need to prepare more or less food than the guidelines indicated above.

Arrival time: It depends on how long it will take to prepare your meal and have it ready by dinner time. Most groups arrive an hour before dinner time, but your group can arrive earlier if needed.

Meals should include: A salad, a main course, a vegetable/side and fresh fruit for dessert. Please limit the amount of sweets.

Ingredient warnings: Please indicate, with a note, any ingredients used that are known allergens (e.g., peanuts, shellfish, etc.).

Meal presentation: Meals are set out buffet style. Although many families may not be present at the time the food is prepared, all meals are thoroughly enjoyed when our families return from the hospital.

All volunteers must be free of contagious diseases (e.g., flu, colds, etc.) when volunteering.

Alcohol: Volunteers are not permitted to bring or consume alcohol on the premises.

Photographs: Please limit photos to your group only. Due to our families' confidentiality, photos of them may not be taken. However, please feel free to share your group's photos with us by sending them to pat@rmhmanitoba.org

Cancellation Policy: If your group is unable to fulfill its commitment, please let us know no later than one week prior to your volunteer date. If you need to cancel on shorter notice, please consider having food delivered to our House, such as pizza or sandwiches.

The families staying at our House are going through a stressful time. Please remember to respect their needs by keeping the environment at our House peaceful and friendly.