



Joe's Place offers homeless teenage boys in the Maplewood Richmond Heights School District a supervised, caring home environment, supporting them in graduating from high school and creating positive futures for themselves.

## *From the House*



Greetings from Joe's Place,

We cannot believe we are already into our second year as house parents! Our first year was phenomenal. We felt prepared and supported to handle all situations that came our way. We developed positive relationships with all of last year's boys, three of whom graduated and one who returned to our family this year! Of last year's graduates, one is in his first year at the University of Central Missouri, one has joined the workforce in the St. Louis area, and the last is saving money to move and go to college in the spring. We consider last year's and this year's boys a part of our family and are looking forward to seeing what the future holds for all of them.

We have continued the positive relationships with our partnering individuals and organizations, as well as worked to develop new relationships that can benefit Joe's Place and the boys. We are very thankful for our families and community support that makes all of our work possible. We have had a great start to the school year with one returning student and three new boys. The family has blended well and the solid support has been extremely helpful.

Thank you all for your support. We wish you a happy fall from the Joe's Place family to yours.

Best,

Jeremy and Rachel Mapp

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*For more information, please visit our website: [www.joesplacestl.org](http://www.joesplacestl.org)*

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## *Donors Support Joe's Place*



Marilyn and Geoffrey Morrison pictured above with boys on back-to-school shopping trip in the fall of 2014.

Marilyn and Geoffrey Morrison have volunteered with and contributed to Joe's Place since the very beginning in 2006. The Morrison's, along with the St. Vincent de Paul Society of the Church of the Annunziata Parish in Clayton, Missouri, have contributed to Joe's Place in many ways.

The Morrison's, both retired teachers from the Clayton School District, became connected to Joe's Place through their former colleague and former Maplewood Richmond Heights School District (MRHSD) Superintendent Dr. Linda Henke. Geoff and Marilyn were both motivated by the

proposed mission of Joe's Place, which was designed to attack the community issue of at-risk high school-aged boys in need of housing and academic support. One of the areas the Morrison's decided to address at Joe's Place was providing clothes for residents at the beginning of the academic year.

When asked about what inspires them to continue volunteering with Joe's Place, Geoff said, "The thing about Joe's Place that is really wonderful is that here you have a school district in a leadership position, reaching out to the community, beyond just the parents and the students in the school, but to all the people in the community and they're saying 'we've got a community problem and we need to deal with it as a community.'" Marilyn and Geoff see their continued commitment to Joe's Place as a way to not just give back, but to also spread good will and acts of kindness.

One of Geoff and Marilyn's fondest memories occurred on a shopping trip with Joe's Place residents. Marilyn said, "A friend was with us and one of the boys said to her, 'You know I really feel guilty about taking this.' She said to him, 'Tell you what, you do this for somebody sometime in your life and that'll be fine.' He smiled and said 'I'll do it.'" For the Morrison's, the idea that, as Geoff said, "one positive act stimulates others" is one of their primary motivators.

Through their personal involvement with Joe's Place, Geoff and Marilyn Morrison have been integral not only to the success of its mission, but they have also succeeded in encouraging others in their lives to find diverse ways to reach out, take charge, and make a difference in their own communities.

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## ***From the President***

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and the family at Joe's Place is spending time getting ready for the end of the semester as well as the holiday season. As you might imagine, while this is a time that many families are eagerly anticipating presents and warm gatherings of family and friends, for some children where "home" is not a stable place, these can be difficult times. Rachel, Jeremy and all of the friends and supporters of Joe's Place make special efforts to guarantee that these boys have an opportunity for celebration as well. The Joe's Place Family gathers for special meals and donors help ensure that there are holiday gifts for the boys.

So at this time for "giving thanks" I want to acknowledge everyone who has contributed to and supported the boys of Joe's Place. From shopping for back to school items with the Morrison's (featured in this newsletter), to donated meals from the **Pasta House** and **Crazy Bowls & Wraps**, to the homemade dinners that are regularly delivered, as well as the generous financial gifts we receive—without this amazing combination of considerate support, we could not provide the loving, caring, and supportive home that is Joe's Place.

Happy holidays to everyone,

Sincerely,

Susan

Susan C. Lee  
President, Board of Directors



Earlier this year, Joe's Place hosted its 2nd Annual Maplewood Shuffle. We want to take this opportunity to thank our donors, sponsors, and volunteers for making this event such a success. With your help, we raised over \$10,500 and had a wonderful day, with about 150 participants and 20 volunteers.

We would especially like to thank our sponsors:

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|-------------------------|-------------------|
| - Schlafly Bottleworks  | - S&S Automotive  |
| - Crossroads Church     | - Stone Wheel     |
| - Telle Tire            | - Edward Jones    |
| - Glance Creative       | - U.S. Auto Force |
| - Clarity Street Realty | - PNC Bank        |

***Stay tuned for information regarding our 2016 Maplewood Shuffle coming in the Spring!***

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# COMING SOON!

**giveSTLday**  
WHAT CAN WE DO IN A DAY?

May 3, 2016

Consider partnering with us on this day of giving and help us further our work with teenage boys at risk for homelessness. Earlier in 2015 we raised over \$6,000 and hope to raise even more next year!

Visit [www.givestlday.org](http://www.givestlday.org) or follow Joe's Place on Facebook for more details.

## *How to Get Involved*

### **Volunteer at Time for Dinner**

Preparing food at Time for Dinner in Brentwood is a great way for your volunteer group to provide delicious, easy meals for Joe's Place. The family is in need of meals during the months of January and March.

### **Donate Household Items**

Throughout the year, the Joe's Place family needs various household items.

For more information or if you are interested, please contact  
**Megan Moylan:**

**Cell phone:** (314) 348-7191

**Email:** [meganmoylan@gmail.com](mailto:meganmoylan@gmail.com)