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**THE FOOD BANK OF EASTERN MICHIGAN RECEIVES GRANT FROM  
RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES**

**FLINT, Mich., Feb. 10, 2009** – Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) of Outstate Michigan announced that it will award a \$30,988 grant to the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan for its *BackPack to Better Nutrition* program. The program provides backpacks filled with nutritious foods for undernourished school children to take home over the weekend. The RMHC dollars will be used to expand the program to Williams Elementary School.

With an economically disadvantaged rate of 99.7 percent, Williams is one of the most disadvantaged of the Flint Public Schools. “There is a crucial need to expand this program,” says Lesa Dion, Executive Director of RMHC of Outstate Michigan, “We are glad to do our part in helping serve these children.” The *BackPack to Better Nutrition* program will serve nearly all of the students at Williams Elementary School for the 2009 school year.

Ronald McDonald House Charities seeks, finds and supports programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children. Since 1990, RMHC of Outstate Michigan, which serves 66 Michigan counties, has supported programs, projects and organizations that focus on the social, physical and emotional well-being of children. In 2008, RMHC of Outstate Michigan donated nearly \$600,000 to children's programs, including \$50,000 donations to both the Ronald McDonald House of Western Michigan and the Ronald McDonald House of Mid-Michigan. For more information please visit [www.michiganrmhc.org](http://www.michiganrmhc.org) or contact Lesa Dion at 616-669-0953.

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