

RMHHomebase1.4 is the fifth version of RMH Homebase.

It differs from versions 1.0-1.3 in several ways:

1. many bug fixes and refactorings of the PHP code base
2. addition of a self-apply feature for new applicants logging in as "guest".
People interested in applying for a volunteer position can fill out an application form on-line. That application is saved in the database and is available to the House Manager without re-keying.
3. addition of a second venue, the "family room," which can be scheduled with volunteers alongside the house itself.
4. rewriting of the help guide and on-line tutorial to cover these new features.
5. reducing the height of the calendar so that it can be easily viewed on a screen and printed.
6. refinement of the searches for subs and volunteers who are available to fill a house or family room shift.
7. simplification of the personnel form so that only house or family room volunteers and subs need availability to be in the database. Other types of volunteers do not.

Two files accompany this release:

RMHHomebase1.4.zip -- A compressed zip archive of the software sources and interactive help.

README1.4 -- Instructions for installing the software (same as **README1.3**).

The following files from earlier releases were not updated for this release, but they still may be of use.

Helpguide1.3 -- A 30-page PDF tutorial for persons interested in learning how to use the system.

RMHDesign1.0.doc -- Complete design document for the software

Background

RMH Homebase is a web-based volunteer management and scheduling system used at the Ronald McDonald House in Portland, ME.

It is the result of a collaboration between Bowdoin College and the Ronald McDonald House in Portland, ME. It was designed and implemented in spring semester 2008 by four Bowdoin Students (Oliver Radwan, Maxwell Palmer, Nolan McNair, and Taylor Talmage) and a Bowdoin Professor (Allen Tucker).

This project was supported by Bowdoin College as part of its ongoing commitment to serving the common good. More information about the development of RMH Homebase can be found on-line in the following articles:

<http://pressherald.maine.com/story.php?id=174400&ac>
<http://www.bowdoin.edu/news/archives/1bowdoincampus/004776.shtml>
<http://technews.acm.org/archives.cfm?fo=2008-05-may/may-12-2008.html>

RMH Homebase is inspired by the software movement known as HFOSS, which aims to "build a community of academic computing departments, IT corporations, and local and global humanitarian and community organizations dedicated to building and using Free and Open Source Software to benefit humanity." More information about HFOSS can be found on-line at <http://www.hfoss.org/>.