

## WHAT'S INN-SIDE:

### UPDATE FROM the E.D.

Much has been happening at Room! Hear the latest from Executive Director, David S. Weber

### BIRTHDAYS ARE SPECIAL!

Along with *It's Your Birthday Inc.*, we make birthdays happy for the children at Room

### DON'T MISS OUT — TEE TIME IS ALMOST HERE

Come and play or volunteer on September 23rd at Lake Forest Country Club

### MEET OUR DEDICATED BOARD AND OUTSTANDING STAFF

Learn who provides guidance, commitment, support and care to serve our clients and achieve our mission every day



# INN-Sider

NEWS, INFORMATION AND EVENTS FROM ROOM AT THE INN.

SUMMER-FALL | 2019

## Progress, Programs, Playtime Our Summer Has Been Busy!

### To the Friends of Room,

I want to begin this update by thanking our volunteers and the more than 50 interfaith congregations that provide shelter, food, and activities for our clients each and every day of the year. Next, I extend thanks to our generous donors for their continued support, as well as those who help keep our rental assistance fund viable.

So many things have happened since I joined Room at the Inn in summer of last year! Here are just a few highlights...

We've developed valuable new collaborations with organizations and agencies such as Better Family Life; St Louis Counseling and U&I Rise.

The Sisters of Divine Providence, without whom we literally would not be here, in a most gracious act of generosity have deeded over the building where we are housed to us! So we now own the entire

Bridgeton facility — which opens up so many new opportunities as well as many new obligations.

We employed a grant writer who was successful in winning new grants which have allowed us to do the following:

### Provide Professional Services & Support to Clients

- Dental exams and dental work
- Eye exams and eyeglasses for the children
- Parenting classes
- One-on-one mental health counseling
- Tutoring for adults and children
- Summer camp tuition



### Expand Volunteer Efforts & Capacity

- Funds to transition the Volunteer Coordinator position to full time

### Maintain/Upgrade Our Facility

- 2 new roof top AC units to replace those in disrepair
- New commercial refrigerator, freezer, washer/dryer combo, and microwave ovens
- Needed upgrades to our fire and burglary alarm systems

Again, I want to thank everyone for your generous support of Room at the Inn and the clients and community we serve. We couldn't do what we do without you.

And, I hope you enjoy INN-Sider! I'd love to hear your feedback.

Kind regards,

David

David S. Weber  
Executive Director



Welcome to the first edition of our newly updated newsletter, now called **INN-Sider**. The updated look and revised name reflect the bright, dynamic spirit that's so evident inside Room at the Inn today. The purpose of INN-Sider is to bring you "inside" of Room and keep you informed of how our clients are helped everyday to gain the tools and resources needed on their path to self-sufficiency and overcoming homelessness. We hope you enjoy this publication!

# IT'S ALMOST TEE TIME!

## September 23 at Beautiful Lake Forest Country Club

Come on out and play! You're invited to Room at the Inn's Sixth Annual Golf Tournament at Lake Forest Country Club. This event is of great importance to everyone here at Room and to the women, children and families we serve. It is one of the primary ways we help raise awareness and support for our shelter and the homeless population we serve, and the proceeds from this event go to support Room's programs.

We have a great day planned for our golfers! Registration begins at 10 a.m., followed by lunch and a Shotgun Start at 11 a.m. After the tournament, dinner will be served and the **Room Auction & Raffle** will continue. This year we are very pleased to announce that KMOV's Kent Ehrhardt will host the evening — and he'll play in the tournament as well!

Go to [roomstl.org/events](http://roomstl.org/events) to register (player fees include lunch, dinner, awards, complimentary beverages on course). While you're signing up, please consider our sponsorship/program ad opportunities. Contact David Weber, Executive Director, at [dweber@roomstl.org](mailto:dweber@roomstl.org) or 314-209-9181 ext. 106 for sponsorship details. See you at Lake Forest Country Club!

## How Would YOU Like to Spend the Day Playing Golf with KMOV's Kent Ehrhardt?

You can if you act fast! Kent is playing in Room's tournament and needs 3 players to join his team.

**These 3 spots are available on a first come, first served basis**, and the cost is only \$400 per player.

Contact **David Weber** at **314-209-9181, ext. 106** **today** if you want to be on Team Kent. Remember — only 3 lucky people will have this opportunity!



### Lake Forest Country Club

300 Yard Drive, Lake St. Louis, MO 63367

**September 23, 2019**

**Registration & Lunch: 10 a.m.**

**Shotgun Start: 11 a.m.**

**Auction/Raffle and Dinner following golf**

## We're Making Birthdays Super-Special!

Part of the fun of childhood is looking forward to your birthday. We believe birthdays should be happy, memorable times for kids, so we do everything we can to make that happen. Thanks to a collaborative effort with *It's Your Birthday Inc.*, we are able to throw our kids birthday parties! As part of Room's *Happy Birthday Program*, every month we host a party at our day site for children who celebrate a birthday that month. Our parties include bright decorations, birthday cake with ice cream, party favors, games, and a special gift for each birthday child. In addition to being fun, this program helps bring normalcy to a child's life while they're with us.



## Come Get to Know Us!

Read these "Fingertip Facts" about Room at the Inn

- An emergency homeless shelter for women and families regardless of the age or gender of the children
- More than a place for shelter and food because we offer clients many opportunities to work their way out of homelessness via education and empowerment
- We serve over 200 people per year, including single mothers with their children, single women, two-parent or single-father families
- Have a capacity of 20 people per day
- Serve the homeless in all districts of St. Louis County, participate in the St. Louis County Homeless Service Providers Network and Homeless Hotline, serve as entry point into the Continuum of Care
- Sponsored by the Sisters of Divine Providence beginning in 1993 and are governed by an up to 24 member Board of Directors
- Non-sectarian, non-discriminatory 501(c)(3) agency, incorporated in Missouri
- Heavily leveraged in the community through more than 2,000 annual volunteers representing many different faiths and a wide range of socioeconomic backgrounds
- Collaborate with more than 50 outside agencies to make needed services available for clients
- Serve as catalyst that allows our community to help the homeless
- Supported by individuals, businesses, foundations, and local, state and federal government grants
- We meet all 20 quality standards of the BBB Wise Giving Alliance Standards for Charity Accountability



If you know someone in need of services, please have them call:

**St. Louis County  
Homeless Helpline  
(314) 802-5444 or  
(866) 802-7155**

## The Legacy of the Sisters of Divine Providence to Room at the Inn — Part 1

In 1988 the Salvation Army began a program to provide homeless women and families temporary shelter in St. Louis County. The Sisters of Divine Providence, whose provincial house was in Normandy, MO made a corporate commitment to the homeless in 1990. These two organizations would meet “providentially” a couple of years later. In 1992 the Salvation Army obtained a grant that enabled them to expand Room at the Inn from a weekend shelter to a year-round shelter. Unfortunately the building used by the Salvation Army sustained damage from a fire and they began looking for other housing for the shelter. Enter the Sisters of Divine Providence who offered the fourth floor space in their provincial house as a way they could en flesh their corporate commitment to the homeless.

Eventually the Sisters became the sole sponsors of Room at the Inn and when they sold their provincial house and moved, they committed to moving the ministry with them. So the building, Providence Center, in Bridgeton, MO was bought and used both for the community’s needs and for the shelter. For many years the Sisters of Divine Providence and their lay associates were very involved in the sponsorship of this shelter and even at times, gave direct service as staff and volunteer. The mission and spirit of the Sisters was strongly imbued in the organization and wonderful relationships were forged with the many night site church congregations that partnered with Room at the Inn. For years the Sisters and Room at the Inn were linked together. . .

Source: <https://www.wpcweb.org/the-legacy-of-the-sisters-of-divine-providence-to-homeless-shelter/>

## Meet Our Board!

**Aigul Abdyl daeva,**  
MBA Nonprofit Management

**Brandy Bowdry,** Bowdry's Independent  
Paralegal Services, LLC

**Al Fressola,** Psychologist

**David Gerst,** Senior Sales Executive,  
Fiserv Card Services

**Karen Lucash,** Senior Human Resources  
Manager, Mercy Health System

**Daniel Manning,** Attorney, Doster Ullom  
& Boyle, LLC

**William Oesterle,** Real Estate Agent,  
Remax

**Sr. Ann Pairn,** Sisters of Divine  
Providence

**Jeff Pattison,** Director of Human  
Resources, LMI Aerospace

**Shannon Peters: VICE CHAIRPERSON,**  
Attorney, Husch Blackwell, LLP

**Anita Santiago,** Adjunct Faculty,  
University of Phoenix

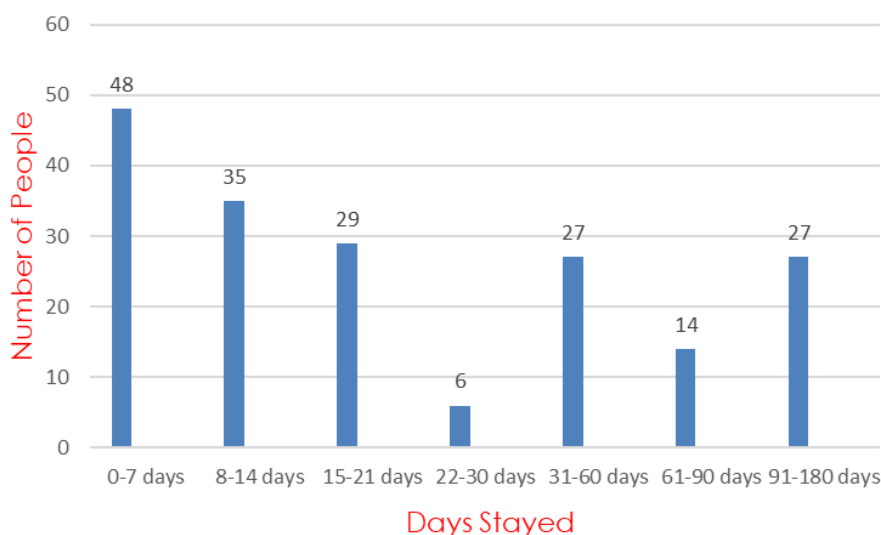
**Crystal Settlemoir,** Attorney, Sandberg,  
Phoenix & von Gontard P.C.

**Terianne Turner: SECRETARY,** M.S. Non-  
Profit Management & Executive  
Assistant, Sam & Marilyn Fox Foundation

**Julie Wolfe: CHAIRPERSON,**  
Chief Financial Officer, St. Charles  
City-County Library District



### Length of Participation



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NOW!

### Do You Have Some Time Available to Devote to a Truly Worthy Cause?

Have you been looking for a rewarding service opportunity? A way to genuinely make lives better — to interact with people who need a helping hand? If so, volunteer at Room at the Inn! We welcome volunteers of all ages, with all sorts of talents and time availability.

We have an urgent need for **Volunteer Drivers** to transport our clients to and from jobs, doctor appointments, etc. We have specific times of day and days of week available. Please consider if you enjoy meeting people and helping them!

We also need several **Office Volunteers** to help us with day-to-day tasks such as answering the phone, greeting visitors, and assisting with general office duties.

Do you like to read, draw or do crafts? Our kids love to have volunteers read to them or help them do arts and crafts. Engage your creative side while you brighten up an afternoon for the children at our day site.

You don't have to make a huge time commitment to make a huge difference! Even a half-day a week or month will really make an impact.

To learn about how you can help serve the clients at Room at the Inn, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Cindy Warren, at **314-209-9181**, or go to [room-stl.org/volunteer](http://room-stl.org/volunteer) to submit a volunteer application on-line.



#### MISSION STATEMENT

Furthering the mission and the legacy of the Sisters of Divine Providence, Room at the Inn provides emergency shelter and a stabilizing support system to women and families in need in St. Louis County, using a collaborative, interfaith effort of congregations and organizations throughout the St. Louis Region.

Room at the Inn is a temporary, emergency shelter program for homeless women and families. We empower program participants to create solutions to their homelessness through education, referrals and case management. We serve approximately 150-250 clients per year, including single mothers with children, single women, two-parent or single-father families. With a program capacity of 20 clients per day, we assist individuals experiencing homelessness throughout the St. Louis area. Founded by the Sisters of Divine Providence, Room at the Inn is a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency, incorporated in Missouri. Room is supported by a network of approx. 2,000 annual volunteers. We partner with more than 50 interfaith, night-site congregations that represent 15 faith traditions and a wide range of socioeconomic backgrounds. We collaborate with multiple outside agencies to make needed services available for our clients. Room at the Inn serves as the catalyst which makes it possible for the community to help the homeless.

#### STAFF MEMBERS

- David S. Weber, *Executive Director*
- Angela Hamilton, *Client Coordinator*
- Cindy Warren, *Volunteer Coordinator*
- Melanie Matthew, *Program Coordinator*
- Monica Barnett, *Administrative Coordinator*
- Steve Jones, *Administrative/Database Coordinator*

#### SHELTER MONITORS

- Eula Johnson
- Linda Williams
- Tanzania Johnson
- Felicia McRoberts
- Teresa Hedge

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

- 314 209-9181
- [dweber@roomstl.org](mailto:dweber@roomstl.org)
- [www.roomstl.org](http://www.roomstl.org)

### Events at Room!

- **BACK TO SCHOOL FUN**—Lion King movie, ice cream snacks & Special Back to School lunch
- **CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST CELEBRATION!**
- **Room's GOLF TOURNAMENT** coming September 23



Room at the Inn

ROOM AT THE INN

3415 Bridgeland Drive  
Bridgeton, MO 63044