

SPOTLIGHT ON THE 2009 HOPE AWARDS



The 2009 Hope Award Recipients (left to right): Steve Simon, Bruce Dimpflmaier, Shelly Talan and David Lipson

ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29TH, THE LIVING ROOM OF RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE OF NEW YORK WAS FILLED TO CAPACITY honoring the four recipients of the 2009 Hope Awards. In only its second year, the Hope Award has become a symbol of pride and honor amongst our volunteers and communities. “We understand how very important their work is in supporting our children and families,” says Ralph Vogel, Director of Human Resources, Volunteers & Programs. “We felt that we had to recognize it in a special way.”

The 2009 Hope Award recipients – Bruce Dimpflmaier, David Lipson, Steve Simon and Shelly Talan – have all gone above and beyond to create Hope in the lives of children and families suffering through the trials of pediatric cancer treatment, according to their colleagues. All four recipients have found their own unique voice in giving with the one unifying trait amongst them in the simplicity of their desire to serve others, above themselves. For example, though Steve Simon is responsible for organizing events for the kids that are as huge as flying them to the

North Pole to meet Santa, he also delivers bouquets of flowers to his fellow volunteers, acknowledging the efforts and the importance of their work. Though David Lipson has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support the House, he has been seen performing grunt work with his own three kids at House events and has also become a constant source of moral support for both staffers and volunteers. Shelly Talan’s many Monday night events – the Carnivals and Sock Hops – as well as her magical ability to bring in substantial in-kind support for the House pale in comparison to the infectious joy she radiates and the smiles and laughter her presence, alone, have brought to the children (as well as everyone else at the House). Bruce Dimpflmaier is best known for feeding our children and families delicious, beautiful and nutritious food, not just on a monthly basis but at events as large as the annual Team Ronald McDonald fundraiser and our yearly block party. But, he is also known as someone who feeds the spirit of the House in his own quiet and understated way by making each and every family a priority beginning with a single hot meal after a long

day of chemotherapy and ending with the gift of allowing each of those families precious time to just be together.

RMDH of NY is lucky to have hundreds of volunteers who possess the spirit of giving exemplified by our 2009 Hope Award recipients. It is important to note that, as an organization, the impact of the volunteers and the community and the work they do is extremely significant and affects the well being of every person touched by their generosity, loyalty and commitment to the mission of the House. It is with extreme gratitude that we thank them for the work they have already done and the work they will continue to do well into the future. ✨

THE 2009 SELECTION COMMITTEE:

Neville Bean, Erin Byram, Jennifer Reilly, Jo Lowndes Sevely, Carol Toscano, Robert Vandeweghe

THE 2008 HOPE AWARD WINNERS:

Jef Campion, Phyllis Hahn, Vivian Harris, Stephen Petrillo, Niki Sideris