

Guidelines for Hosting A Meal

Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Carolinas

Preparing a meal for our families is a wonderful way to volunteer at the House! After a long and sometimes emotional day, our families look forward to coming “home” to a fresh, hot meal. Thank you so much for volunteering your time to help Keep Families Close!

Activity	# of Cooks	Arrival Time	Serving Time	# to Feed
Dinner	Up to 10	4PM Daily (Catering Arrival Time 5:30PM)	6PM - 7:30PM	25-40
Brunch	Up to 10	8AM on Weekends	10AM - 11:30AM	15-25

A Few Details:

The Team Leader is welcome to set up a time to meet with our Volunteer Coordinator at the House to review the kitchen and meal team expectations in advance.

All food must be prepared onsite. Foods prepared in a commercial kitchen are allowed, but we cannot serve items cooked at home. If you choose to provide dessert, we recommend cake, cupcakes, or ice cream.

Catered meals should be delivered at 5:30PM.

Volunteers are welcome to stay and enjoy your meal with our residents, but please understand that families are in and out of the House all day long. You may not see many of our guests while you are here but know that the food WILL be eaten and enjoyed!

You may bring tea or lemonade, but we have plenty of coffee and soft drinks! We also have an ice machine here on site, so no need to worry about bringing ice.

Remember to bring any and all ingredients you will need. We have pots, pans, dishes, baking sheets, crock pots, and an outdoor grill. We have 2 ovens and 2 stoves so there is plenty of room for your group to come in to prepare a meal. We will ask you to use plastic gloves while cooking that we will provide upon arrival.

For your menu, you can be as creative as you like. However, we ask that you contact the volunteer services coordinator to see what has already been prepared that week so we can provide a variety of meals for our guests.

We normally keep mustard, ketchup, mayonnaise, butter, and jelly on hand so you would not need to bring those. If a salad is included with your meal, we suggest only fixing for half the people.

If you have not confirmed within a 48 hour period, we will proceed to make or order dinner for the house. Due to limited resources cancellations less than 24 hours in advance are difficult for RMHCC staff. Please take this into consideration when committing to a volunteer activity. If you are unable to show for your scheduled meal, please call the House immediately at 864-235-0506 to discuss alternate meal arrangements, as we appreciate you providing for the meal in any way possible.

Cleaning Details:

To keep our House as comfortable as possible for our residents, we ask that you clean up after your group is done cooking. We ask that you put all dirty dishes in the dishwasher and clean up any excess food on the counter or floor.

Our staff will clean up the uneaten food and buffet area after all of our families have had a chance to eat, so your group does not have to worry about putting away any dishware the food is served in.

