

WHAT'S INN-SIDE:

UPDATE FROM the E.D.

An invitation from Executive Director, David S. Weber

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Meet Angela Hamilton!

ONE DAY IN THE LIFE. . .

A Client's Typical Day at Room

NOTE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Message from Julie Wolfe

IDA's SMILE

Grant is making clients smile

"SCHOOL" IN SESSION

Tutoring is making a difference

FOREVER GRATEFUL

We offer special thanks

UPCOMING EVENTS!



INN-Sider

NEWS, INFORMATION AND EVENTS FROM ROOM AT THE INN

FALL-WINTER | 2019

We're Inviting You In . . .



Hello again, wonderful supporters, volunteers, staff, and community leaders! We appreciate you so much. Without your involvement Room at the Inn would not be able to provide shelter, assistance and support to the homeless in our community. If you're not aware of all we do, I'm extending an invitation to learn more about us! This issue of *INN-Sider* gives you a small glimpse of what we do every day. If you would like a closer look, please call me to chat and set up a tour of our Bridgeton facility, which was deeded to us by the Sisters of Divine Providence in January of this year.

As fall ends and winter begins, the cold weather plays real havoc on our clients. Their need for clothes, personal items, coats, etc., certainly increases. Any new items you have that aren't being used would be welcome here!

Our 6th Annual Golf tournament was a huge success. We had the most golfers ever, and the best weather ever!

Thanks to our MC Kent Ehrhardt of KMOV Channel 4 for "supplying" the perfect weather. And, thanks to our amazing sponsors, volunteers, and staff who made this event so successful. Mark your calendars for September 2020 and plan to join us next year!

Each edition of the *INN-Sider* will feature a member of our wonderful staff. In this edition, it's Angela Hamilton, our Client Coordinator. Learn how Angela, along with our entire staff, cares for our clients, and helps them find stability, sustainability, and permanent housing.

We can always use more helping hands here— office volunteers, transportation assistants, and additional night sites. Don't forget my invitation to learn more about Room at the Inn. We welcome your interest. Thank you again for all you do.

Kind regards,
David

David S. Weber
Executive Director



Fall is in the air . . .



and the leaves have begun to change into beautiful autumn colors. We've recently had some beautiful changes at Room, too! Many thanks go out to these committed and generous volunteer groups:

- **DeSmet High School** for doing yard trimming and window cleaning.
- **FeeFee Baptist Church** for bagging yard waste and moving furniture to create a Napping Room.
- **Girl Scouts** (Maevie and friends) for painting both the Tutoring Room and the Napping Room.
- **Embassy Suites** for painting our entrance a cheerful new color.

We're so grateful for these welcome enhancements to our site that could not have been accomplished without the hard work of our amazing volunteers. We appreciate you so much!

It Takes Teamwork!

What keeps any agency going is great teamwork. Our staff and volunteers have been working hard to meet the needs of the clients who come to us, whether it means providing transportation to and from work, finding the right agency to assist their needs, providing childcare, or meeting health-related needs — both physical and mental. Great job, team!

Meet Angela Hamilton!

Angela Hamilton is the Client Coordinator for Room at the Inn. During her 19 ½ years of service here, Angela has provided case management for over 3,000 families. She's also provided clients with housing opportunities, mainstream resources, medical evaluations, mental health services, legal services, and a host of other resources.

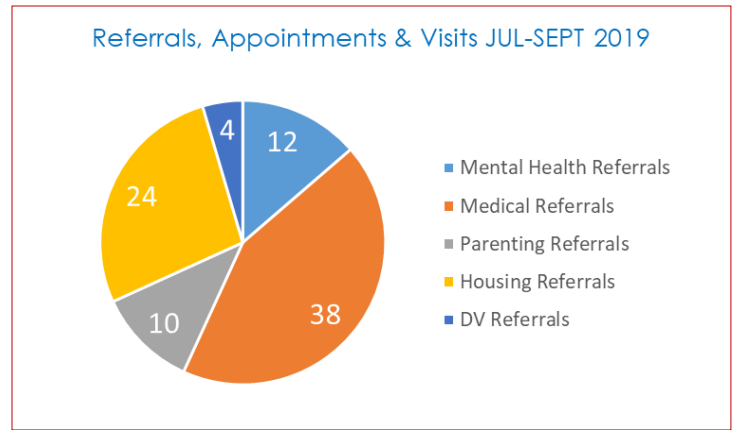


What Angela likes best about her job is getting homeless families into housing. The joy of seeing people get housing makes the job worthwhile for her. Before her role at the shelter, Angela worked at Special School District and assisted behavioral children with their Individual Education Programs. She also worked at Bellefontaine Habilitation Center assisting disabled individuals with their daily activities. Angela holds an associate degree in Human Services, and has almost completed her bachelor's degree in Social Work. In her spare time, she enjoys singing karaoke, spending time with family and friends, cooking, visiting art museums, concerts, and painting.

All of us at Room feel fortunate to have Angela here doing the wonderful work she does. Thank you, Angela!

One Mission, Many Services

Room at the Inn is open 7 days a week, providing our clients with a warm, secure roof over their heads, good food to eat, and a place to feel safety and comfort. Not everyone is aware that our mission calls us to do much more than that, however. We are also charged with *“empowering program participants to create solutions to their homelessness.”* Homelessness is a complex, multi-faceted problem — and creating solutions requires a multitude of highly coordinated services and one-on-one support. In addition to shelter, Room clients receive access to a host of programs, including mental health, medical and dental services; parent, housing and domestic violence (DV) referrals. The chart below reflects services provided over a 90-day period.



One Day in the Life of a Room at the Inn Client

Daytime

- Clients arrive at day site 7:00 am
- Shower and grooming
- Start laundry
- Get ready for daily activities
- Get children ready and off to school
- Case management/approved activities for Parents
- Lunch
- Resume activities - follow up on references, look for jobs, meet with staff, follow up on referrals for areas of need
- Volunteers help with children while the parents are doing their activities
- Return for curfew at 4:00 pm
- Do chores and prepare to go to the night site
- We call night site coordinators to tell them who their clients are and communicate any special needs



Nighttime

- At 5:00 pm clients are picked up by coordinators and transported to a different night site each evening
- Each night site has their own coordinator who takes care of all activities at the night site
- Volunteers at night site serve dinner
- Do activities
- Bedtime
- Wake up and eat breakfast
- Clients brought back to day site by 7:00 am



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

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

Note from Our Board Chair

Room at the Inn continues a legacy begun more than 26 years ago. We know that we do not walk alone on this journey. We have been blessed with numerous volunteers, congregations, and partners working in unison with our committed staff.

Firmly grounded in our faith-based mission and vision, we are proud to collaborate and offer programs to enhance the quality of life for women and families. We honor and continue the journey begun by the Sisters of Divine Providence, who were responsive to changing community needs.

Although homeless services continue to change, we are committed to meeting the challenges. We are thankful to those who share our mission, passion and purpose. Together, we offer hope and a path to finding a place to call home.

Best Regards,
Julie Wolfe



Ida is smiling brightly after her recent dental work, made possible by a special grant to Room. Christine of Aspen Dental immediately noticed a difference in Ida, and it wasn't only her beautifully renewed smile. As Christine shared with us — "Ida just left and she looks amazing!! Smiles all the way out the door with an extra bounce in her step!" Dental care is a critical need for many of our clients. A heartfelt THANK YOU to the **Episcopal Presbyterian Health Trust** for helping our clients smile!

"School" is Now in Session at Room

Sometimes, all we need to achieve success is a little help to guide us along. Now, thanks to a generous grant from the **American Association of University Women**, Room is able to provide tutoring sessions at our day site on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. There are sessions offered for both children (after school) and adults (late afternoon). Our clients have been very happy to have on-site tutoring available to them when they need it.



The Legacy of the Sisters of Divine Providence to Room at the Inn — Part 2

Over time, as changes took place within the community, the sponsored institutions were encouraged to find ways to move toward independence and sustainability. In 2018 the Sisters themselves realized that they could no longer keep Providence Center. Rather than sell the property, they made the decision to donate the property to Room at the Inn! It was their hope that by gifting Room with the property, they would be able to establish a firm foundation and base of support to secure the future of the program.

The Sisters' mission to the homeless, and the spirit of justice, peace and compassion as a congregation hopefully will live on in their legacy to Room at the Inn. The light of God's Providential love will continue to shine. Though the Sisters are no longer sponsors it is their hope that the mission and charism is imbued with the staff and board of directors so that the ministry exhibits that same care and commitment. With their legacy, and the gift of the building, homeless women and families will continue to be served for years to come.

Shannon L. Alder says: "Carve your name on hearts, not tombstones. A legacy is etched into the minds of others and the stories they share about you." Hopefully, the Sisters of Divine Providence have left a lasting footprint that will be remembered by the lives they touched.

-- Barbara McMullen, CDP

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

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Julie Wolfe: BOARD CHAIR,
Chief Financial Officer, St. Charles
City-County Library District

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED NOW!**

Do You Have Time to Help Out at Room?

We welcome your help! We have many needs requiring many different talents. Even a small amount of time can make a big difference. If you're interested, please call our Volunteer Coordinator, Cindy Warren at **314-209-9181**, or go to **roomstl.org/volunteer** to submit a volunteer application. We hope to hear from you!

We're SO Grateful for Your Generosity!



Many, many thanks to the **Lutheran Foundation** for extending the grant that makes possible these extremely important services at Room:

- Ongoing Training for our Volunteers
- Full-time Volunteer Coordinator

Because of the Foundation's continued generosity, we are able to keep our Volunteer staff well-informed about current practices and skills needed to best serve our clients. In addition, we can continue to fund a full-time Volunteer Coordinator position, which enhances our ability to support, maintain and grow our invaluable volunteer efforts. We literally could not function without our many loyal and committed volunteers!

Trauma Training Returns in January

Trauma and De-escalation Training, Parts 1 & 2 greatly helped our volunteers explore the topic of trauma, discuss appropriate responses to real life night site scenarios, and participate in hands-on group trauma simulations. We are planning to offer these training sessions again beginning in January, 2020.

All volunteers are invited to participate. Please don't miss the opportunity to become more aware of what our homeless clients deal with in their lives and learn appropriate responses to concerning behaviors. We'll keep you updated on upcoming training session dates and times.

MISSION STATEMENT OF ROOM AT THE INN

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 for homeless women and families. We empower our program participants to create solutions to their homelessness through education, referrals and case management. Room serves approximately 150-250 clients per year, including single mothers with children, single women, two-parent and single-father families. Our program capacity is 20 clients per day, and we assist homeless throughout the St. Louis region. Founded by the Sisters of Divine Providence, Room at the Inn is a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency, incorporated in Missouri. We are supported by a robust network of approximately 2,000 volunteers and more than 50 interfaith congregations who serve as night site partners. Our night site partners come from 15 faith traditions and a wide range of socioeconomic backgrounds. We also collaborate with outside agencies to make needed services available for our clients, serving as a catalyst for the St. Louis community to help people create solutions to their homelessness.

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
- Tanzania Johnson
- Felicia McRoberts
- Teresa Hedge

CONTACT INFORMATION

- 314 209-9181
- dweber@roomstl.org
- www.roomstl.org

Upcoming Events at Room!

- Halloween Trick or Treat!
- Bookmobile Fridays
- Turkey Day Celebration
- Decorate for the Holidays!
- Holiday Drive & Open House
- Staff & Board Holiday Lunch
- End of Year Message and Appeal
- Trauma Training Parts 1 & 2



ROOM AT THE INN

3415 Bridgeland Drive
Bridgeton, MO 63044

Room at the Inn's 6th Annual Golf Tournament at Lake Forest Country Club was a **Big Success!**

This was due in no small part to our **incredible sponsors**, who helped make this great day possible. The annual golf tournament is a major fundraiser for Room, and we rely on its success to help fund the work we do. We extend a heartfelt thank you to all of this year's generous sponsors!

Next year's date will be announced very soon. Plan ahead to get your foursome together and join the fun in 2020, knowing that you're helping homeless women, children, and families in their struggle to become self-sufficient and sustainable. Your participation can truly make a difference in people's lives. We hope to see you next year!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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Night Site Partners



All Saints Catholic Church
 Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church
 Central Reform Congregation
 Christ Lutheran Church
 Christ the King Catholic Church
 Congregation Shaare Emeth
 Eliot Unitarian Chapel
 Fairview Heights Church of Christ
 First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
 First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood
 First United Methodist Church of Webster Groves
 Glendale Presbyterian Church
 Greater Grace Church
 Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church
 Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
 Holy Spirit Catholic Church
 Ignite Church

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church-Arnold
 Immaculate Conception Catholic Church-Maplewood
 Immanuel United Church of Christ
 Kinloch Church of God
 Kirkwood Church of God
 Kirkwood United Methodist Church
 Living Word United Methodist Church
 Lutheran Church of the Atonement
 Mary Mother of the Church
 Maryland Heights Church of Christ
 McKnight Crossings Church of Christ
 New Life Center
 Our Lady of the Presentation Catholic Church

St Clement of Rome Catholic Church
 St Cletus Catholic Church
 St Ferdinand Catholic Church
 St Gerard Majella Catholic Church
 St Joan of Arc
 St Joseph Catholic Church
 St Justin Martyr Catholic Church
 St Mark Lutheran Church
 St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church
 St Monica Catholic Church
 St Norbert Catholic Church
 St Peter Catholic Church
 St Peter's United Church of Christ
 St Rose Philippine Duchesne Catholic Church
 Samuel United Church of Christ
 Trinity Christian Reformed Church
 Webster Groves Christian Church
 West County Assembly of God
 West Side General Baptist



Room at the Inn partners with 50+ congregations which serve as our night sites. In addition to overnight shelter, these groups provide clients with transportation to and from their house of worship, dinner, breakfast, and fellowship time.

- 50+ congregations participate
- 21 night sites have served 15+ years
- 16 diverse faiths represented
- 2000 annual volunteers
- 30,000 hours served per year