

## Forty-eight Hours of Rest Are Sacred for Parents of Jill's House Guests

### Family Spotlight: The Towers

"Jill's House has made a significant impact on our marriage," said Heather Tower, mother of Jill's House guests Samuel, 8, and Jonathan, 6.

"Raising two children with special needs is not easy, and Jonathan's significant developmental delays, autism, and hypotonia, meaning he has decreased muscle tone, make his challenges even greater."

"Our extended families live far away, and our boys are high maintenance and very loud, so we truly need respite. With much responsibility comes much fatigue, and marriages like ours are fragile. When our boys are at Jill's House, where Samuel loves to ride the big pedal bike on the playground and Jonathan enjoys the music room and swimming in the pool, we relish every moment. The 48 hours that our boys are at Jill's House are sacred to us. We have quiet, uninterrupted, special time that we otherwise wouldn't have. We usually talk a lot, laugh, relax, ride our bikes together, enjoy quiet dinners, and play catch-up on much needed items around the house."

The military brought Heather and her husband, Joel, now retired from the Air Force, to Northern Virginia where they first heard about Jill's House. "I cannot remember specifically where or when I learned about Jill's House," shared Heather. "But I do know this: It came to me from so many different directions, multiple times, that I just knew it had to be directed by the Holy Spirit!"

"When we take the boys to Jill's House, which I call 'the resort,' Samuel always wants to bring something to show Leah, one of the precious childcare specialists he has grown to love."

"My wish is that all prayerful supporters and donors of Jill's House know they are making a difference in the lives of families. I honestly don't know how we would put one foot in front of the other without the respite that Jill's House so lovingly provides."



*The Tower boys love their stays at Jill's House, while their parents get time to reconnect and recharge.*