



# Annual Report

July 2023 - June 2024



*More than just a shelter.*



# CHATTANOOGA ROOM IN THE INN BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF

## Officers

Beth Reed, *Chair*  
DeeAnna Jeffreys Petree, *Vice Chair/Chair-Elect*  
Alex Lemons, *Treasurer*  
Donna Pryor, *Secretary*

## Board of Directors

Ashby Angell	Jessica Roden
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Charlotte Mattingly	
Amber Mueller	
Ashley Nichols	
Kimberly George Race	

## Staff

Jessica Brackett, *Child Advocate*  
Quatangela Bridges, *Program Assistant*  
Kaitlyn Bureau, *Case Manager*  
Sara Collier, *Human Resources and Data Governance Manager*  
Sharon Collins, *Volunteer Coordinator*  
Taylor Hixson, *Executive Director*  
Sabrina Hubbard, *Administrative Assistant*  
Adrienne Koon, *Director of Development and Thrift Store Operations*  
Brianna Lalor, *Manager of Grant Strategy & Compliance*  
Mallory Iles, MSW, *Director of Women's Programs*  
Michiba Smith, *Resident Safety Trainer*



## IMPACT AND NUMBERS

Our year at a glance.

Through our programs, we served

44	63	107
women	children	total

62% of residents have moved into permanent housing or are still actively working the program (living at the shelter)

Provided 120 counseling sessions and 15 group sessions for pre-teen and teen residents

Offered 53 sessions focused on finances

Hosted 22 sessions focused on employment





# Paving the way to a brighter future.

## SUCCESS STORIES

We've had so many client successes this year.

### **A New Lease on Life**

Casey, a mom of three, moved into our shelter after falling behind financially. Since we are pet friendly, the family cat also moved in! While Casey was looking for work, she did DoorDash deliveries. While attending one of our Life Skills classes about self defense, she was able to partner with the local company leading the class and take training to become a security guard. She started earning steady income and was able to save money for the future.

Her three children worked closely with our Child Advocate while living with us to utilize tutoring services and get connected to counseling and other free resources we offer.

**This spring, she was able to move into a lovely apartment in Soddy Daisy. We were able to help Casey with costs associated with moving into a new place and provide her with furniture and**

**other items she needed for her fresh start.**

### **Support for Moms**

Kelly became homeless after her son's autism spectrum disorder went undiagnosed and as a result he was kicked out of multiple daycares and she was unable to work.

Upon their arrival, we immediately focused on supporting the mother in understanding her son's needs better. We got Kelly's son access to Applied Behavior Analysis Therapy which helped him increase behaviors that are helpful and decrease behaviors that are harmful or affect learning.

Significant progress was made after more than six months of residency at Chattanooga Room in the Inn. The son completed kindergarten and actively participates in ABA therapy three times a week. He is also communicating more with his mom. **Kelly has gained full time employment and even been promoted. The family moved out of the shelter and into permanent housing in May of this year.**



## A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

Dear Chattanooga Room in the Inn Family,

I'm excited to update you on the recent improvements and changes we've made to our program over the past year, as well as our upcoming initiatives aimed at better serving our clients and supporting their success.

One of the major initiatives we are working on is the introduction of an After Care program, where we will provide continued support to our graduates for a year after they leave our facility. This program will include monthly check-ins and resources covering everything from children's needs and mental health support to career advancement and more. Transitioning to permanent housing presents new challenges, and our staff will be ready to intervene on any issues that may jeopardize our clients' stability and risk them becoming homeless again.

In the upcoming fiscal year, we have plans to open a thrift store. This store will not only generate

revenue to support our programs but will also provide essential items such as clothing, school supplies, and furnishings to the families we serve as they transition into permanent housing. Additionally, the thrift store will serve the broader community by offering needed supplies at affordable prices and providing work opportunities and experience.

The need for our services has increased significantly over the past year, with our facility consistently at full capacity and turning away an average of 60 people each month. However, with your support, we will continue to innovate and meet this growing need. Every woman and child we serve deserves safe, stable housing and the opportunity to reach their full potential.

*Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our mission.*

With much appreciation,

*Taylor Hixson*



## OUR PROGRAMS

How we achieve our mission.



### **Shelter to Stability Program**

Provides a safe and supportive place for women and children to live, along with resources and education needed to move toward stability and to find permanent, safe housing. Through intensive case management, our program focuses on five crucial areas; career, finances, family, health and housing.

Services offered through this program include: counseling, daily meals and living supplies, life skills instruction, career counseling, financial literacy education, transportation assistance and more.

Assessments are completed by every resident at the time of admission so that barriers to personal success and permanent housing can be identified and addressed. Our staff works closely with each

resident to find and furnish the perfect home for them once the time comes to leave the shelter.



### **Child Advocacy Program**

Women with children who move into the shelter have access to services from a Child Advocate on staff whose sole job is supporting the children during their stay. Our Child Advocate ensures each child and mother can access the services they need including but not limited to tutoring and academic assistance, childcare, advocacy on behalf of children at school meetings, parenting classes, weekly children's enrichment activities, extra curricular activities, and family field trips.



## CHATTADERBY

Oh, What a Night!

ChattaDerby 2024 was a huge success, raising over \$70,000 for our programs. We are grateful to everyone who attended and all of the businesses who sponsored the event and donated auction items.



Save the date for next year's ChattaDerby event happening on Saturday, May 3rd 2025 at the Signal! We have limited sponsorship opportunities available! If your business is interested in sponsorship, please contact Adrienne at [akoon@chattanoogaroomintheinn.com](mailto:akoon@chattanoogaroomintheinn.com) to secure your spot.

*See you next year!*

## WAYS TO GIVE

You can help families on their road to success by:

### *Becoming a Monthly Donor!*

\$25 a month allows us to purchase needed personal care items for women and children.

\$50 a month allows us to provide fun activities for children residing at the shelter.

Scan the QR code below to become a monthly donor!



### *Making a Lasting Gift!*

Do you want to make a lasting gift that will have an impact on women and children facing homelessness for years to come? Make a planned gift! Some of the most common include:

- Bequests by will or revocable trust
- Beneficiary designations of IRA or retirement plan assets and annuities
- Gifts of life insurance
- Gifts of real estate

Contact Taylor at [thixson@chattanoogaroomintheinn.com](mailto:thixson@chattanoogaroomintheinn.com) for more information!







## HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

### Volunteer

From preparing meals to helping around the building, we have many opportunities to volunteer. Scan the QR code to get started today!



### Host a Community Drive

Your business, church or civic organization can make a difference by hosting a community drive to collect items for the shelter like cleaning supplies, toiletries, and baby care items (diapers/wipes). A collection bin can be delivered to you and picked up once the drive is over.

To learn more, contact Adrienne at [akoon@chattanoogaroomintheinn.com](mailto:akoon@chattanoogaroomintheinn.com).



*Empowering* women and children experiencing homelessness to rebuild their lives by providing transitional housing, support, and hope.



[www.chattanoogaroomintheinn.com](http://www.chattanoogaroomintheinn.com)



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