



HOUSTON

*Sharing the strength of our home*

## Catching Up: David

Many children and families come through the doors at our Texas Children's Hospital locations each year. We hear many stories about how the House and 4 Family Rooms there provide the comforts of *home* for worried parents and friends. Recently, one family decided they wanted to give back to these programs that they used when their 18 year old son was diagnosed with leukemia.

In September of 2007, David was a freshman on a baseball scholarship at the University of Houston. He was actively volunteering with his team for Dr. ZoAnn Dryer at Texas Children's Hospital when he received bad news himself.

David overcame leukemia and has been in remission since January of 2011. Though he is active in the Snowdrop Foundation and Young Texans Against Cancer, his family wanted to give back to the Ronald McDonald Family Rooms at Texas Children's Hospital.

David's mom, Ellen, nominated him for [Ching's Champions](#), part of the Houston Dynamo Charities. He, along with four others, was selected for a speedy shopping spree at Kroger. While they were planning their shopping strategy, David's family decided they wanted to donate their haul to the Ronald McDonald Family Rooms and House inside Texas Children's Hospital. In Ellen's words, the Family Room at TCH made a huge difference for their family whenever David needed to be admitted or was there for a check-up. It was not only a place to get coffee, tea, and snacks, but also a place where they met other families who were going through the same thing. When David was first diagnosed, this was a big comfort for them.

The Family Room is "absolutely wonderful," says Ellen. Without it, she isn't sure she would have ever met other families at the hospital, some of whom she is still friends with today.

To help other families like David's, [donate now](#).