Introducing SRS Shine!

St. Raymond’s Society is excited to announce its first major event recognizing the successes of former guests and the Houses in Jefferson City and Columbia. This evening will feature musical performances of four former residents, who are not only talented, but thriving as a result of support that SRS provided. Enjoy featured appetizers from popular chef Johnny Graham, music from Mike Michelson, and wines donated by Gary & Millie Schell. SRS founders Mike Hentges and Steve Smith will also share their journey of how St. Raymond’s Society began. This social event will be inspiring and entertaining.

Save the Date
May 7th at Revel Event Center

Tickets are $30 per person and may be purchased by calling the SRS Office at 893-2067 or at www.srshelp.org

Doors open at 5:30
Antonia, better known as Toni, came to St. Raymond’s House in September of 2014. With her oldest son living with her mother, her youngest son in foster care and her not having a permanent residence, Toni’s goal for her family was for them to all be together.

“The Division of Family Services wanted me to be more independent,” said Toni. “That’s what brought me to St. Raymond’s”.

In November 2014, the first step of having her family together became a reality when Izac, Toni’s four-year-old son moved into the house with her. On January 29, 2015, all three were together when she was granted trial home placement of her seven-month-old son, Kaiden.

On March 1, 2015, Toni was given the opportunity to take on more responsibility as the St. Raymond’s House Mom. “It is an honor to be nominated for this position,” Toni said.

Currently Toni is looking for a job and hopes to go back to college someday soon. She would like to major in social work and possibly work in counseling.

Mary Chen, St. Raymond’s Society Program Director, said Toni’s determination to commit to the program has made her one of the most helpful and hardworking residents ever. “When we first met Toni, she put up a pretty tough exterior, which probably came from surviving some very difficult circumstances,” said Mary. “But the very first time we got to witness her with her sons, we saw a sweet, patient and loving person whose greatest joy is being a mother. We are very excited to promote her to a leadership role”.

Toni says she doesn’t know what she would have done without St. Raymond’s. “They helped me get my kids back and helped me to be able to take care of them on my own,” she said. “Thanks to all the support, especially the emotional support, I am more confident and so happy to have my family back together”.

Toni’s Story...
Welcome to the Team!

SRS is excited to add Client Service Coordinators to our support team for our House residents. These ladies work directly with the women to set daily goals and connect with local resources. Their hands-on help is invaluable to making lasting changes for SRS families!

JESSICA, Client Services Coordinator, Jefferson City
Jessica completed her Master’s degree in Clinical Psychology in Springfield, MO and is currently working on her counseling license at a private practice in Jefferson City.

Jessica enjoys working with and helping individuals achieve their personal goals to become independent.
Married almost one year ago, Jessica and her husband, CJ, enjoy spending time with their family and golfing.

ASHLEY, Client Services Coordinator, Columbia
- Graduate student at Stephens College studying Licensed Professional Counseling
- Experience working as a case manager at non-profits in the Columbia, MO area; specifically working with chronic homelessness, substance abuse addictions, and individuals with developmental disabilities.
- Married to Robert for 7 years, a son named Jax who just turned two (he keeps her very busy!)
- Enjoys spending time outdoors running on the trails and hiking, reading anything she can get her hands on, and spending time with her family and her corgi, Ginger. :)

Columbia Art Night
No art skills required, just a heart for SRS! Join us for a night of fun and painting. Canvas and supplies will be provided. Paintings will be donated to the SRS House, with one placed in each of the bedrooms. Families can take the painting with them when they are ready to move out. We hope they will always be reminded of the love and support they experienced during their time at the SRS House. Details will be released soon through Facebook and our website!

DID YOU KNOW?
St. Raymond’s is entirely funded by private local individuals and businesses.
As Mother’s Day approaches, consider a gift to SRS in honor of your mother!
SRS 2014 Statistics

19 women and 22 children resided in the SRS Houses in 2014 (41 homeless served)

Summary of Major Accomplishments:
* 5 GED’s, or advanced degrees
* 5 purchased vehicles
* 7 completed pre-natal or parenting classes
* 9 obtained full time jobs
* 2 were promoted to SRS House Mother position
* 2 earned driver’s permits
* 8 were able to move into their own apartments
* 10 received counseling

Total number of women served outside of SRS House: 20
* Served by providing rental assistance, utility assistance, education fees, mentoring, budgeting advice, temporary shelter, dental fees. All of these cases may be considered homelessness prevention.

The BIG picture:
A grand total of 39 mothers in mid-Missouri were either re-unified or kept with their children as a direct result of SRS services!!!