

# ourHome

Ronald McDonald House

Winter 2008-2009



The Strength  
of Family

# Our Home

## Making this House a Magnificent Home

The summer of 2008 will always be remembered as the year we immeasurably enhanced our family's rooms and in doing so, found two magnificent partners. We embarked on a major renovation of our 37 bedrooms and 40 bathrooms. Our priority was to create a peaceful, joyful and functional space that allows families as much normalcy and pleasure as possible. To ensure that we would exceed every expectation - and we did - we partnered with **Sunderland Interiors** and **Ilex Construction & Development, Inc.**

**Susan Sunderland** and her team spent months and hundreds of hours working to design and prepare our new rooms for renovation. She was very familiar with our home and our children as she had designed our state of the art kitchens just one year prior. Although we had some "discussion" regarding

the pumpkin and eggplant paint colors, Susan's expertise created a dream room enabling comfort and fun for all our families. One Mom noted with excitement, "The rooms are so alive!" Susan's gift of time and talent enabled us to have what our children deserve - the very best!

Ilex arrived in May with an incomparable team. Project Manager, **Mike Moore** and Site Supervisor, **Jim Russell** inherited our happy home and a challenging situation. We didn't want to inconvenience or disturb our families in-house, we wanted to continue serving as many families as possible so work had to progress quickly, and not one of our 37 rooms was exactly the same. We knew up front our 26 year old house would provide endless surprises along the way and it certainly did!

What we didn't expect was the deep partnership that was forged around the incredible work Ilex accomplished in record time. Each person on the team, those employed by Ilex and the subcontractors who joined them, connected with our families. Before the end of summer, Ilex employees prepared and served dinner and breakfast (twice) for all our families. Doug Croker, President of Ilex, has a team that is professionally and personally without equal.



Above: Raymundo's feet left the ground when he first saw his newly renovated room

**Jim Russell** managed the internal team flawlessly. He kept the work moving and the men motivated. Our operation was not altered, our care of the families was uninterrupted and the transformation was impeccable.

**Mike Moore** created the strategy for the overall plan and redirected as each new challenge emerged. He scrutinized the schedule daily with cost saving maneuvers enabled at every turn. His oversight ensured our donations were spent wisely and efficiently and not a penny was squandered. The end result success we enjoyed is a tribute to Mike's demand for perfection, attention to detail and "eyes on" management.

We are fortunate that many additional partners joined us along the way by contributing their time, resources and discounts for the material and labor required. Our thanks can only be surpassed by the heartfelt gratitude of the thousands of children and families who will call these beautiful, new rooms their HOME.

### A Million Thanks:

**Ilex Construction & Development, Inc., Ilex Woodworking, Sunderland Interiors, Inc., Lumber Liquidators, Benjamin Moore Paints, Mattress Discounters, The Big Screen Store, BFPE International, Inc., W & W Plumbing, Andersen Window & Doors, JMT Engineering, Hirsch Electric, California Closets, Centerline Tile, Counter Intelligence Inc., Aircraft Hvac, A J Michael's**

**MARY, LISA & LEEANN FROM ILEX - FOR YOUR ENERGY, HAPPY DEMEANOR & FRIENDSHIP!**

**Ilex President Doug Croker (center), Kent Darrell, Mike Moore & Jim Russell visit with our children as Ilex prepares breakfast for all our families**

