Room at the Inn

Shelter with a purpose. Families with a future.

Room at the Inn is excited to share our Fall-Winter 2026 Newsletter with you.

Happy Reading and thank you for all the ways you support Room at the Inn. Together we are making a difference.

A Message from our Executive Director



Laurie Phillips

2026 has been quite a year!

After moving back to Bridgeton in December 2025, we have been able to support more families in more ways. We have increased our client numbers from 20 to 35-40 on most nights, added contracted mental health services on site, continued our meal program and food pantry support, and hosted a Back to School Bonanza for our families to mark the end of summer. Our special events, our 2nd Trivia Night and our 13th Annual Golf Tournament (on a delightful 85 degree August day!) surpassed our fundraising goals. At the heart of every one of these milestones is our mission to provide our clients with the opportunity for a brighter future.

For Room at the Inn, our future is exciting!

We believe that stable housing lays the groundwork for our clients success. Recently, we enrolled our first family into our Transitional Housing Pilot Program in August, and received a small grant for Rapid Rehousing, both of which will help our families gain stable housing faster.

On top of that, our volunteer program is more robust than ever! So far in the calendar year of 2026, our volunteers have given us over 3,800 hours of their time and talent. In August alone, we logged more than 660 volunteer hours!

That future is only made possible through your support.

When you support Room, you are playing a vital role in changing the lives of our clients. Clients like Arrianna, who is our featured client story in our fall newsletter. Her incredible journey, from living in a car with her four children to recently moving into transitional housing, is just one of the many client success stories from our past 30 years that highlight why supporting Room at the Inn is so worthwhile.

Every dollar donated helps provide shelter to families in times of need, warm meals in the coming cold months, and important job and financial skills that will lay the groundwork for future achievements.

We hope you will consider making a gift to Room at the Inn to support our families and help us continue our mission. You can donate by clicking here or by contacting Jed Buechele at jbuechele@roomstl.org or calling 314-209-9181 ex 105.

With sincere gratitude,



Laurie Phillips
Executive Director

Client Tales: Arrianna



After Arrianna and her fiancé broke up, she and her four children (10, 8, 6, and 2 years old) found themselves unhoused. At times, the only option they had for shelter was her immobile car, and often mosquitoes would be in the car biting everyone if they kept the windows open.

“It was very challenging for me emotionally because I felt like I was carrying so much.”

When she and her children arrived at Room, she noticed right away how compassionate the staff were, and that Room was a place that allowed them to “...decompress and feel human.”

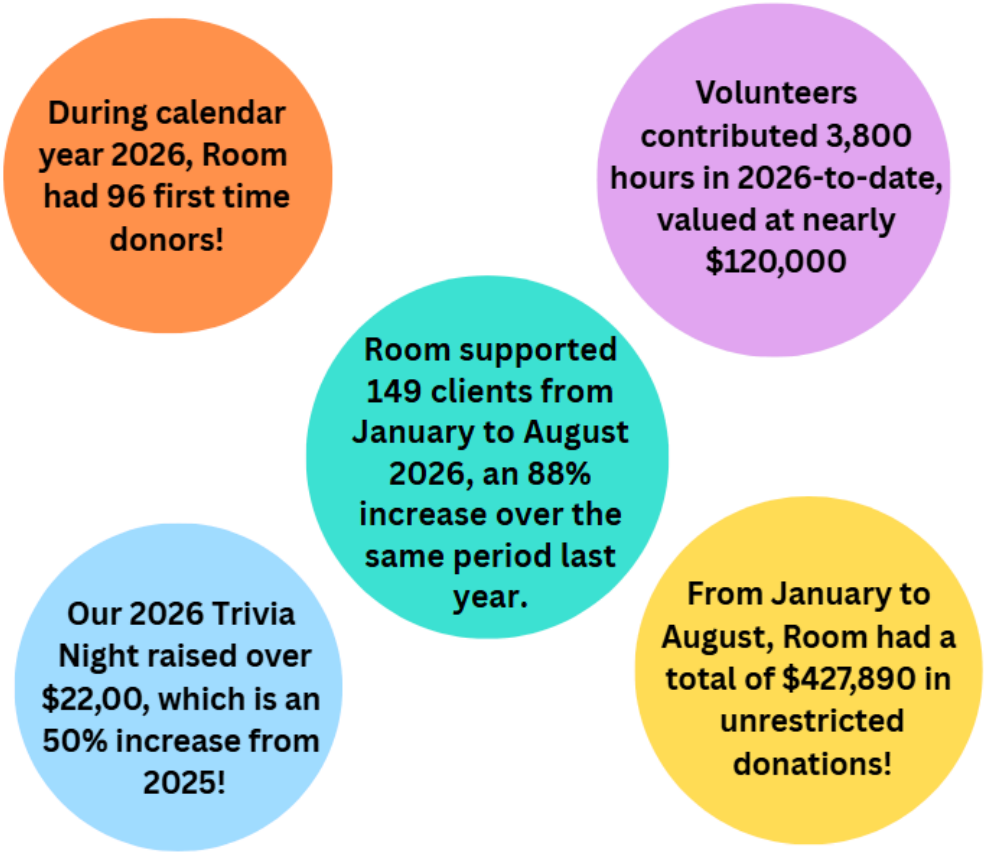
Through the resources of Room, Arrianna soon felt much more confident in her abilities to make a brighter future for her children and they even recently moved into transitional housing! She credits the Room staff for teaching her valuable skills, showing her true empathy in one of the hardest times in her life, and giving her a voice.

“For someone like me, who has never really had a voice in my life, it meant a lot to me.”

To watch a video of Arrianna’s interview, click here!

If you would like to support Room at the Inn, and help create more clients stories like Arrianna, you can contact Jed Buechele at jbuechele@roomstl.org or 314-209-9181 x 105, mail your payment to 3415 Bridgeland Dr., Bridgeton, MO 63044, or make a direct donation here. **Thank You!**

Impact Report: See How Your Support Made a Difference



Our 13th Annual Golf Tournament Was An Amazing Success!



In August, our 13th Annual Golf Tournament was held at Old Hickory Golf Club, and we had an amazing day of golf with beautiful weather!

We want to thank every golfer, sponsor, and volunteer for helping make this event a resounding success. With your support, we can continue our mission of helping our clients find solutions to homelessness and providing them with the opportunity for a brighter future.

See you next year!

What is New at Room at the Inn

Trunk or Treat!

On October 27th, we hosted our annual Trunk or Treat where folks dressed up and handed out candy to clients.

It was a spectacularly spooky night filled with costumes, treats, and fun!

We can't wait to host it next year!





Shannon James

Volunteer Highlight: Shannon James

Each month, Shannon James, whose day job is a financial advisor, leads a financial literacy class for Room clients that focuses on savings, budgeting, goal settings, and more.

With a history of more than 20 years with Room, she loves how it's mission aligns with her belief that education, support, and encouragement can help families succeed.

"Volunteering at Room allows me to use my skills to help families build stronger futures."

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.

Back to School Bonzanza!



In August, we got to host a Back to School Bonanza for our clients and their families!

It was an incredible chance for us to give our clients a day filled with inflatable bounce house fun, delicious food, and heart pounding games.

Our clients really deserve a day of amusement, so thank you to everyone who donated or volunteered to make an unforgettable day for our clients!

We Have a New Parking Lot!



For a while, our parking lot had been in rough shape and was due for a much-needed touch-up.

In September, we finally got that glow-up when our parking lot was newly paved!

We want to give a big thank-you to Pioneer Pavement for doing a wonderful job and giving the lot a renewed look and feel!

We also want to thank the St. Louis Port Authority for providing the funding so we could finally complete this much-needed project!

Our Contact Info
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