

A Message from our Executive Director



Laurie Phillips

Kids are usually the most excited about the end of the school year and summer break! In some families, summer means lazy days at home, playing with friends, and possibly taking a vacation.

For our Room at the Inn families, summer can pose extra challenges.

Our kids are not attending school, so they miss at least one school-provided meal per day. Parents who are working need to find summer camps or temporary daycare—at a cost that can limit their ability to save for housing. And our kids, like all kids, can get bored without daily engagement with teachers and friends.

To provide our families a few summer activities, we plan a Weekly Excursion for our families during the summer such as visiting the community pool; attending a kid-friendly movie; playing at a local park; or just getting ice cream. We also host a Back-to-School picnic in August with a bounce house, tug-o-war, a scavenger hunt, and hot dogs/popcorn/cotton candy. Parents and kids enjoy the fun with our dedicated volunteers and staff.

In addition to summer fun, **our families need support for the increased expense of basic needs like meals, childcare, and warm-weather clothing.** Summer should be a carefree time for children but can create more stress and anxiety in the families with whom we work.

These services are made possible with the help of our donors. To highlight some of our biggest supporters, we are excited to introduce a new giving program, **Pillars of Warmth**, for donors who give \$1,000 or more annually. This program will acknowledge these donors on our website and at a recognition event in the fall. If you would like to learn more about Pillars of Warmth, please contact Jed Buechele at jbuechele@roomstl.org or 314-209-9181 x 105.

We hope you will consider a gift to Room at the Inn to support our families throughout the year, and especially for the summer.

With sincere gratitude,

Laurie Phillips
Executive Director

Save the Date for our 13th Annual Golf Tournament!



Room at the Inn
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
August 17, 2026
Register with the QR code below!

13th Annual Golf Tournament to Support Programs at Room at the Inn

Sponsorships are available!

Location:
Old Hickory Golf Club, St. Peters, MO



Register by scanning the QR code or using the link below!

bit.ly/2026-RATI-GOLF

Our Annual Trivia Night Was Amazing!

We want to thank everyone who supported our Room at the Inn Trivia Night on April 18th!

With your help, we raised over \$22,000! This was a 50% increase from last year!

It was an amazing night full of trivia, fun, and community, and we can't wait to see you next year!



Client Tales: Stability in Hard Times

After the home where Dominique and her three girls were living burned down in 2021, and their renters insurance failed to pay out, they have struggled to maintain consistent housing.

In March, they were evicted from their residence and RATI was the able to take all of them in. Having had bad experiences with other shelters in the past, Dominique was unsure of what to expect at RATI. However, she was soon blown away by how caring, helpful, and amazing the staff were.

After only a short time at RATI, and through a collaborative effort fueled by Dominique's determination to make a better future for her girls and the knowledge of the RATI staff, they soon were able to find a more stable housing situation!

"We came here with nothing and they took us in with arms wide open...I thank God for Room at the Inn!"

Room at the Inn Staff Gets Trained for CPR



Thank you to the David and Lelia Farr Empowerment Center for funding our CPR training in March!

Volunteer Highlight: Paul Telker

Since 2020, Paul Telker has been a fixture of the volunteer program at RATI.

Initially starting out as a driver who transported clients, Paul's dedication eventually led to him asking what else he could do to help. One task of painting a wall soon led to replacing ceiling tiles – which led to him becoming the ultimate handyman for RATI!

Paul cherishes being able to help those in need by keeping the building in top shape and would strongly urge anyone considering to volunteer to do so.

If you would like to volunteer with Room at the Inn, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Cindy Warren, at cwarren@roomstl.org or 314-209-9181.

