EASTER CELEBRATION!
Both SRS Houses celebrated Easter with an Easter Egg Hunt!

Thanks to the staff and house mothers for putting on a great event for the kids!

You are invited!
2nd Annual SRS Shine Event!

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, live music, 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 4th 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 - An open house style event.
Client Spotlight

Shantel moved into the St. Raymond’s House in September 2015, along with her two youngest children: Landon, age 1 and Brooklyn, age 2. She was also pregnant with her fourth child at that time. Shantel was a hard-working, loving mother to her children and was very motivated to make changes in her life, fully understanding the positive impact those changes would have on her children’s lives. Shantel worked hard on her program while living in the house. She set realistic goals for herself, most importantly gaining financial independence and security. To do that, she worked in Columbia with teenagers who are in state custody, and she helped them build skills to increase their own independence.

In November, Shantel gave birth to her fourth son, Bentley, who was born early and with complications. Bentley was taken to St. Louis Children’s Hospital almost immediately after birth as he was struggling to breathe on his own. Shantel spent the majority of the next month in St. Louis with her son at the hospital, meeting with specialists and therapists, looking for answers and ways to help her son. Bentley was diagnosed with hydrocephalus, but in time, he began breathing and eating on his own. He gained weight and became more alert. Eventually, Bentley had a shunt placed in his brain to drain fluid, which seemed to solve most of the complications he was experiencing. Bentley is now 6 months old and thriving. He continues to have struggles but has increased awareness of the world around him, and enjoys interacting with others.

Throughout all of these challenges, Shantel kept a positive attitude that inspired everyone around her. She was a tireless advocate for Bentley, yet found the energy to continue nurturing and supporting her other children. She never lost sight of her goal to save enough money to get a place of her own, and by staying at the St. Raymond’s house and continuing to work, she was able to do just that. Recently, Shantel was very happy to move her family into their own apartment. For a single mother of four, the challenges are not over for Shantel, but the determination she exhibited during her months with SRS will take her far. We ask our readers to keep this precious family in their prayers.
Donor Spotlight

“We chose St. Raymond’s because of its mission and its staff.”
- Neal & Cynthia Tichelkamp

Neal and Cynthia are lifelong residents of Jefferson City where they raised four children and each had a successful business. Cynthia owned The Castilian Salon in downtown Jefferson City. After more than 20 years in credit card sales in the industry, Neal developed Ladera Business Solutions, a credit card processing company. They connected with St. Raymond’s because of the mission to help the mother. Both had been single parents and know that it’s not an easy task! Neal and Cynthia also had confidence that the SRS staff were the right people to assist mothers in achieving self-sufficiency.

In memory of Neal’s parents, Henry and Rose Tichelkamp, and Cynthia’s father, Rondal Shipman, the Tichelkamps began sponsoring a room of the Jefferson City House in 2013. They wanted to honor the love and support of their parents which gave them the tools to be successful in their own lives. The plaque in the living room of the House that acknowledges their ongoing support and reminds clients that people in their community care about them.

St. Raymond’s Society is ever-grateful of the ongoing support of the Tichelkamp family!

Your business can help SRS with every credit card sale!
The Tichelkamps want to see SRS have sustained funding for long term effectiveness in our local communities. SRS has partnered with Ladera to allow businesses to convert their credit card processing to Ladera and in return SRS will get a portion of every fee collected (see graphic). These are fees your business is already paying (to a salesperson) and now they will benefit SRS.

1. Convert your credit card processing to Ladera Business Solutions, they will match or beat your current processing rate and maintain the high level of local customer service you expect.

2. Each month a portion of the credit card processing fees will be donated to SRS (see chart).

3. Enjoy knowing your business provides ongoing support to your local St. Raymond’s House.

For details on how to begin your business’s credit card conversion, call Shauna Balk 573-230-7837
SRS 2015 Statistics

The Jefferson City & Columbia Houses - hold 8 families at a time
20 women and 32 children resided in the homes in 2015 (a 30% increase over last year)

7 women obtained vehicles
9 women obtained full-time jobs
3 women obtained driver’s licenses
7 women attended parenting classes
2 women were promoted to SRS House Mother
6 women moved into their own apartments
2 women regained full custody of their children from foster care
6 women received regular, professional counseling
4 babies were born during their mother’s stay at SRS
1 baby found a forever family through adoption
31 additional women were served outside of the home with rental assistance, utility assistance, dental treatment or childcare assistance. (a 65% increase over 2014)

Organizational accomplishments in 2015
Added a behavioral specialist to the Board of Directors
Increased the role of the Client Service Coordinators in each house to full-time (this role works daily with the families to set and accomplish goals)

We look forward to many more accomplishments in 2016

Thank You
Columbia Rotary Club for building a new place for us to play!

Board Members:
Mike Hentges, Co-Founder
Steve Smith, Co-Founder
Shauna Balk
Kevin Heislen
Mary Chen
Guy Vandrunen

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