

2020-2021 Annual Report



Sheltering those experiencing homelessness in a safe environment of hospitality.

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Back Row: Betty Jo Dulaney (Secretary), Clarice Hunt, Rene Platten, Ron Wiggins, Timothy Williams. Front Row: Rhonda Davis (Chair), Lisa Anderson (Executive Director), Juliet Waddell-Pittman. Not Pictured: Rosemary Potter (Treasurer), Jeff Bedwell, Anna Bishop

A Note from the Executive Director

Dear Faithful Supporters,

It takes a pause and a deep breath to reflect on a year like the one we have all experienced. As I exhale it is with a powerful sense of gratitude for the many ways you have supported us through a pandemic and a move into a new facility. It is truly inspiring to see the ways the Inn Crowd has lived out our mission and core values to provide safe shelter as an expression of our faith.

Through the generosity of donors, a dedicated staff and an army of volunteers, Room in the Inn-Memphis joined in meeting the needs of those experiencing homelessness during the most difficult of times. Our guests have received shelter, clothing and food because of your generosity and commitment to making a difference in the lives of our guests.

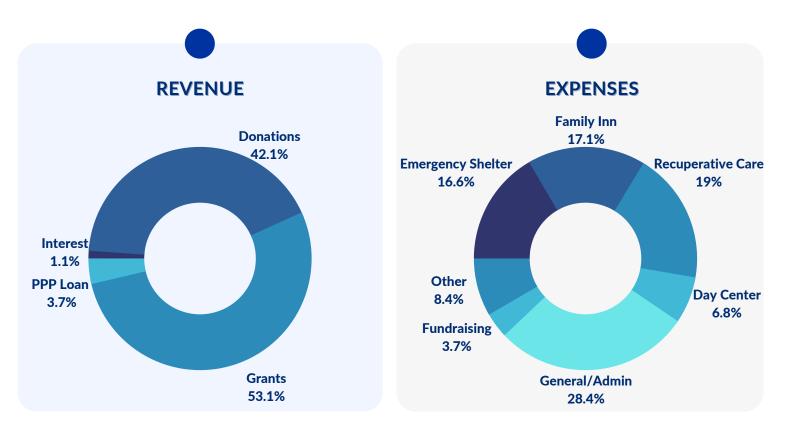


I am so thankful to you for joining this work. We know that the days ahead are going to continue to challenge the people we serve. I believe that we are prepared for that challenge. Our congregational network will continue to provide the holy hospitality our guests have come to know and love. Our new programs on the RITI campus will impact long term change through supportive services as the goal of permanent housing is realized.

Come and visit us, I would love to show you around!

Peace, Lisa Anderson Executive Director

FINANCIAL SUMMARY





CONGREGATIONAL SHELTER

A network of over 50 diverse congregations open their doors to provide food and shelter to people who are experiencing street level homelessness November-March each year. Guests are safely indoors during the brutal months of winter.

FAMILY INN

Families experiencing homelessness live in the privacy and comfort of a temporary home as they work toward permanent housing. During their stay families receive meals and supportive care as they work toward permanent housing. Educational and counseling programs for adults and children are available.

RECUPERATIVE CARE

Unsheltered individuals who are medically fragile and in need of a safe place to recover from illness stay in private rooms with 3 meals a day. The staff coordinates care with medical providers and assists with the guests' housing goals. Opportunities for occupational coaching and counseling as well as physical strengthening are part of the recovery process. 355

Individuals Received Life-Saving Shelter

4,635 Beds of Warmth and Safety

24 Individuals Moved from RITI into New Homes





LATASHA'S STORY



Latasha can tell you the exact day she felt her life shift. A working mother of 6 vibrant children, three of her closest family members fell ill including her mother. In March of 2017, after months of cancer treatments and appointments, her mother died. Within a year, there were eight more deaths in her family, including the grandfather who helped raise her.

"My life savings went to funerals, but I pushed through everything, and I was at peace because I knew I had done everything I could for them."

As is often the case, her grief was put on hold with so much to do. Latasha continued to be a caregiver and the main source of support for her brother who later died in 2020.

With that seemingly last string of her family history unraveled, Latasha describes the days and months that followed as "dark days."

Savings spent and her support system depleted, Latasha heard about Room in the Inn. She walked in the doors anxious and unsure of what was ahead. She had never been in a shelter. A difference has been made in Latasha's life - one step at a time - and Latasha continues to make a difference in the lives of others. Room in

"They made me feel like I was family, and that's what I was missing."

From the full welcome given by staff and volunteers, to the occasional tough love helping keep her on track to meet her goals, Latasha says, "I hadn't had that in so long."

Often issues arise even when people are following all the right steps to secure housing. Latasha had found a house and was ready to move in, but several problems arose near the very last step of property inspection. That dark feeling of hopelessness began to creep in again, but Latasha kept going. She secured her housing, and on the day they moved out of RITI, the whole family brought bouquets of flowers for all the staff members they now saw as friends and family.

Latasha is still taking it one step at a time. She helps make repairs on the house. She spends time cleaning the yard while the children play, and she has plans for a vegetable garden in the backyard. She recently got a job and eventually hopes to reopen her own cleaning business.

"I've been loving my house and the smile on my children's faces -they love it."

Being in her own home, connecting with her children, feeling the love and support of a community, Latasha feels more like herself again. From the dark days of keeping everyone at arms length, Latasha says,

"NOW I'M LETTING EVERYBODY IN!"

A difference has been made in Latasha's life - one step at a time - and Latasha continues to make a difference in the lives of others. Room in the Inn - Memphis is thankful to be a step on the journey for Latasha and her family.

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3,953 VOLUNTEER HOURS!

















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