In this issue of the SRS newsletter you are going to be reading about women in our programs that are true Shining Stars. We recently had our annual SHINE event fundraiser for St. Raymond’s Society. It was a fun evening and raised a good amount of money. Sonny (Shine) and Cher (U. Money) even made an appearance lip syncing and telling incredibly bad jokes. The team that coordinated the event did an outstanding job and the whole night was amazing. The Shining Stars of the night, like every year, were the women who have made so much progress. We heard several stories of women who have transformed their lives from “what feels like death” to life. We heard about Tami who came to us broke and abused - and by broke I don’t just mean financially. We worked with her to put an abusing spouse in jail so as to not continually hurt her. She didn’t have a job and didn’t have an education. Now just over a year later this woman was accepted to an accelerated nursing program. She went to school 40 hours a week while working 40 hours on the weekend for a year. St. Raymond’s mothers are some of the hardest working people you will ever meet! She recently graduated from nursing school and has a job that pays a wage where she can sustain a life for her and her children. She’s a SHINING STAR! We heard of a woman who has lived with chronic pain. In her efforts to help others, while she was living with us, she became a licensed massage therapist. She is moving out, as well, with a full time job and the confidence to help her live a life she and her child deserve. Another SHINING STAR! The last story of the night was told of a woman who has been at one of our homes for just under a year. The part of her story that captured the hearts and minds of all who heard it was this part of her talk. “Moving into St. Raymond’s house was the turning point in my life. I was given this golden opportunity to become the person God created me to be, and I took full advantage of it. In less than a year’s time I went from a homeless, pregnant, part-time waitress to a breast-feeding mom, a college graduate employed in my field of study with a 401(k), a business owner, and most importantly, I became a baptized Christian”. You, young lady, are a SHINING STAR!!!

This is what your support provides and so much more. Thank you for your generosity! Blessings from St. Raymond’s Society and the women we partner with to make them see the SHINING STARS God intends them to be!
RIDICULOUSLY AMAZING
TRIPLET UPDATE

At St. Raymond’s Society, we work with the most critically at-risk families in our community - single pregnant or newly parenting moms. We meet them right where they are and guide them through the process of becoming self-sufficient. Sadly, many are homeless and require our most intense services.

As you may recall, this was the case with Janey. She and her four year old daughter were homeless and needed all that we had to offer, which included housing.

We moved her in to St. Ray’s House and asked our community for help. You and many of your neighbors stepped up to help this courageous young mother as she worked her way along the path from homelessness to self-sufficiency.

And we couldn’t be more pleased to tell you that your money was well spent and your investment has paid off! Janey and her four children have moved into an adorable little home of their own!

But this story doesn’t end there . . . .

Janey continues to fully participate in the My RIDICULOUSLY AMAZING Life® program. Every week she meets with her personal Success Coach to develop her intentional, achievable action plan. To stay focused and on track, she and her Accountability Partner meet once a month.

Father of the triplets, Dustin, continues his weekly male mentoring and coaching sessions, as well. And they both enjoy attending weekly parenting and healthy relationship classes, as a couple.

- And what a cute couple they are!

St. Raymond’s Society is very much a family– once you become a part of it– you are always a part of it!

Follow your St. Ray’s House on Facebook @StRaysRolla

Janey may be “playful” but her intentions are “serious”

If you are the kind of person who likes to give a “hand up” rather than a “hand out” then St. Raymond’s Society is the perfect fit for your giving!

Give online @ srshelp.org or mail your check today: St. Raymond’s Society, PO Box 14, Rolla, MO 65402
Where is your St. Ray's House located?

We are often asked where St. Ray’s House is located. Well, **according to one of our highly successful residents, Zuleima, we are located on the corner of Awesome and Bombdiggity!**

It is easy to see why she feels this way—just **check out her list of accomplishments!**

**This is what is possible** when you give a single mother the resources and support she needs to pursue her dreams. She designs a plan that creates the healthy lifestyle that guides her towards self-sufficiency.

- Cut-up credit cards & discarded
- Secured work visa
- Earned CNA certification
- Obtained full time employment at our local hospital
- Paid off four outstanding debts
- Earned a $300 savings match by depositing $300 into savings
- Routinely saves 1/2 of her income
- Obtained dual citizenship for her daughter
- Received the coveted DICE award from her employer
- Practices healthy eating habits
- Obtained a gym membership and works out regularly
- Enrolled in college and maintains a 4.0 grade average
- Attends church, bible study and reads devotional regularly

⇒ And finally the accomplishment that Zuleima feels MOST PROUD OF— she no longer needs government assistance!

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**These babies certainly put the “FUN” in fundraising!**

**A heartfelt THANKS to Jimmy John’s**
and its community focused owners:
Torrey and Megan Woodcock

(No sandwiches were harmed in the making of this photo)
## 2017 IMPACT REPORT

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<th>Columbia</th>
<th>Jefferson City</th>
<th>Rolla</th>
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<td>Mothers who lived in the St. Raymond’s House</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mothers helped outside of the St. Raymond’s House</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children helped outside of the St. Raymond’s House</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL NUMBER OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN HELPED IN 2017** 396

- Total Number of mothers served since program began: 444
- Number of families prevented from homelessness: 149
- Average Number of goals achieved per resident: 5
- Number of women advanced in employment or education: 36
- Total Number of mothers served since program began: 444