

PROJECT PROFILE



RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

PRODUCT

PERI UP ROSETT FLEX Modular Scaffolding System

MANUFACTURER

PERI UP Scaffolding

SERVICE

BRACE Integrated Services - Midwest

THE CHALLENGE

The latest addition to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Kansas City's (RMHC-KC) "campus" near Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri opened its doors Thursday, February 12, 2015. This third Ronald McDonald House, named the Wylie House is located at 2525 Cherry Street. Free lodging is offered here to the families of children needing medical care. Together the three homes and Ronald McDonald Family Room inside of Children's Mercy Hospital can accommodate up to 87 families at a time. At a cost of about \$5.6 million, this newest house is 21,000 square feet and was largely tailored by designer Jennifer Bertrand of Olathe. Ms. Bertrand's family has benefited

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from Ronald McDonald House Charities due to complications with her 5-year-old son, Winston. The donor sculpture was contributed by Chris Duh of Shawnee.

For over 20 years, Chris Duh has designed, illustrated and developed an endless number of artistic assignments and launched many creative adventures as a project manager for Hallmark Cards and philanthropic agencies across the country. Chris had an innovative and imaginative idea designed to offer hope and inspiration for guests of the house, as well as pay tribute to RMHC-KC project donors.

The challenges were SPACE and TIME. By the time Chris and his team of artists were able to begin their part of the project decorating the 48-foot sculpture, there were two weeks left before the grand opening and ceremony. On top of the two week time frame, the work area had changed causing a safety issue. The area became approximately 9' x 2.5' x 50' tall containing the three 4 inch diameter 48-foot tall vertical sculptured pipes anchored in the basement rising through the center of a staircase to the third floor. The sculpture was installed early in the construction of the house, well before the construction of the stairwell. By the time Chris Duh was on site to apply his artistic vision of fabrics and mosaics to the pipes the stairs were complete and being stained. Access to the sculpture was limited, unsafe and had become a confined space posing a problem for standard end frame scaffolding.



THE SOLUTION

Mary Pat Kinney a volunteer artist reached out to BRACE Integrated Services. BRACE evaluated the situation and was able to develop and provide a solution for the confined space using PERI UP Rosett Flex Modular scaffolding. BRACE's scaffold design fit nicely within the 30 inch wide area. The scaffold frame was stabilized by extending horizontally onto the floor at each level. This was accomplished by having two vertical posts in the stairwell and three vertical posts outside the stairwell on the adjacent floor. The posts were attached to horizontal ledgers going through the stairwell rails stabilizing the entire scaffold frame. BRACE then decked around the vertical sculptured pipes providing a full 360 degree access around the sculpture as well as the height needed for the artists to fabric and mosaic the pipes.



THE RESULT

Filling the entire inside of the stairwell of the Ronald McDonald House with PERI UP Rosett Flex Modular scaffolding allowed safe decorating by the Artists. The ease-of-use and flexibility of the PERI scaffold permitted the artists to complete the project in under two weeks with a safe working environment for all the artists bringing Chris Duh's vision to light. Once the work was completed, BRACE Integrated Services dismantled the scaffold unveiling the finished sculpture titled "Hope Grows Here". Chris' sculpture used more than 15,000 small mosaic tiles applied to 10 sections of tubular steel, extending from the basement to the third floor. Most of the sections are tiled in green however one section features a myriad of colors that flow into one another, creating a breathtaking focal point. A second part of the sculpture is 130 feet of pipe wrapped with colorful commercial wool felt. On the first floor the sculpture displays round donor plaques ranging from 9 inches to 3 feet in diameter. The plaques are lit with LED lights that showcase the donors' names and create a feeling of vitality through transparent moving light.

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BRACE-PP0013-EN-P July 2015