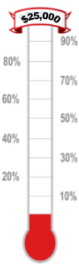


**Our Mission:** *Joe's Place offers homeless teenage boys in the Maplewood Richmond Heights School District a caring home environment that supports them in graduating from high school and creating positive futures.*

## Double Your Impact for Joe's Place This Month

Joe's Place Matching Challenge Will Help Alumni!



We have exciting news to share. Recently, we received a call from an enthusiastic donor wanting to contribute \$25,000 to Joe's Place. This is one of our largest gifts since our operation began 10 years ago. To inspire your past generosity and support, this anonymous donor would like to turn this gift into a community-wide matching challenge. For every \$1 donated by you, our donor will donate \$2.

We are deeply grateful to this anonymous donor for their generous commitment to Joe's Place. By participating in this month's Matching Challenge, together, we will help ensure Joe's Place boys and alumni receive ongoing support during high school and after graduation.

Every day in the St. Louis area, there are approximately 26,000 homeless students attending Missouri Public Schools. The on-going dedication and support of donors, like you, allows Joe's Place to continue to offer what every child deserves in life: a warm place to sleep, regular meals, someone to provide guidance and affection, and ongoing support after graduation to ensure their success in life.

To participate, please mail in your donation with the enclosed envelope or visit [www.joesplace.org](http://www.joesplace.org). Be sure to make your pledge before **December 31, 2017** to ensure your donation will be matched!

### Levels of Matching Challenge Recognition

- Graduate Level.....**\$500+**
- Senior Level.....**\$250 - \$499**
- Junior Level.....**\$100 - \$249**
- Sophomore Level.....**\$50 - \$99**
- Freshman Level.....**Up to \$49**

## Looking Back at Joe's Place Documentary

By Matt Seilback



There is a fellowship that comes from filming a movie together. In my experience, there is a bonding that takes place between subject and crew, the filmer and the one(s) being filmed. This is uniquely true when filming a documentary. A certain form of voyeurism seems to give way to friendship. Some directors work hard to

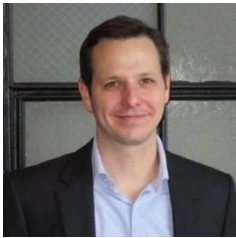
avoid forming a meaningful relationship with their subjects. They work to limit their personal interactions with the "subject matter" in order to remain an allegedly, "impartial" observer. But is such ever really possible in life or in filmmaking? Inevitably, our perception of others is informed by our own perspectives in relationship to the "subjects" around us. This certainly proved to be the case for me when filming the *Joe's Place* documentary almost ten years ago.

As I filmed, I found myself drawn into the stories of these young men. I saw the difficulties of their circumstances. I sat in their homes they had been forced to abandon. But, more importantly, I witnessed firsthand the work of hope taking place in their lives. *Joe's Place* provided a home to learn about life in a more normal context. Here was a place where they could learn what it means to grow into a man. They now faced the ordinary challenges of a teen (homework, girls and sports) instead of the extraordinary obstacles they normally encountered (drugs, abandonment, abuse, neglect). Here, they were given the freedom to simply live—to laugh with one another, make mistakes, and learn from those who were a little further down the road of life.

As I watched, interviewed and filmed; I saw the power found in this simplicity. This house was their home. It was the place of welcoming they had longed for and missed. Without realizing what they had been needing, they discovered something that addressed basic needs and even deeper wants. I watched as the boys oriented themselves around a compass firmly established in the center of that place by two loving guardians and helpers - Dan and Alyssa Reeves. And as I watched them pour out their love to Fred, Jeff, Steven and Ty're, I began to love them as well. These were no longer subjects in my viewfinder. They were young men caught in the midst of difficult lives they had not chosen—and would not if given the choice. And now, over nine years later, I'm reconnecting with some of these young men and I see where they have grown. *(continued on page 4)*

## Letter from the Board President

2017 has been an emotional year for the Joe's Place family. We were thrilled to have two more boys, Steven and Travaion, successfully graduate from high school, but only after mourning the tragic loss of another recent alum, Presten Pinnell. Presten's death was a solemn reminder that, while Joe's Place has positively impacted the futures of many young men, there is still



BOARD PRESIDENT  
Heath Moylan

much that needs to be done in order to help them continue to lead successful and fulfilling lives after graduating from high school. We have spent the past 18 months delving into the challenges that our graduates continue to face as they enter their young adult lives, and we have begun to forge new programs and partnerships to expand the mission of Joe's Place to meet these challenges.

As difficult as the last year has been, it is also a very exciting time for Joe's Place. We embrace our history and traditions that we have developed during our 10 years of existence, but we are not limited by them when looking towards the future. The spirit and enthusiasm of everyone involved with Joe's Place is both inspiring and contagious, and that energy drives us to be better every day as continue to find new and innovative ways to support our family. We hope you will be inspired to help support our family too, whether it's contributing to our matching gift program, donating a gift card, or helping to organize a Time for Dinner event. Your donations make a huge difference in the lives of these young men, and with your support we will continue to make a difference for another 10 years and beyond.

## Time for Dinner

Looking for a great way to collaborate with small groups, network with colleagues and friends, or host a Ladies Night Out? Try an evening of cooking at Time for Dinner. Time for Dinner is a fun way to assemble delicious seasonal dishes with friends all while helping Joe's Place. The meals you create can be stored and frozen for your family and for Joe's Place. (Groups 9 or more receive bonuses.) Joe's Place is in need of meals during the months of January through March. Time for Dinner is located at 8506 Manchester Road in Brentwood. To participate, send an email to [joesplacestl@gmail.com](mailto:joesplacestl@gmail.com).

## Community Fundraisers

During the past year, Joe's Place has seen an increase in community fundraisers held on our behalf. These fundraisers have been held by dance groups, restaurants, clubs, and individuals who have turned their event into a fundraiser benefitting Joe's Place. Every type of event has helped make a financial impact this fiscal year. In total, **more than \$13,000 has been raised**. In addition, these events have helped increase awareness and the importance of our mission outside Maplewood and Richmond Heights communities. Therefore, we are extremely grateful to the following businesses, groups, and individuals for providing outstanding community fundraising leadership:

Beverly Tronicek's Swing Dance | Katie's Pizza & Pasta Osteria  
Maplewood Kiwanis | MRH Class of 1953 Ladies Lunch | Tapped  
The Nieman Family | VW Air Cooled Antiques | Crossroads  
Presbyterian Fellowship Church.

Here's the latest community fundraiser:

CROSSROADS PRESBYTERIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH  
HOSTS THEIR FIRST ANNUAL

### Maplewood Gingerbread House Competition

Friday, December 1, 2017 | 6:00pm to 8:00pm

This event will be held during The Maplewood Christmas Tree Walk. To enter, signup at [www.MaplewoodGingerbread.com](http://www.MaplewoodGingerbread.com). Individuals of all ages, families, businesses are invited to participate. For information visit the website, Facebook, or Instagram (@MaplewoodGingerbread). Joe's Place donation box will be featured at this event.

## House Wish List

Joe's Place house needs a little sprucing up! The Mapps and JP boys would appreciate assistance with the following repairs and maintenance. So, if you are a professional, insured contractor and would like to assist, please email [joesplacestl@gmail.com](mailto:joesplacestl@gmail.com).

- Power wash house and porch (2-story ladder required)
- Cleaning out gutters (3-story ladder required)
- Painting living room
- Painting hallway
- Repairing/replacing railing in staircase
- Caulking bathrooms
- Repairing/replacing towel rack in bathroom
- Repairing/replacing barstools in kitchen

## A Look Back at This Year's Maplewood Shuffle

By Teri Brickey

The 2017 Maplewood Shuffle was a great success! Thank you to all who participated as a shuffler, volunteer, sponsor or venue. We could not do the work we do without the support of all of you!



A big thanks to our returning host venues: Crossroads Presbyterian Church, The Crow's Nest, The Post, The Side Project Cellar, and The Maya Café. Shout out to two new venues: The Book House and Blue Duck! Many thanks to Live Juke Joint for once again helping us end the day in style and to Elizabeth Embree's daughter, Victoria, for her special live performance!

Thank You to the Following Generous Sponsors!

### Platinum Sponsors

Glance Creative  
US Bank



### Gold Sponsors

Clarity Street Realty



### Silver Sponsors

Al's Automotive Supply

### Trivia Round Sponsors

Sunnen  
David and Julie Pole

### Prize Donations, Gifts in Kind & Swag

Anonymous	Telle Tire and Auto Service
Airedale Antics	The Blue Duck
Ballpark Village	The Book House
Crossroads Presbyterian Church	<b>The Crow's Nest</b>
Maven	The Maya Café
Mitten, Nelson & Gina	The Muddled Pig
O'Fallon Brewery	The Post Sports Bar and Grill
Pie Oh My!	The Side Project Cellar
Saratoga Lanes	Traveling Tea
Scheidt True Value	Vom Fass
Stone Spiral Coffee	West Community Credit Union





Fall/Winter 2017

# JOE'S PLACE NEWS

CELEBRATING



(continued from page 1) I see how they are working their way through the world in the best way they know how. Some still struggle and some are finding success. But one thing remains true: their lives still remain forever changed. They are deeply affected by the love they felt. And they carry with them a sense of hope. They look back at their time with the Reeve's and don't see parental figures who changed their lives—they see lifelong friends. And now this work continues on with the Mapps.

There are new stories being written at Joe's Place every day. And while the cameras are no longer rolling on Oakland Avenue, the bonding continues. The "family" carries on, regardless of whether or not their struggles and triumphs are being captured on film. This bonding is greater than that of a film crew with its subject matter. This bonding is of a family. A family that continues to grow and whose chains will never break apart. This is the family of Joe's Place.

## Annual Gift Card Drive for Joe's Place Boys & Alumni

By Rachel & Jeremy Mapp

Our graduates are always on our minds at Joe's Place. We are so lucky to have them working on their first degrees, certifications, and some in their first jobs. However, they still need your help!

We are fortunate enough to have a board of directors that sees and hears this need and they continue to work to address it on the emotional side through mentorship and even counseling as necessary. So, we're looking to you to help with the financial side through giving. We have graduates who have needs such as hygiene products, snack foods for when dining halls are closed or have an empty fridge because they live on their own, or gas money to travel home for the holidays. Therefore, we've decided to collect gift cards that we can use to buy and send items or even just send to them to buy these items on their own. Not all our guys are in town or even in large towns, so the following gift cards would be best:

Mastercard | QuikTrip | Target | Visa | Walmart

Thank you for helping to support our Joe's Place Alumni!!!

**Please note:** Gift cards may be dropped off in the envelope provided with the Office Administrator at any MRH school during school hours or may be mailed to Joe's Place, P.O. Box 434057, Maplewood, MO 63143 throughout November and December. If drop-off is not an option, please send an email to arrange for a pickup to joesplacestl@gmail.com.

## Board of Directors

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RGA

Leslie Rigsby, *Vice President*

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Howard Goldberg, *Treasurer*

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James Forst, *Forst & Young Development*

Karen Hall, *MRH School District*

Dan Keating, *Washington University School of Law*

Maria Langston, *Missouri Credit Union Charitable Foundation*

Julie Pole, *Food Outreach*

Matt Seilback, *Varsity Tutors*

Aaron Telle, *Telle Tire & Auto Centers*

### House Parents

Rachel & Jeremy Mapp

### Staff & Support

Vince Estrada, *MRH School District*

Sandra Richason, *Administrative & Development Coordinator*

Newsletter design by Rachel Silverberg, Chief Creative at *Think Creative*

### Connect With Us



### Address

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