Where Hope Lives Workshop Series

Los Angeles Ronald McDonald House

Workshop 1: What is HOME? Wednesday, June 22, 2016 9:30am – 11:00am @ LARMH

The concept of home is complex and malleable depending on life circumstances. Ronald McDonald House is a "home away from home" for thousands of different people every year. By reviewing the current psychological literature on the meaning of "home," designers will begin to understand the particular variables and challenges that should be considered when creating a space that honors the shared and individual meaning of "home" for families from all over the United States and around the world. Following the lecture, participants will have the opportunity to dialogue with members of the Family Support Services Team about their experiences of our diverse families in this shared living space.

Workshop 2: Providing Comfort through Design during a Stressful Time Wednesday, June 29, 2016 9:30am – 11:00am

@ LARMH

The families staying at Ronald McDonald House (RMH) are there because they have a child receiving care for a serious medical condition. This type of stress impacts the way people view and use the space. Families stay from a few nights to over a year in this "home away from home." The challenge can be finding ways to make them feel as if this is more than a temporary lodging. Looking at literature from psychology, health, and social sciences, participants will be able to consider various factors related to stress and medical need that contribute to the design of the space.

Workshop 3: Understanding and Creating Healing Spaces Wednesday, July 6, 2016 9:30am – 11:00am @ LARMH

This presentation will provide an overview of the multiple socio-historical, psychological and biological perspectives on healing environments. Participants will also learn about the multiple ethno-cultural positions on the existence of and construction of healing spaces. This lecture will include guidelines and suggestions of how imagination can be utilized to create such spaces. The goal is for participants to be able to think creatively and intentionally about how to create spaces that support healing relationships between individuals and their environments.