



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central New York Announces Youth Advisory Board Members

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central New York has named six local students to its 2016 Youth Advisory Board, including **Allie Baldwin**, a senior at Skaneateles High School; **Abbey Bombard**, a sophomore at Bishop Ludden Junior-Senior High School; **Erica Byrne**, a junior at Skaneateles High School; **Cassie Galusha**, a senior at Jamesville-DeWitt High School; **Alexis Martin**, a sophomore at Cicero-North Syracuse High School; and **Elsa Shafer**, a senior at Fayetteville-Manlius High School.

The mission of the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central New York Youth Advisory Board is to create projects that educate young people about the value of philanthropy and volunteerism in the community. As a group, the board plans and conducts fundraising events, community events and volunteer activities that raise awareness and funds for the organization. Most recently, the board coordinated activities and decorated for a Super Bowl Sunday party and baked pies for Thanksgiving dinner at the House.

“The Youth Advisory Board works together to help provide a ‘home away from home’ for guest families,” said Beth Trunfio, executive director, Ronald McDonald House Charities of CNY. “The students are positive role models in school and at the CNY Ronald McDonald House and the experience helps instill the value of leadership skills and a passion for giving back to the community.”

The Youth Advisory Board is led by its volunteer advisor, Garry Payne, a former president of the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central New York Board of Directors. For more information about the Youth Advisory Board, or to learn how to join, please call 315-476-1027 or email btrunfio@rmhcny.org.

About Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Central New York: Ronald McDonald House Charities of CNY operates the CNY Ronald McDonald House 24 hours a day, year-round as a “home away from home” for families whose children are hospitalized with serious illnesses or injuries. For just \$25 a night per family, the House provides the convenience of a comfortable room and warm bed, a home-cooked meal, and support and compassion. The fully accessible Ronald McDonald House allows the organization to help keep even more families with seriously ill children together. For more information or to donate, visit www.rmhcny.org.

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