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Ronald McDonald House Charities of Mid-Missouri appoints new executive director

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Terri Gray, executive director of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Mid-Missouri

COLUMBIA, Mo. — The Board of Directors of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Mid-Missouri recently named Terri Gray as the new executive director.

As executive director, Gray will focus on the completion of the new Ronald McDonald House at 3501 E. Lansing Ave. She is working to have the house completed and fully functional by early 2014. She will also be responsible for implementing the vision established by the Board, organizational plans, policies and procedures. Her additional responsibilities include directly supervising all staff, management decisions and functions. She assumed her new position Feb. 1, 2013.

Keith Schawo, president of the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Mid-Missouri, said that Gray was a natural fit for the position.

“During the search for a new executive director, Terri emerged as the clear front-runner,” Schawo said. “We are excited to have Terri lead the House as we wrap up our capital campaign, finish construction of the new House and start a new era for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Mid-Missouri.”

Gray has worked with the organization since 2011. She most recently served as both the charity’s major gifts officer and capital campaign director. A lot of her work has been directly tied to funding construction and development for the new relocated Ronald McDonald House. As executive director, she will continue to be involved in all aspects of the campaign including fundraising, marketing, communications, special events and construction planning.

Gray received a bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University of Missouri. In addition to her work in fundraising, she is experienced in marketing and branding, stewardship, volunteer coordination and organization management.

Before working with the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Mid-Missouri, Gray spent more than 15 years as a member of MU’s development team. In this position, she established and served as director of MU’s Office of Corporate Relations and director of development for the Division of Student Affairs.

She is also active in community organizations, including serving as leader of her daughter’s



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The new House has completed its first of construction, which established the exterior of the building. The start date for phase two of construction, which will finish the interiors and furnishings, has yet to be determined. The charity has welcomed and cared for more than 25,000 families of seriously ill and injured children since opening in Columbia in 1983.

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