



Room at the Inn is a comprehensive, emergency shelter for homeless women and families in St. Louis County, Missouri. We provide safe, immediate shelter, food, transportation and social services for up to 20 people per day, mostly children and their mothers or single women. In addition to meeting their physical needs, we provide an initial stabilizing support system and access to services designed to help clients identify and correct underlying issues that may be contributing to their homelessness. This is an important first step in changing behaviors that trap families in a perpetuating cycle of homelessness.

Room at the Inn collaborates with more than 50 outside agencies to provide access to everything from mental-health and/or substance-abuse evaluations to life-skills and job-skills training of all kinds. Room at the Inn is organized around a permanent day site and rotating night sites.

The rotating night sites consist of approximately 50 interfaith congregations (two congregations per night), of 16 different faiths and a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds, that volunteer to host up to ten people each at their facilities. The host congregations provide transportation to and from the day site, dinner, evening activities for both adults and children, overnight lodging, and breakfast. There are over 2,000 volunteers who annually participate in and staff the hosting night sites as hosts, cooks, drivers, organizers, clean-up and laundry crews, office workers, etc.

This unique structure allows Room at the Inn to be the catalyst that empowers the community to help the homeless in a way that is manageable for each interfaith congregation. It also has two added benefits: it shows our homeless clients that the community really does care for them and wants to help, and it shows the community that our homeless clients are good people - just in a very unfortunate situation; it puts a face on this justice issue.

Mission Statement

Sponsored by the Sisters of Divine Providence, Room at the Inn provides an 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.

Fingertip Facts

Room at the Inn:

- ♦ is an emergency homeless shelter for women and families regardless of the age or gender of the children
- ♦ is more than a place for shelter and food because it offers clients many opportunities to work their way out of homelessness via education and empowerment
- ♦ serves 150-200 people per year, including single mothers with their children, single women, two-parent or single-father families
- ♦ has a capacity of 20 people per day
- ♦ serves the homeless in all districts of St. Louis County
- ♦ participates in the St. Louis County Homeless Service Providers Network and Homeless Hotline and is an entry point into the *Continuum of Care*
- ♦ has been sponsored by the Sisters of Divine Providence since 1993 and is governed by a 16-member board of directors
- ♦ is a non-sectarian, non-discriminatory 501(c)(3) agency, incorporated in Missouri
- ♦ is heavily leveraged in the community through more than 2,000 annual volunteers representing 16 different faiths and a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds
- ♦ collaborates with more than 50 outside agencies to make needed services available for clients
- ♦ is the catalyst that allows the community to help the homeless
- ♦ is supported by individuals, businesses and foundations, and local, state and federal government grants
- ♦ meets all 20 quality standards of the BBB Wise Giving Alliance Standards for Charity Accountability
- ♦ Strives to find permanent housing for clients within 45 days

Visit us at www.RoomSTL.org